

## MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Thursday, June 7, 2018  
10 a.m. to 5:09 p.m.**

**Miners Foundry Cultural Center  
325 Spring Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
(530) 265-5040**

### **PRESENT:**

#### Council Members

Larry Baza, Vice Chair  
Phoebe Beasley  
Juan Devis  
Kathleen Gallegos  
Jaime Galli  
Donn K. Harris  
Louise McGuinness

*Council members absent: Christopher Coppola, Nashormeh Lindo, Steve Oliver, and Rosalind Wyman*

#### Arts Council Staff

Anne Bown-Crawford, Executive Director  
Ayanna Kiburi, Deputy Director  
Shelly Gilbride, Programs Officer  
Kristin Margolis, Director of Legislative Affairs  
Debra Waltman, Director of Administrative Services  
Hilary Annah, Arts Program Specialist  
Josy Miller, Arts Program Specialist  
J. Andrea Porras, Arts Program Specialist  
Kimberly Brown, Public Affairs Specialist  
Lariza Barcena, Administrative Analyst  
Wendy Moran, Graphic Designer  
Laura Littlefield, Associate Governmental Program Analyst

#### Invited Attendees

Eliza Tudor, Executive Director, Nevada County Arts Council  
Gretchen Bond, Executive Director, Miners Foundry Cultural Center  
Shelly Covert, Secretary, Nevada City Rancheria  
Betty Louise, Nevada City Broadcasting Group

Julie Chiarelli, General Manager, KVMR  
Susan Davis, Artist  
Anthony LoBue, Panelist  
Daniel Santhosh, Panelist  
Nicole Manker, Panelist  
Arash Shirinbab, Panelist  
Matt Carney, Panelist  
Luis Antonio Pichardo, Panelist  
Jenifer Laine, Panelist

Other Attendees / Members of the Public

Jesse Locks, Nevada City Film Festival  
Shanti Emerson, Nevada County Fair  
Sara Smith, Truckee Cultural District  
Shannon Peline, Sierra FoodWineArt  
B.J. Jordan, Sierra County Arts Council  
Cara Goger, Mariposa County Arts Council  
MJ Greenmountain, Jade Valley Tea Arts  
Lisa Mara, U.S. Representative Doug LaMalfa  
Sean Gilleran, Gold Miners Inn  
Lisette Sweetland, Tuolumne County Arts  
Ruth Chase, Nevada County Arts Council & Local Artist  
Michelle Amador, Mark Morris Dance Group & Singer-Songwriter

Jon Blinder, Nevada County Arts Council  
Howard Levine, Mayor, City of Grass Valley  
Nancy Fleming, ART OnSite  
David Read, Yuba Sutter Arts  
Angela Tahti, Consultant  
Julie Baker, California Arts Advocates  
Marni Marshall, Grass Valley Downtown Association  
Mali Dyck, Nevada County CEO Office  
Catrina Olson, City of Nevada City  
Jim Bair, Jim Bair Photography & WC Arts  
Rachel Howard, Yuba Lit Reading Series  
Christine Kelly, FixCreative  
Debra Lucero, California Arts Advocates, Californians for the Arts, Shasta Arts Council and Butte Arts Council  
Duane Strawser, City of Nevada City  
Eve McEneaney, Arts for the Schools  
Matthew Coulter  
Heather Llewellyn, Michael Llewellyn Photography  
Julie Hardin, InConcert Sierra

Dee Anne Dinelli, Shadow Dance Photography & A Place to Call Home Project  
Shirley Fenile  
Amee Medeiros, Neighborhood Center of the Arts  
Mary Biebel  
Nancy Lopez, Trails & Vistas  
Lois Ewing, Nugget Fringe Festival  
Katie Wolff, Katie Wolff Studio & Art Works Gallery  
Eve Diamond, Nevada County Arts Council  
Nancy Nelson, ART OnSite

David Levin, KVMR  
Jennifer Rugge, Nevada County Arts Council  
Mary Smith, Tuolumne County Arts  
Lisette Sweetland, Tuolumne County Arts Council  
Jesse Locks, Nevada City Film Festival  
Douglas Hooper, Nevada County Camera Club  
Denise Losee, BriarPatch Food Co-op  
Amber Jo Manuel, The Center for the Arts  
LauraJane Coats, Theatre of Awe Marionettes  
SK Lindsey, KB Gallery  
Terra Nyssa  
Julie Valin, CalPoets & Poetry Out Loud

**I. Call to Order, Welcome from Nevada County Arts Council and Miners Foundry Cultural Center**

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. He introduced Eliza Tudor, Executive Director of the Nevada County Arts Council. Tudor thanked the Council for holding its meeting in Nevada City. She highlighted the importance and benefits brought by California Cultural Districts (AB 189) and the State-Local Partnership program to Nevada County.

Baza introduced Gretchen Bond, Executive Director of the Miners Foundry Cultural Center. Bond welcomed the Council to the venue. She explained the Foundry was built in the late 1800s as the center of innovation for creating machinery for the mines. It has now been the largest cultural community center in the area for the past 40 years. She thanked the Council for the Local Impact grants the venue has received.

**II. Acknowledgment of Tribal Land and Blessing from Nevada City Rancheria**

Bown-Crawford acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the culturally traditional land of Native American Tribes and paid respect to their elders both past and present.

