

DRAFT MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Wednesday, September 12, 2018
9 a.m. to 3:55 p.m.**

**Plaza de la Raza
Cultural Center for the Arts & Education
Frank & Ann Lopez Music Building
3540 North Mission Road
Northeast Los Angeles, CA, 90031
(323) 223-2475**

PRESENT:

Council Members

Nashormeh Lindo, Chair
Larry Baza, Vice Chair
Phoebe Beasley
Christopher Coppola
Juan Devis
Kathleen Gallegos
Jaime Galli
Donn K. Harris
Louise McGuinness
Steve Oliver
Rosalind Wyman

Arts Council Staff

Anne Bown-Crawford, Executive Director
Ayanna Kiburi, Deputy Director
Shelly Gilbride, Programs Officer
Kristin Margolis, Director of Legislative Affairs
Kimberly Brown, Public Affairs Specialist
Lariza Barcena, Administrative Analyst

Invited Attendees

Maria Jiménez-Torres, Executive Director, Plaza de la Raza
Tomas Benitez, Grant Manager, Plaza de la Raza
Kristin Sakoda, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Arts Commission.
Anji Gaspar Milanovic, Director of Grants and Professional Development, Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Other Attendees / Members of the Public

Eliza Tudor, Executive Director, Nevada County Arts Council
Lupe Cardona, Arroyo Arts Collective
Peter Comiskey, Balboa Park Cultural District
Dante Alencastre, Executive Director of California LGBT Arts Alliance
Harini Krishnan, San Mateo County Arts Commission
Karen Lewis, Arts for LA
Eugene Hutchens, L.A. Master Chorale
John Bass – TheatreWorkers Project/Francisco Homes
Suzie Tanner, Director, TheatreWorkers Project
Ed Bergman, Francisco Homes
Lisette Sweetland, Tuolumne County Arts Alliance
Kenneth Hartman, Jail Guitar Doors
Kat Kumbis, Jail Guitar Doors
Julie Baker, Interim Executive Director, California Arts Advocates/Californians for the Arts
Michael Alexander, California Arts Advocates/California Association of Nonprofits
Jessica Ceballos y Campbell, Latina Writers Conference
Denise L. McIver
Rebecca Nevarez, Latino Arts Network of California
David Mack, Heidi Duckler Dance
Natalie Green, Program Manager, PEN America
Jesus A. Reyes, Center Theatre Group
Patricia Garza, Latinx Theatre Alliance of Los Angeles
Gwen Freeman, President, Arroyo Arts Collective
Paulina Sahagun, Vice President, Gabrielino/Tongva Springs Foundation
Angela Tahti
Jose Antonio Aguirre, Executive Director, Mexican Cultural District of Los Angeles
Charmaine Jefferson, Kélan Resources
David Diaz

Performance: Folklor Pasion Mexicana

I. Call to Order, Welcome from Venue, and Acknowledgment of Tribal Land

At 9:08 a.m., Lindo called the meeting to order.

Thomas Benitez, staff member of Plaza de la Raza, introduced the venue, its Executive Director, Maria Jiménez-Torres, and Assistant to the Executive Director, Rebecca Nevarez. He mentioned his ties, as well as Nevarez's, to the Latino Arts Network, as Chair and Executive Director, respectively. He thanked the Council for being there and mentioned the current exhibition in the gallery and an installation in the theater lobby.

Bown-Crawford expressed the California Arts Council's gratitude to the original inhabitants of the land

where the Council is meeting, and introduced Baza to offer the acknowledgement.

Baza iterated the importance of acknowledging indigenous peoples, in particular in California and as a state agency, and thanked Bown-Crawford for instituting the practice. He acknowledged the following tribal groups: the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, the Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, the Gabrieleno/Tongva Nation, the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the Kern Valley Indian Community, the Kitanemuk and Yowlumne Teion Indians, the Gabrieleno-Tongva Tribe, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation, Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians, and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

II. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum

Barcena took the roll at 9:14 a.m. and a quorum was established.

III. Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2018

ACTION ITEM: At 9:15 a.m., Lindo moved to approve the June 7, 2018 minutes with approved changes. Beasley seconded.

No discussion.

The Chair called for a vote. The motion passed 8-0.