She introduced Shelly Covert, Secretary of Nevada City Rancheria, who welcomed the Council and public and blessed the tribal land.

### **III. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum**

Barcena took the roll at 10:50 a.m. and a quorum was established.

### **IV. Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2018**

*VOTING ITEM:* At 10:52 a.m., Baza moved to approve the January 25, 2018 minutes. Gallegos seconded.

No discussion.

At 10:53 a.m. the Chair called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

### **V. Chair's Report**

Baza read the report in lieu of Chair Lindo.

### **VI. Director's Report**

Bown-Crawford gave an overview of her report. She stated that she will be planning visits throughout the state to meet with directors of county arts councils. She highlighted the value of working in partnerships.

### **VII. Council Decorum**

Baza announced that in the interest of time, the item will be postponed to the next meeting to allow time for Public Comment.

### **VIII. Public Comment**

- Cara Goger, Executive Director, Mariposa County Arts Council  
Goger thanked Tudor for her work in organizing the meeting and the CAC for the State-Local Partnership (SLP) program and its ability to connect with the diverse communities across the state. She requested that the CAC continue to adequately fund SLPs and give the opportunity for support and collaboration.
- MJ Greenmountain, Jade Valley Tea Arts  
Greenmountain stated that Jade Valley Tea Arts is involved in educating people of all ages about the different styles of arts, particularly tea culture in agricultural arts. He added that JVTA is developing a program with the aim to support the economic decline of rural areas.

- Lisa Mara, Office of U.S. Representative Doug LaMalfa  
Mara stated that Congressman LaMalfa sends his warmest welcome to the CAC from District 1. Congressman LaMalfa is very proud of Nevada County's achievement in the arts and its partnership with the Nevada County Arts Council. Mara thanked Covert for her blessing and Greenmountain for sharing his art.
- Lisette Sweetland, Tuolumne County Arts  
Sweetland thanked the CAC for its presence and Tudor for inviting the attendees. Sweetland thanked the CAC on behalf of Tuolumne County Arts Alliance, a CAC State-Local Partner. She informed the public that Tuolumne County Arts Alliance is now named Tuolumne County Arts. She announced that the agency will be holding its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the following weekend and that Vice Chair Baza will be in attendance. She also stated that the agency will be launching a new logo and a new guitar lesson program for veterans. Sweetland added that she has a background in equity work via CompassPoint and volunteered to assist with any work achieving social justice.
- Ruth Chase, Nevada County Arts Council & Local Artist  
Chase thanked the CAC for holding its meeting in Nevada City. She stated that its presence is important in small towns as often many of the artists feel removed from the large world. She shared her struggles in finding conceptual art grants funding in urban areas. She thanked Tudor and the Nevada County Arts Council for their support in her work and professional development. She thanked the CAC for funding rural areas because it allows the community to engage in the arts.
- Sean Gilleran, Gold Miners Inn  
Gilleran stated that as a hospitality operator, the Gold Miners Inn looks forward to what the arts can do to improve the area's economy. He thanked the Council for choosing the hotel for its stay.
- Jesse Locks, Nevada City Film Festival  
Locks thanked the CAC for its support via the Local Impact grant program, which is very vital to rural areas. She asked the Council to consider further funding for the program and for the state Cultural Districts initiative. She highlighted the importance of rural areas receiving financial support, as they lack the access to the funding opportunities that many urban areas have.
- Shanti Emerson, Nevada County Fair  
Emerson stated that the Nevada County Fairgrounds is an important venue for the arts and holds five musical festivals every year. She thanked the Council for its work.
- Sara Smith, Truckee Cultural District  
Smith is the Program Coordinator for the Truckee Cultural District and the Co-Chair of the Truckee Arts Alliance. She thanked the CAC for the state Cultural Districts initiative, which is proving to be instrumental in helping to shift public understanding of arts in its own community.

The town of Truckee is implementing a public art master plan. She encouraged the CAC to continue to fund and expand the Cultural Districts.

- **Eliza Tudor, Nevada County Arts Council**  
Tudor thanked the CAC for the opportunity to shine regionally through the state Cultural Districts initiative. She shared that all the cultural districts in the region have decided to collaborate. She asked the CAC to consider increasing the funding to the initiative as it would drive interest from public and private benefactors.
- **Shannon Peline, Sierra FoodWineArt**  
Peline explained that Sierra FoodWineArt is a publication that celebrates and promotes arts and cultures for destination travel. The publication also worked on the inaugural Visual Artist & Gallery Guide for the Nevada County Arts Council. She thanked the CAC for holding its meeting in Nevada City. She added that the state Cultural District designation is prestigious and drew attention to visitors in the region.
- **B.J. Jordan, Sierra County Arts Council**  
Jordan stated that although Sierra County has a population of only 3,000 people, it is vital to the state as the California Water Project has its origins in the county. She thanked the CAC for its support and added that it is both vital and essential to the county and the state.
- **Michelle Amador, Mark Morris Dance Group & Singer-Songwriter**  
Amador stated that leadership matters and it is inspiring to hear the recognition of the importance of strong and positive leadership in rural arts. She added that investing in rural arts provides equity on a broad scale and that it's an example that other states can follow.
- **Jon Blinder, Nevada County Arts Council**  
Blinder stated that his community provides arts and cultures more than in other areas. He believes that the Cultural District brings validation to the local artists and economy. It is a special opportunity for both. He asked the CAC to support the district's capacity; the more funding, the more programs it can develop.
- **Howard Levine, Mayor, City of Grass Valley**  
Levine stated that he is a member of the state Cultural District committee. He added that the history of arts in the community is strong. Nevada County has accomplished many things in partnership with the CAC. He looks forward to developing further art. He stated that the city is working on remodeling its center for the arts, working on a new museum of art, a cultural center, and a hospitality industry that thrives because of artistic culture.
- **Nancy Fleming, ART OnSite**  
Fleming welcomed the Council. She stated that she was part of Art OnSite, an environmental nonprofit organization. Since then, she has taken on the role of President of the Sierra Stream

Institute, an environmental nonprofit group. She thanked the CAC for the state Cultural District designation and she asked for its continuous support for rural communities.

- **David Read, Yuba Sutter Arts**  
Read thanked the CAC for its support to the county and for highlighting one of its veteran arts projects by featuring it at the CAC's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. He stated that Yuba Sutter Arts gave testimony at the recent Joint Committee on Arts hearing at the Capitol regarding veterans and the arts. He added that one of the challenges they are facing is the loss of arts programming in schools.
- **Angela Tahti, Consultant**  
Tahti identified herself as the former executive director of several CAC State-Local Partners. For the sake of her colleagues across the state, she hopes the CAC continues to invest in rural communities and nonprofit organizations, particularly in investing in professional development and strategic planning.
- **Julie Baker, California Arts Advocates**  
Baker welcomed the Council to Nevada City. She recently became the Interim Executive Director of Californians for the Arts and California Arts Advocates. She stated that California Arts Advocates is recognized as a statewide arts advocate for lobbying. She congratulated the CAC on the additional funding received by the Governor's budget revision for the upcoming fiscal year.
- **Marni Marshall, Grass Valley Downtown Association**  
Marshall thanked Tudor, the Nevada County Arts Council, and the Miners Foundry Cultural Center for hosting the meeting. She thanked the Nevada County Arts Council for its work in the community and technical support. She asked for continued support and thanked the CAC for its work.
- **Mali Dyck, Nevada County CEO Office**  
Dyck is the Interim Deputy County Executive Officer for Nevada County. She thanked the Nevada County Arts Council for hosting the meeting in the county. She added that the county is proud of the two state Cultural District designations. Nevada County values the art as contributor to a community's quality of life as well as the economy. She thanked the local council for its work as SLP.
- **Duane Strawser, City of Nevada City**  
Strawser thanked the Council for coming to the region. He thanked the CAC for allowing the joint application for the Grass Valley-Nevada City region as a Cultural District. He stated that the communities have recently become partners thanks to the Cultural District initiative and the recognition and support to individual artists in the area.

- **Jim Bair, Jim Bair Photography & WC Arts**  
Bair thanked the CAC for the Cultural District designation. He stated that there is a strong need to include photographic arts in the area; there are no programs in the Cultural District that juries photos on an ongoing basis other than the Nevada County Film Festival and the Nevada County Fair. The Nevada County Arts Council is great support in sharing photography online and in galleries. One program, Image Nation, shows the success of highlighting veterans' talents in galleries and is self-funded via volunteer work and local businesses' support.
- **Rachel Howard, Yuba Lit Reading Series**  
Howard funded a reading series called Yuba Lit, where every other month local writers are highlighted. It's a space to discuss current events with an open mind. She thanked Tudor for her mentorship on how the Nevada County Arts Council could become a fiscal sponsor for Yuba Lit. She advocated for the CAC to reinvest in SLPs who are fundamental in helping the local arts community.
- **Christine Kelly, FixCreative**  
Kelly thanked the CAC for the Local Impact grant program. She thanked Gilbride for her work and leadership as the Programs Officer.
- **Debra Lucero, California Arts Advocates, Californians for the Arts, Shasta Arts Council and Butte Arts Council**  
Lucero thanked the CAC for the state Cultural District designation which has been beneficial in receiving additional external funding to create new projects. She asked the CAC to increase funding for the SLP program and the state Cultural District initiative. She distributed a letter signed by all SLPs.
- **Eve McEneaney, Arts for the Schools**  
McEneaney stated that Arts for the Schools is a 35-year-old nonprofit organization providing arts education and presenting cultural arts to the public. It's part of a lead coalition for the county with the California Alliance for Arts Education and it has developed free professional development classes for arts teachers and teaching artists. Their in-school programs fill gaps in arts education and are the only providers for juvenile justice system youth and at-risk students. She thanked the CAC for its investment in rural communities. She asked the CAC to consider rural-specific and small organization funding.
- **Matthew Coulter**  
Coulter thanked the CAC for the state Cultural District designation. He invited the Council to visit the area and witness art communities.
- **Heather Llewellyn, Michael Llewellyn Photography**  
Llewellyn thanked the CAC for creating funding for the local artists in the community. She asked the Council to consider creating a special funding program around the issue of climate change for artists who want to address it.