IV. Chair's Report

Lindo shared bullet points from her report, which she handed out to Council members later. She remarked on the end of summer and the beginning of fall, a busy time for the Arts Council as they prepare a new grant season. She acknowledged a sense of urgency around the arts: the impact of this year's wildfires on artists, their families, and arts communities, artist displacement and homelessness in the state. She talked about the interest in the arts from youth and listening to the thoughts of the next generation about the Arts Council's work, especially when considering many Council members with terms expiring. She talked about the need for two days of Council meetings to accomplish the necessary work.

Lindo mentioned Yo Yo Ma and XQ Institute Block Party in Oakland, a free event for music to speak to humanity and encourage audience to participate in enjoying music and discussion about art's role in social justice and healing communities.

Lindo shared a poem she wrote about music, and mentioned music's recent impact on her, with the passing of Aretha Franklin, jazz musician Randy Weston, and Oakland music teacher Wanda Redman-Eklund.

The Chair asked Council to introduce themselves in the absence of name plates. Members and Bown-Crawford and Kiburi introduced themselves.

V. Director's Report

Anne Bown-Crawford gave an overview of the Executive Director's report. She has been traveling over the summer for the purpose of statewide conversations and building relationships. The report offers details about intersections, where agreements exist and where future partnerships could exist. She mentioned the Cultural Cabinet, the public health sector, and work within the agency itself as opportunities for relationship building.

Bown-Crawford talked about visiting Tuolumne County to speak with their Board of Supervisors and to learn how the arts fit into the challenges being faced regarding the fires and limited revenue. She attended a California State Summer School for the Arts tour with Council member Phoebe Beasley to explore the program and its intersection with public and private education. She has also been meeting with emeritus Arts Council members to grow her wealth of knowledge, and exploring the public arts sector for best practices in arts, education, and economic development.

She spent time listening and observing, and mentioned the Actors' Gang, interfacing with the Adobe Education Leaders group, the International Youth Voices Summit, the Eureka street art festival, and creative placemaking with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

Beasley asked whether the Tuolumne County Arts Alliance were able to keep their funding from the County Board of Supervisors. Bown-Crawford responded that the vote has not yet been held.

Devis asked why the report section about Cultural Districts wasn't mentioned in Bown-Crawford's overview. Lindo mentioned the decision to keep report highlights to five minutes in interest of time.

VI. Public Comment

- Eliza Tudor, Executive Director, Nevada County Arts Council
Tudor thanked the Council for recommending, supporting, and encouraging Bown-Crawford to do tour of State-Local Partners.
- Lupe Cardona, Arroyo Arts Collective
Cardona thanked the Council for visiting East L.A. She asked the Council to consider the area, that much of the support for the arts has been concentrated in West Los Angeles and higher socioeconomic areas. She mentioned the northeast, east, south central Los Angeles communities where art is a vital need and a safety issue. She asked the Council for more funding for organizations working for students and communities of color, as well as more grant writing workshops to assist the organizations.
- Pete Comiskey, Balboa Park Cultural District
Comiskey has visited the Eureka and Oceanside Cultural Districts, with the goal to visit all by the end of November. He encourages others to do the same. Encouraged by pilots learning from each other, Comiskey is forming a coalition of districts to help drive marketing and advocacy. He is pleased to see RFP for the evaluation of the program and hopes to see it uncover value and potential of further investment. He asks the Council to consider adding funds toward the

California Cultural District program and consider how to broaden it.