- Amber Jo Manuel, The Center for the Arts  
Manuel stated that The Center for the Arts was a Creative California Communities grant recipient in 2016. The center is undergoing a \$3.4 million renovation in downtown Grass Valley to create a home for the local arts community. She thanked the CAC for supporting the arts in rural communities who face the challenge of fundraising.
- Julie Hardin, InConcert Sierra  
Hardin explained that InConcert Sierra is a nonprofit classical music provider in the community, and it was a grant recipient in 2002, which gave the organization the tools to grow and create an effective strategic planning. She commended Tudor and the rest of the local council's board for its work and vision for the county. She thanked the Council for coming to Nevada City. She asked to increase funding for SLPs.
- Brian Buckley  
Buckley thanked the CAC for the Artists in Schools grant program, which has been vital in resurrecting arts programs in education.
- Ameer Medeiros, Neighborhood Center of the Arts  
Medeiros is the Executive Director for the Neighborhood Center for the Arts, serving 72 artists with disabilities. The center's goal is to highlight the artists and focus on their abilities. On June 16, the center will be celebrating the life of artist Barbie Wilkins.
- Nancy Lopez, Trails & Vistas  
Lopez is the founder of Trails & Vistas, which organizes art hikes for students in the community. She invited the Council and public to attend one of the hikes as an opportunity to disconnect and create art. She thanked the CAC for the Creative California Communities grant received in 2016.

## **IX. Council's Recent Accomplishments**

Baza announced that in the interest of time, the item will be postponed to the next meeting.

## **X. Voting Items: Panel Recommendations 2017-2018**

### *a. FY 17-18 Funding Allocation Scenarios*

McGuinness stated that Council member Coppola is also a member of the Program Allocation Committee.

McGuinness explained that the committee's proposal is for consistent funding as follows:

- Rank 6: 95% of requested amount
- Rank 5: 85% of requested amount
- Rank 4: 75% of requested amount

*b. Arts Education - Exposure*

Miller, the Program Specialist for the Arts Education - Exposure grant program, presented the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 6 with panelist Matt Carney. She stated that the program is designed to provide students' with opportunities to access high-quality art experiences via assemblies or field trips. Of the 153 applications received, 118 were ranked 4 and above. In the applications, the "underserved" population was defined to have socioeconomic and geographic barriers to arts experiences and services.

Carney noted that the panels were led by skilled professionals and CAC staff comprised of leaders at the state and national level. Their level of expertise guided the panelists through a fair and transparent process and enabled and encouraged them to have a real dialogue. The panel was diverse in racial and artistic background. Its priority was access to low- and moderate-income communities, programs that were culturally sensitive to the intended population, and high-quality programming. He added that the panel had a discussion on how applicants defined "underserved" communities, and asked for professional development to the California arts industry on conversations surrounding it.

*c. Arts in Public Media*

Amnah, the Program Specialist for the Arts in Public Media grant program, presented the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 7 with panelist Santhosh Daniel. She clarified that the program is only available to nonprofit media organizations or local units of government that manage public media stations. Of 24 applications received, 16 applications were ranked 4 and above. The panel appreciated applications that included community relevance and authentic engagement.

Daniel thanked the Council for holding its meeting in Nevada City and thanked the public who provided commentary. He stated that the panel was diverse in terms of gender, ethnicity, and artistic background. The panel saw two previous applicants who returned with expansions of previously funded projects, which is a direct measurement of the grant's impact and its ability to support organizations moving forward. A challenge the panel has faced was how to weigh every form of public media equally, from radio programs to online contributions. Additionally, the definition of public media was challenging for determining whether or not an applicant was providing a public media service as their primary mission. He added that as a result of the grant program requirements, the majority of the applicants came from metropolitan areas. He asked the Council to consider ways to make the application accessible to rural communities.

Galli asked Daniel if the issue is in outreach efforts or in the definition of public media. Daniel replied it is a combination of both reaching out to the rural communities to listen to their needs, and of being more specific in the definition of public media and giving examples of programs funded as part of the application description.

Devis asked Daniel to expand on ways the CAC could include smaller organizations from rural communities. Santos replied fiscal sponsorship could be an option, but the applicants would still have to be aligned as a public media organization.

Amnah added that 60 applicants started draft applications and many of them were smaller organizations. She contacted these applicants who reported that a primary barrier was the lack of being able to use a fiscal sponsor.

Devis asked to expand on the range and size of the applicants. Amnah replied that most of the applicants who ranked 4 and above were very large organizations with large budgets. Daniel added that many large organizations have multiple departments collaborating on the grant applications as opposed to smaller organizations. He suggested finalizing a clear delineation of how the grant is distributed and to whom.

Gallegos asked if there were differences in the type of applicants who applied last year and this year. Daniel replied that last year's applications were broad, from film production to marketing campaigns and this year there were more institutional applications.

Harris asked if there are geographical gaps in areas covered by applicants. Daniel replied that the applicants were concentrated in the Bay and Los Angeles areas.

*d. Cultural Pathways*

Gilbride, CAC Programs Officer, presented on behalf of Jason Jong, the Program Specialist for the Cultural Pathways grant program, and presented the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 8 with panelist Arash Shirinbab.

Gilbride stated that Cultural Pathways is a two-year general operating grant rooted in communities of color, recent immigrant and refugee communities, and tribal or indigenous groups. The purpose is to strengthen the capacity of these groups to be of, by, and for their communities. She added that in addition to funding, the grantees receive technical assistance provided in collaboration with the Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA). She stated that the applications received were very strong compared to applicants for the program two years ago and many proposals showed significant engagement with their communities.

Shirinbab stated that the grant program is vital to its grantees as the two years of funding helps build the organizations' capacity and sustainability. He added that there are few funding opportunities available to supporting the communities served in this grant program. The existing ones are usually geared towards bigger organizations but are not rooted in the community. He said that limiting the budget to \$150,000 helps ensure the grant goes to smaller organizations.

He thanked the leadership of Jong during the panel process. He stated that each application led to lively discussions and Jong helped maintain an objective view. The panel faced challenges in

judging artistic merit and evaluating supporting materials. The panelists faced challenges with applicants who did not submit video materials for their work samples. He asked the Council to consider mandating videos or more relevant supporting materials. He added that many applicants were not clear on whether they were supposed to identify the impact of the grant to the organization or to the community served. He stated that the majority of the applicants are based in metropolitan areas. He asked the Council to reflect on why other organizations are not applying.

Devis stated that the grant program's description is so targeted to communities of color that it excludes other people. He added that he had questions about some applicants, who they serve, and how they fit the parameters for communities of color or indigenous people.

Shirinbab replied that the panel's first step is to go through the applicant's eligibility, specifically its financial budget and its rootedness in the served community. He added that exemplary applicants described their relevance in the served community either through their services, leadership, or artist providing the service. He added that the grant program does not exclude other people because other communities have access to these services.

Gilbride replied that the origin of the grant program was from a request from the Council to think about the CAC's history of supporting small organizations in multicultural communities in a contemporary frame. She added that Jong took the directive of the Council, framed the guidelines for the program, and shepherded the creation of the program. During the development process, an advisory group of members from the targeted communities were consulted.

Harris added that the CAC lets organizations self-identify culturally.

Gallegos added that the Council had a grant program called "Multicultural Entry" which her organization was previously a recipient of. The program helped small organizations learn how to be effective nonprofit organizations.

Devis stated that there are a lot working-class white communities that are going to need support in some capacity and this grant program is excluding them. He stated that some organizations should be in the Local Impact grant program instead.

Gilbride replied that there have been former grantees of Cultural Pathways who have been successful at receiving grants for Local Impact.

Shirinbab added that there are few funding resources for communities of color and Native American communities. He stated that Cultural Pathways is a good grant program for them to not compete against the groups Devis mentioned and other more professional grant organizations that have the resources and understanding to be successful. He added that many organizations in this grant program come from immigrant communities and it's a huge help for them.

Gallegos asked if translating the application forms would be helpful to facilitate the process of getting more applicants.

Shirinbab replied it would be helpful to help organizations access the grant program, but the issue is that the rest of the application is in English. It would be helpful to build community partners.

*e. Local Impact*

Porras, the Program Specialist for the Local Impact grant program, presented the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 9 with panelist Nicole Manker. She thanked the Council, the community, and Shelly Covert for their presence. She stated that 18 professional peer panelists convened and ranked 33 applications at 6, 54 applications at 5, 46 applications at 4, and 27 applications at 3.

She stated that Local Impact is a grant program for organizations with budgets under \$1 million. It fosters equity, access, and opportunity for historically marginalized communities such as indigenous communities, and the LGBTQ+ community, and communities with disabilities.

Manker stated the importance of the program because of multicultural connection. She thanked Porras for including in the panel process the opportunity for panelists to be able to have an open discussion. Manker added that high-scored applicants had holistic community engagement and the capacity to reach more people than they intended. The panelists faced some challenges with artists' compensation, whether it was with identifying the amount or with identifying below minimum-wage compensation. She suggested the Council to have financial budget tiers and offer different funding options, and to clarify the definition of what qualifies as a community event. Applicants who ranked low were specifically serving youth when that is not the intent of the program. Very few applications addressed or included people of varied ability.

Beasley asked if the CAC demands grantees to compensate at a minimum wage. Porras replied that the grant application requests grantees to compensate their artists at a commensurate rate for their community.

Beasley asked if the applicants are asked questions regarding accessibility. Porras replied that applicants are required to confirm accessibility as outlined by the standards of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

*f. Reentry Through the Arts*

Gilbride, the Programs Officer for the Reentry Through the Arts (RTA) grant program, presented the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 10 with panelist Richard Martin, and added that this is the second year of a legislatively mandated pilot program. She stated that 22 applications

were reviewed and 15 were ranked 4 and above. Applicants had to demonstrate reentry and artistic goals to be eligible for the grant program.

Martin shared with the Council that every organization is able to testify about how a certain program changed someone's life, but that these people are in the minority. He spoke of his personal point of view as a formerly incarcerated individual and stressed the importance of applicants addressing recidivism. He stated that a lot of the applicants focused on the exposure to the arts that their programs will bring, but only one proposal talked about a reduction in recidivism, and it is not among the recommendations for funding. He asked the Council to consider its role and responsibility to the participants.

McGuinness stated that the programs served through RTA give participants self-esteem and that it is a great asset to have for a successful reentry.

Harris thanked Martin for his suggestions and feedback.

*g. Statewide and Regional Networks*

Gilbride, the interim Programs Officer for the Statewide and Regional Networks grant program, presented the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 11 with panelist Jennifer Laine. She explained that the program was formerly coordinated by Jaren Bonillo, who is now the Senior Programs Officer at the San Francisco Arts Commission. She is representing Bonillo and her work. She stated that in this year's guidelines, Bonillo redefined the definition of what a statewide organization does, what a regional organization does, and what a network is.