- Dante Alencastre, Executive Director of California LGBT Arts Alliance
 Alencastre asked the Council for more support for smaller organizations within the LGBT community. He gave the statistic that 40 percent of LGBT youth are homeless. He wants to bring awareness, education, and hope by bringing arts programming and financial support is needed. Alencastre asks the Council to look into caps that exist for smaller organizations.
- Harini Krishnan, San Mateo County Arts Commission
 Krishnan thanked the Council for funding arts commissions, and thanked them for also supporting Indian classical arts, herself a classical vocalist arts educator. She said that arts are an equalizer that brings people together, and the Council's support promotes cross-cultural groups and strength in diversity.
- Karen Lewis, Arts for LA
 Lewis thanked the Council for its support for Arts for LA through the Statewide and Regional Networks program and mentions the Arts for LA Activate Fellows program launching soon. She again thanked the Council for its commitment to the arts in L.A. and across the state.
- Eugene Hutchens, L.A. Master Chorale
 Hutchens thanked the Council for its support for L.A. Master Chorale, funded since 1999 or earlier. He encouraged the Council to invest into cultural equity and inclusion to help arts organizations facing challenges to reach diverse communities of color, age, disability, and more.
- John Bass – TheatreWorkers Project/Francisco Homes
 Bass thanked the Council for providing support to incarcerated individuals who don't have exposure to arts and culture. Bass served 27 years in prison, and said that exposure to the arts helped him to heal himself. Once paroled, he became a member of Francisco Homes and was encouraged to join the TheaterWorkers Project. He said it is strengthening and encouraging to continue the work now in society upon release. He asked the Council to continue these efforts.
- Suzie Tanner, Director, TheatreWorkers Project
 Tanner started as a teaching artist and now directs the TheatreWorkers Project, and Arts in Corrections provider and a CAC grantee. She said the Reentry Through the Arts grant has been particularly impactful to help their work and their goal to break the isolation felt by marginalized groups. She asked that the RTA program continue to grow.
- Ed Bergman, Francisco Homes
 Bergman is a returned citizen after 37 years in prison. Adapting to the changes outside was difficult, but Francisco Homes gave him a place to live and a program to join. He loves the theatre arts group he is a part of, and asked Council that funding continue for programs like Francisco Homes.
- Lisette Sweetland, Tuolumne County Arts Alliance
 Sweetland thanked Plaza de la Raza for hosting. She thanked the Council for support and encouragement for the Board of Supervisors meeting in Tuolumne County. The vote to determine funding for the Tuolumne County Arts Alliance has not yet taken place, but Sweetland stated that the Board made it evident that it was not likely they would receive support. She talked about a T-shirt campaign coming soon to combat the perception that artists are not businesspeople. She again thanked the Council for their support.
- Kenneth Hartman, Jail Guitar Doors
 Hartman was released from prison eight months ago. Arts had enormous impact on his transition

and ability to function in society. He took Arts in Corrections courses and other Council-supported arts programming. He saw that arts programs were fundamental in prison. He was hired by Jail Guitar Doors to help with grant writing proposals, and thanked them for living up to their ideals and making him a part of the team. Hartman spoke on behalf of all prisoners to tell the Council that their decisions matter and radically transform people inside.

- **Kat Kumbis, Jail Guitar Doors**
 Jail Guitar Doors brings music and songwriting programs into prison facilities. Kumbis asked for funding support that would allow Jail Guitar Doors to participate in a pilot program for the L.A. County jail system. The organization has been there for five years, and has developed a study they would like to implement to get data for arts in the county jail system. She hopes to establish art-based reentry programs in the jails. She brought letter from sheriff who has recommended the study.
- **Julie Baker, Interim Executive Director, California Arts Advocates/Californians for the Arts**
 Baker thanked the Council for visiting Nevada County at their last meeting. She introduced California Arts Advocates as the statewide arts advocacy organization for California. She stated she is pleased with their efforts resulting in increased funding for the CAC, with work still to be done. She hoped to see more permanent funding in the state budget allocation going forward. She acknowledged that no additional staff positions created with the additional funds, and the limited resources of the CAC existing partners. The CAA board sent a letter to the CAC recommending the increased funding for 2018-19 be allocated to existing programs, specifically State-Local Partners, Cultural Districts, and Statewide and Regional Networks.
- **Michael Alexander, California Arts Advocates/California Association of Nonprofits**
 Alexander identified himself as a resident of northeast L.A., a former Council member, and board member of California Arts Advocates. Alexander added a comment to the Council's recognition of tribal land, stating that L.A. had the largest density of Native Americans prior to Western colonization, but there is not one single federally recognized tribe in L.A. or Orange County. Alexander talked about the Western Arts Alliance, a regional conference bringing together artists, touring artists, presenters, community arts centers, agents, and managers, and spoke to the need for a support program for touring artists to help their enter the national and international marketplace. Alexander mentioned the census and funding available from the Legislature to help reach organizations most likely to be undercounted. He said the budget for the Council is dependent upon a good accurate count for the arts community, and he hopes to work with the Council on that issue.
- **Tomás Benitez, L.A. Stage Alliance**
 Benitez thanks the Council on behalf of the LA Stage Alliance for the funding as a Statewide and Regional Network. He stated that it is important to have a regional representative for theater and performing arts. He mentions the launching of three new initiatives: Teen Tix, to offer a flat \$5 rate for tickets to students in Southern California; a busing program to take schools to plays in partnership with local theaters; and an initiative to encourage writers of color to become theater performers, playwrights, and critics.
- **Jessica Ceballos y Campbell, Latina Writers Conference**
 Ceballos y Campbell thanked the Council for their support of the Latina Writers Conference. She talked about the underrepresentation of Latinas in publishing and writing, and the historic experience was validating and empowering for attendees. She distributed totes bags from the

event to Council members.