Laine thanked the CAC staff for its help with organizing, guiding, and answering questions at the panels. She expressed how meaningful it was to meet other peers from across the state. She stated that the panelists looked for true networks demonstrating meaningful engagement within a specific geography. The geography was described regionally, statewide, or within the eligible municipalities of Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco. Some applicants were national organizations and the panel had to look at how relevant their California-based activities were.

Laine listed that some issues within applications included the definition of "network" and its membership; for example, demonstrating service to the whole Bay Area region and applying for the Statewide Network category when only few areas were served. She concluded that the panel recommended that applicants submit PDF documents instead of Word documents for attachments, videos to demonstrate the work and impact, and for applicants to clearly describe their network in two sentences.

Laine suggested the Council considered creating smaller grants for smaller applicants to build capacity to eventually apply to the SRN grant program, and added that the panelists offered to create a Frequently Asked Questions documents for the next cycle's grant applicants.

Baza thanked Laine for her clearly defined recommendations.

Gallegos asked why the Teaching Artists Guild and Theatre Bay Area were highlighted in red in the panel ranking and funding recommendation document. Gilbride replied that Theatre Bay Area applied as a Statewide Network but that the panel reviewed and recommended it to be funded as a Regional Network. Teaching Artists Guild had a discrepancy in the budget in its application.

Devis asked why Pasadena Arts Council is not considered a State-Local Partner. Gilbride replied that each county designates one organization as the State-Local Partner; the Pasadena Arts Council is serving a region through its new mission with a new name, Fulcrum Arts.

*h. Veterans in the Arts*

Gilbride presented on behalf of Jason Jong, the Program Specialist for the Veterans in the Arts (VIA) grant program, and presented the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 12 with panelist Anthony A. LoBue.

LoBue stated that out of the 51 applications received, 16 were from San Diego, where about 100,000 people are active military and 250,000 are veterans out of the total population. He stated that one issue the panel faced is the disconnection between services for the active military, military families, and veterans. He saw disparity between first-time grantees that had difficulty going through the grant applications and ranked low despite offering great programs for veterans. He suggested a reexamination of the grant language for VIA, starting with the nomenclature; the grant program funding should be disbursed to programs that benefit veterans as opposed to active military and military families. He suggested the Council provide stipends to panelists, which will give access to dedicated artists and veterans in the field who had difficulty committing volunteer time for the panels.

He offered to help the Council in creating an initiative for veterans that would increase outreach, applicant numbers, and panelist numbers.

Baza thanked LoBue for his time and suggestions. He stated that the Council is working with Assemblymember Richard Bloom on a bill giving the CAC authority to provide an honorarium to panelists that is waiting to be approved by the Legislature. He reiterated gratitude for panelists who dedicate their time, work, and money to support the work of the CAC.

*Discussion of Scenarios and Voting:*

*VOTING ITEM:* At 3:11 p.m., Baza moved to approve the FY 17-18 funding allocation recommendations presented in Tab 5 and adjusting the formula to allocate unspent funds to the formula in scenario 1. Beasley seconded.

Kiburi reiterated that the revised grant allocation scenarios have been proposed after the review of unallocated funding. The unallocated funding includes reallocated funds from the applicants in Arts Education - Exposure who applied to multiple grant programs for a single project and could therefore not be funded. She explained the scenarios as follows:

- Scenario 1:
  - Increases the formula for Cultural Pathways to be consistent with SRN and SLP (Fund 6-2) and increase formula by 5% (6=100%, 5=90%, 4=80%, 3=70%)
  - Increases the formula by 5% (6=100%, 5=90%, 4=80%) for the following project-based programs: APM, LI, RTA, VIA
    - This increases all project grants decided at this meeting except AE - Exposure. AE - Exposure in this scenario remains consistent with AE-Extension, which was decided at the April meeting.
- Scenario 2:
  - Increases formula for CP to be consistent with SRN and SLP (Fund 6-2) and increase formula by 5% (6=100%, 5=90%, 4=80%, 3=70%)
  - Increases the formula by 5% (6=100%, 5=90%, 4=80%) for the following project-based programs that reach priority communities: RTA, VIA
  - Increases partnership grants by \$1,100 each (Council has historically augmented partnership grants in the past)

Galli stated that neither of the scenarios has any impact on the Professional Development and Organizational Development grant program. Gilbride replied that the grant program applicants are only ranked on a “fund” or “no fund” basis and therefore the recommended grantees are funded in full.

Galli asked to expand on the technical assistance provided to programs ranked 3 and below in SRN and CP. Gilbride replied that the technical assistance suite provided as a part of the “grants ” strategy for the Cultural Pathways grantees will apply to all CP grantees. If the Council decides to fund more Pathways applicants by funding through the 3s, then more grantees will receive that technical assistance. SRN applicants that are not funded receive technical assistance by receiving their grant ranking and notes.

Galli asked if the Council is funding applicants that are potentially marginal and weak. Bown-Crawford replied that part of the CAC’s job is to help people develop. She felt strongly that if an SRN applicant was ranked a 3 that they are a viable network and could benefit from further assistance.

Harris suggested to the rest of the Council to discuss what they value.

Kiburi stated that the unallocated funding is for FY 17-18 and has to be encumbered by the end of June 2019.