- Denise L. McIver
McIver thanked the Council for their support for California residents. She asked the Council to consider the neglected demographic of older adults, especially those with cognitive decline. She mentioned that the country is becoming older; that most people will reach the age of 60 at minimum. She stated that people with early cognitive disease respond to the arts. She asked for programming and consideration of new technologies such as virtual and augmented reality to bring arts experiences to those who cannot go to them.
- Rebecca Nevarez, Latino Arts Network of California
Nevarez identified the Latino Arts Network as a longtime partner of the Council. She thanked the Council for holding their meeting at Plaza de la Raza. She spoke to the advocacy by the local community to have more equity when it comes to access to grants. She asked that the Council consider changing and improving program access and guidelines, and state that the majority of Latino organizations are small. Caps based on 50 percent of their annual operating budget and in-kind donations that must come from third parties are both barriers for those organizations. Nevarez also made a plea for more grant workshops and suggested working with the Statewide and Regional Networks to accomplish that.
- David Mack, Heidi Duckler Dance
Mack thanked the Council for its support of Heidi Duckler Dance. He mentioned that the company is the first dance organization in Los Angeles to receive an NEA Our Town grant for a creative placemaking project, and that CAC funds will match that program.
- Natalie Green, Program Manager, PEN America
Green thanked the Council for its support, that literary arts programming wouldn't be possible without CAC support. She questioned the emphasis on multigenerational audience reach for a single proposal and talked about strained resources of smaller nonprofits that do have diverse programming.
- Jesus A. Reyes, Center Theatre Group
Reyes expressed happiness to see Beasley and Wyman, having served as a commissioner with them. He shared some of the projects the Center Theatre Group is undertaking this year, funded in part by CAC support, and encouraged all to attend a show.
- Patricia Garza, Latinx Theatre Alliance of Los Angeles
She introduced her organization as a common-space, all-volunteer organization. She thanked the Council for coming to East L.A. and Lincoln Heights. Her organization partners with Plaza de la Raza for many of their programs, and serve as an advocacy group for all Latinx theater artists in Los Angeles. She echoed the request for more grant workshops and asked that the Council return in the future.
- Gwen Freeman, President, Arroyo Arts Collective
Freeman spoke about the Cultural Data profile requirement for grants as an obstacle to small, all-volunteer arts organizations. She said her organization's experienced staff member takes 20 hours to get through it, and can be longer for less experienced and volunteer-based staff with jobs, parental obligations and transportation issues. She asked for solutions and innovative ideas to relieve the requirement, and suggested a waiver or partnership with larger organizations for assistance.
- Paulina Sahagun, Vice President, Gabrielino/Tongva Springs Foundation

She identified her organization’s mission to protect and preserve the ancestral Kuruvungna Springs. They offer educational programs for Tongva and other nations. The organization received a Cultural Pathways grant that was very helpful. She asked the Council to continue to find a way to fund hidden cultural assets within communities that lack the assets required by some of the agency’s grant guidelines.

- **Angela Tahti**
Tahti thanked the Council for their work and preparation for today’s meeting, and thanked Anne Bown-Crawford for her listening tour of the State-Local Partners. She reminded the Council and public about voting in the next election to have their voices heard.
- **Jose Antonio Aguirre, Executive Director, Mexican Cultural District of Los Angeles**
Aguirre thanked the Council for granting a Cultural Pathways grant to the organization. He identified the organization as preserving and promoting Mexican culture in Los Angeles and across the border. He asked that the Council continue with grant programs that will allow organizations such as his to grow.
- **Charmaine Jefferson, Kélan Resources**
Jefferson identified herself as a former Council member, and congratulated the Council for their hard work of growing the agency’s budget. She asked the Council for a touring program for lesser known and emerging performing artists. She also offered her support for the comment by Denise McIver asking for support for older people who may not be able to get to art sites, similar to bringing arts to prisons. She asked for a convening of arts leaders by the Council to talk about uniformity among grant requirements and address the issue of inequity in terms of resources for smaller and midsize organizations.
- **David Diaz**
Diaz identified himself as a city environmental planner and former director of children’s studies at Cal State LA, former Avenue 50 Studio Board member, and author of a book on Chicanos in the Los Angeles. Diaz asked the Council to play stronger role in public policy to protect the legacy of public art in original locations. He credited the murals of Chicano Park, the East L.A., and the Mission District for the public art movement that has been adopted by all cities in the United States. He asked the CAC to work with the Cultural Heritage Commission to protect murals and thanked the Council for its work in prisons.

VII. Equity Committee Update

Gallegos thanked the public commenters for sharing what their organizations are doing, especially in creating equity.

Gallegos explained that the Equity Committee looked at all programming guidelines and restrictions through an equity lens. Gallegos thanked CAC Program staffer and Equity Committee member Andrea Porras for her spreadsheet that summarized all of the program requirements/restrictions. Gallegos offered some of the recommendations for the Council to consider, and acknowledged that some have already been implemented and reflected in the revised program guidelines in the Council book: fiscal sponsorship for all programs, changing the number of years of artistic and organizational experience to two years across programs, eliminating requirement of requests of no more than 25 percent of organizational budgets, removing the word “professionalism” from guidelines, develop community-based art programs that allows various pedagogical programs for increased inclusivity; and considering

the complexity of DataArts requirements for smaller organizations; and adding a requirement for at least one free event in the Creative California Communities grant program.

Beasley asked for clarification around a typo in the update. Gallegos clarified that the bullet point was about the development of art programs for youth outside of schools, and refers to Tab 17 and the new Youth Arts Action grant program being presented for vote by the Council.

Beasley also inquired about eliminating the restriction that project costs do not exceed 25% of the agency budget in some programs. Gallegos added that there is an inconsistency within programs, that some have a limit of 25 percent, while others have a limit of 50 percent.

Galli said those caps would be addressed in her committee's update, but encouraged the Council to consider the impact of larger organizations applying for the same grant on smaller organizations if there was no limit.

Galli commended the Equity Committee and thanked them for developing their recommendations. She spoke about some vagueness of language in the report potentially complicating the issues being looked at, and asked for more specificity when it comes to grant guidelines recommendations.

Lindo clarified that the Equity Committee has been meeting for two or three years, and that they have reached the point of honing down to essential problems with bias or inequities. Lindo stated that all the points in the update need discussion among the Council, and asked that the Council read the resources and examples to help clarify the committee's recommendations.

Gallegos reiterated the need to read the provided literature.

Galli stated that she is referring only to the specific document, for purposes of the public and the dialogue.

Devis stated that the Council could benefit from an explanation as to how those points came to be identified as the recommended changes.

Lindo stated that it may be of some benefit to the Council members to see the chart, and that the recommendations are a starting point that require input from all of the Council members to determine specific wording. She added that the public comment has echoed many things identified in the document.

Harris agreed and said that the new committee process of making reports and recommendations for discussion by the whole Council is a strong one. He added that the public comment definitely helped to further inform that discussion, and thanked the public and the committee.

Kiburi acknowledged the point from Galli to fine-tune the language and confirmed the process of committee recommendations to develop discussion points on the next agenda for further dialogue.

Lindo mentioned GARE staff participation as part of the report. CAC staff members are part of a state government cohort and yearlong training to achieve racial equity and advanced opportunities for all. The GARE members are utilizing a toolkit to advance the committee's capacity to assess equity in Council policy and will provide future updates to the Council.

VIII. Programs Policy Committee Update

Baza said the Programs Policy Committee met weekly throughout August to revise, clarify, and prepare recommended changes to guidelines for all programs for the upcoming grant cycle.

Baza provided an overview of the update: The committee recommends revising the fiscal sponsorship requirement to be allowed in all programs. There were changes to budgetary requirement restrictions for arts education programs, Arts in Public Media and Veterans in the Arts. Application requests for all programs cannot exceed 50 percent of an organization's total operating budget—a recommended change from 25 percent for some programs.

IX. Voting Item: FY 2018-2019 Programs Guidelines

Kiburi clarified the recommended change to remove the 25 percent restriction for project-based grants, but the restriction that any grant received cannot exceed 50 percent of your operating budget remains. The removal of the 25 percent restriction is the proposal on the table for a vote.