Gallegos stated that it was discussed that some grant programs could need additional help in terms of funding and receiving applications. She added that giving additional funding to the smaller grant programs like VIA and CP would be beneficial to them.

Baza agreed with Gallegos; he added that spreading the funding evenly might result in positive impacts to small, midsize, and rural organizations.

At 3:45 p.m., the motion carried 4-3, with “aye” votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, and Galli; and “nay” votes from Devis, Harris, and McGuinness.

VOTING ITEM: At 3:46 p.m., Devis moved an alternative scenario to approve the \$226,000 surplus to be funded to all State-Local Partners. Baza seconded.

Devis stated that after hearing public commentary and receiving the signed letter from all state SLPs, he suggests distributing the unallocated funding to the SLP grant program only.

Harris added that funding SLPs would benefit smaller organizations better as they have operating systems that can directly assist them.

McGuinness asked if the SLPs are able to redistribute funding as grants. Devis confirmed.

At 3:52 p.m., the motion did not carry 3-4, with “aye” votes from Devis, Harris, and McGuinness; and “nay” votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, and Galli.

VOTING ITEM: At 3:54 p.m., Baza moved to approve the list of ranked applicants for the Arts Education-Exposure, Arts in Public Media, Cultural Pathways, Local Impact, Statewide and Regional Networks, and Veterans in the Arts grant programs. Beasley seconded.

At 3:55 p.m., the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Beasley and Harris recused themselves due to conflicts of interest.

VOTING ITEM: At 3:57 p.m., Baza moved to approve the African-American Shakespeare Company, Bayview Opera House Inc, Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco, LA Opera, and San Francisco Symphony, and Music Center for the Arts Education - Exposure grant program. McGuinness seconded.

At 4:00 p.m., the motion carried 5-2-0, with recusals from Beasley and Harris due to conflicts of interest.

Beasley and Harris returned. Devis recused himself due to conflicts of interest.

VOTING ITEM: At 4:00 p.m., Baza moved to approve KCETLink for the Arts in Public Media grant program. Galli seconded.

At 4:01 p.m., the motion carried 6-1-0, with a recusal from Devis due to conflict of interest.

Devis returned. Harris recused himself due to conflicts of interest.

VOTING ITEM: At 4:02 p.m., Baza moved to approve the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco for the Local Impact grant program. McGuinness seconded.

At 4:03 p.m., the motion carried 6-1-0, with a recusal from Harris.

Harris returned. Baza recused himself due to conflicts of interest.

VOTING ITEM: At 4:03 p.m., Beasley moved to approve the San Diego Regional Arts & Culture Coalition for the Statewide and Regional Networks grant program. McGuinness seconded.

At 4:04 p.m., the motion carried 6-1-0, with a recusal from Baza.

Baza returned.

## **XI. Voting Items: Panel Recommendations for 2018-2019**

### *a. FY 18-19 Funding Allocation Recommendations*

McGuinness stated that the Programs Allocation Committee recommends the following funding formula for the FY 18-19 programs under consideration at this meeting:

- Rank 6: 95% of requested amount
- Rank 5: 85% of requested amount
- Rank 4: 75% of requested amount

### *b. Arts Education – Artists in Schools and Professional Development*

Miller, the Program Specialist for the Arts Education - Artists in Schools and Arts Education - Professional Development grant program strands, presented on the memo and funding recommendations in Tab 14 with panelist Luis Pichardo.

Pichardo stated that the panelists considered the impact that the applicants' programs would have in the community. Highly ranked applications had strong articulations of their communities, had a clear understanding of the demographic of the people they were serving, and had a very clear outline of program descriptions especially with sequential learning.

Galli asked if Artists in Schools - Exposure (AIS-Exposure) and Artists in Schools - Professional Development (AIS-PD) have always been categorized together. Miller replied that they are funded separately; AIS - PD projects are in conjunction with an AIS - Exposure project at the

school; for that reason, the same panelists adjudicate funding so they can have a full picture of the projects.

Pichardo added that it was helpful to the panel to have both grant programs' applications in the adjudication. It gave a complete overview of how the student programming's curriculum developed as the teachers gained knowledge from their professional development training.

Devis asked for clarification on the funding amount for Opera Cultura. Miller clarified that the funding amounts are listed separately, with AIS - Exposure in the first column and AIS - PD in the second column. AIS - PD is adjudicated as "fund" or "no fund" for the amount of \$2,500.

Galli asked if AIS - PD has been changed recently. Miller clarified that the panelists gave feedback on changing the name of AIS - PD as it is similar to the Professional Development grant program, which is separate from the Arts Education grant programs umbrella.

Pichardo added that his organization is a Local Impact grant program recipient and has benefitted and grown monumentally thanks to the support of the CAC.

*c. Professional Development*

Gilbride presented the funding recommendations in Tab 15. She stated that the panel was composed of Jaren Bonillo, Caitlin Fitzwater, and Hilary Amnah. The panel recommends 23 applications for funding based on a "fund" or "no fund" adjudication process.

Harris recused himself due to conflicts of interest.

VOTING ITEM: At 4:17 p.m., Baza moved to approve the FY 18-19 funding allocation recommendations presented in Tab 13. Harris seconded.

No discussion.

At 4:18 p.m., the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Beasley left the meeting. Harris recused himself due to conflicts of interest.

VOTING ITEM: At 4:18 p.m., Baza moved to approve the African-American Shakespeare Company for the Arts Education - Artists in Schools grant program. McGuinness seconded.

No discussion.

At 4:19 p.m., the motion carried 5-1-0, with a recusal from Harris.

Harris returned.

VOTING ITEM: At 4:19 p.m., Baza moved to approve the list of ranked applicants for the Arts Education - Artists in Schools, and Arts Education - Professional Development grant programs. McGuinness seconded.

No discussion.

At 4:20 p.m., the motion carried unanimously 6-0.

## **XII. Grantee Presentation: Nevada City Broadcasting Group**

Gilbride introduced the Nevada City Broadcasting Group, one of the recipients of the Arts and Public Media grant for FY 16-17 for the media project “A Place Called Home.” The project explores homelessness in the Nevada City community and is a collaborative project between KVMR and two local artists, Betty Louise and Susan Davis. Louise is a professional facilitator, speaker, and dancer who has been involved in audio broadcasting for more than 10 years. Davis is a mixed-media fine artist, and for a decade has been producing and hosting radio and TV conversation shows.

She introduced Julie Chiarelli, the general manager of KVMR, a 40-year-old community radio station consisting of a small staff and over 700 volunteers. Chiarelli stated that the difference between a public radio station and a community radio station is their programming. Public radio stations have programs created by paid staff, whereas community radio stations are volunteer-based. KVMR broadcasts programs 24/7 and is completely volunteer-based.

Louise stated that “A Place Called Home” is a project that uses the arts and media to connect with the story and humanity of homeless people. The project sets up experiences to shift perceptions toward inclusion of homeless people. They collected stories from homeless people, officials charged with solutions, concerned citizens, and organizations working with homeless people. They edited the stories and posted a video on the Story Catcher’s section of the KVMR website. The project also featured a live show at The Center for the Arts in Grass Valley. The impact of the project was collected via surveys and included increased empathy for homeless people, a greater appreciation for challenges they face, and increased motivation to work with community on related issues.

As artists, Louise and Davis believe that stories are a connection to humanity, and that the arts are the best way to shift people’s perceptions. They focus on multimedia platform of photography, music, and dance among others. They stated that the CAC funding helped them compensate the artists who participate in the work, some of whom are homeless themselves.

Galli stated that “A Place Called Home” is a great program and she encouraged the artists to collect more quantitative data to further support it in the future.

## **XIII. Voting Item: NEA Funding for Disaster Recovery Grants**

Bown-Crawford stated that the memo outlined in Tab 16 is an overview of NEA funding for grants to support SLPs developing re-granting projects in counties affected by October and December 2017 FEMA Disaster wildfires and mudslides.

*VOTING ITEM:* At 4:42 p.m., Baza moved to approve authority for the Programs Policy Committee and staff to develop and publish guidelines for an NEA-funded Disaster Recovery grant program, to be accessed by eligible SLPs. Gallegos seconded.

Harris asked what the total amount of the grant program is and how it was allocated to the CAC. Fitzwater replied it is \$228,540. Kiburi replied the amount is based on 20% of the NEA annual grant the CAC receives. Bown-Crawford replied the percentage is an increase from the federal funding, and the SLPs will be re-granting the full amount.

Gallegos asked if the grant is part of a continuing program. Anne Bown-Crawford replied that the federal funding may not be continuing, and it's in response to natural disasters that affect artists. Gallegos replied the program is important and that the Joan Mitchell Foundation also distributes emergency-based grants.

At 4:46 p.m., the motion carried unanimously 6-0.

#### **XIV. Break: Council Members Paperwork**

In the interest of time, a break was not taken.

#### **XV. Committee Updates**

Baza stated that in the interest of time, detailed updates will be postponed to the next Council meeting.

Galli gave a brief update of the Strategic Planning Committee. The committee had a working session on May 14 where a SWOT analysis of the strategic planning process was created. She asked the Council to read the memo in Tab 20 and to e-mail any committee member additional suggestions. Galli will send an e-mail update and reminder to all Council.

Devis asked what the difference between the Strategic Planning Committee and the Innovations & Aspirations Committee is. Galli replied that the work of the Innovations & Aspirations Committee will be one area of input incorporated in the Strategic Planning process, among others.

#### **XVI. Future Agenda Items**

Gallegos asked to revisit the change of not including program descriptions to the Council in consideration of the funding recommendations. Harris added that more information on the programs would be helpful to determine whether or not there is a conflict of interest when Council members vote.

Devis stated that he was grateful for the public’s input about the Cultural Districts program. He added that as a board member of Arts for LA, he has been working on ways to include cultural impact as part of environmental impacts in real estate development reports. He proposed the Arts for LA board present its findings at the next Council meeting with the consultant, Jessica Cusick.

Galli suggested splitting the Public Comment into two items on the agenda to give the opportunity for public to give more input throughout the day.

Devis stated that the LA County Arts Commission has an Equity Group who has come up with 13 recommendations for implementation. He suggested they present their findings at the Council meeting. Gallegos replied the document is included in the bibliography of the Equity Committee update memo. She asked Devis to send the documentation with the 13 recommendations to any member of the committee.

## **XVII. Adjournment and In Memoriam**

Gallegos acknowledged the following members of the creative community whose lives were recently lost:

- Laura Aguilar
- René Yañez

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.