ACTION ITEM: At 10:50 a.m., Lindo called for motion to give staff the authority to fine-tune and publish the guidelines for the following programs in consultation with the Programs Policy Committee: FY18-19 Artists in Communities, Arts Education Exposure, Arts and Public Media, Creative California Communities, JUMP StArts, Local Impact, Professional Development, Organizational Development, Reentry Through the Arts, Research in the Arts, Youth Arts Action (formerly Arts Education Extension), and Veterans in the Arts; FY19-20 Artists in Schools, Arts Integration Training (formerly Arts Education Professional Development). McGuinness seconded.

Discussion:

Harris asked for a definition of project-based grants vs. non project based grants.

Galli clarified that project-based grants include funding for specific project, as opposed to funding for the organization broadly.

Kiburi added that it's the difference between general operating funding and project support.

Harris asked if there is ever overlap within one program. Kiburi and Galli said no, but that organizations could apply for both under different projects.

Beasley asked why the program goals are not located next to the purpose and background within the guidelines, and suggested moving them. Beasley expressed that 50 percent is too much for a limit and is

concerned that it could potentially set up smaller organizations to fail.

Harris asked for clarification on the content of the voting item.

Kiburi clarified that the 50 percent requirement is still part of the guidelines and is not changing or up for vote, but the elimination of the 25 percent for project-based grants is being voted on.

Galli added that the issue is complicated and Beasley's concerns are valid. She said it's the Council responsibility to get information from grantees to evaluate sustainability.

Harris commented that using in-kind services as a match invites the question of using those same in-kind services to increase an organization's operating budget. He also added that board member contributions as part of in-kind is undecided and guidelines could be developed that do not have that limitation.

Galli reminded that many of the restrictions surrounding Fiscal Sponsorship and In-Kind were not determined by the Council and were based on state and federal accounting rules.

Harris commented that he believed the Council agreed to not necessarily be beholden to those regulations in the future. Galli agreed.

Wyman asked if the Council should be encouraging more in-kind contributions to help an organization.

Harris agreed.

Wyman suggested making changes to in-kind guidelines.

Galli reiterated that the rules for what constitutes in-kind for a nonprofit in the state of California are not governed or generated by the CAC.

McGuinness said there may be another way to consider the 50 percent in relationship and proportionality to the size of the organization.

Lindo suggested a real in-depth discussion at the next meeting.

Gallegos suggested that guidelines are malleable and interpretation is important, and a looser interpretation is more beneficial to the Council's work.

Devis agreed and said it requires a deeper dive because Council cannot tell smaller organizations how to interpret and itemize in-kind.

Lindo reminded that in-kind is not up for vote and tabled the issue for another meeting.

At 10:57 a.m., the Chair called for vote. The motion passed 8-0.

X. Voting Item: Programs Allocation Committee Update, FY 2018-19 Total Program

Projections

McGuinness presented the update as co-chair with Council Member Christopher Coppola. She talked about the Committee's recommendation to plan for 10 percent increases in grantee awards, based on increased outreach, technical assistance, and projected need.

The committee recommended increases to the Poetry Out Loud and State-Local Partners programs, noting the great work of the State-Local Partners overall as well as part of the POL program. She mentioned that these recommendations come after receiving feedback from the field and include revisions to the SLP guidelines and clarifications of program requirements.

The committee recommended a total of \$21,345,189 to be awarded for grants for the 2018-19 fiscal year. McGuinness mentioned the \$8,360,000 augment to the 2018-19 budget signed by the governor. The Council has the capacity to utilize that money over three fiscal years, not just one. As such, the committee recommended utilizing \$2,000,000 in 2018-19 fiscal year for a special Council initiative to be determined, saving the rest for the following two years as a more prudent way of managing the Council's financial responsibilities, since funding is uncertain in the future. She told Council that the Innovations and Aspirations Committee will present in order to help Council determine how to spend the \$2,000,000 for a special initiative.

Beasley reminded the Council that the Innovations and Aspirations Committee will present during the following day's meeting in Burbank.

ACTION ITEM: At 11:05 a.m., Lindo called for the motion to approve an estimated total program projection of \$21,345,189 for current grant programs and an additional \$2,000,000 of the remaining balance for special Council initiative(s), leaving \$6,360,000 to be allocated by June 30, 2021. The motion was seconded by Beasley.

Discussion:

Harris strongly recommended visuals for future items to better help the Council and the public understand the numbers.

Gallegos inquired about the asterisks next to ACTA and Creative California Communities in the spreadsheet featured in the item's tab (TAB 20).

Kiburi clarified that the asterisk represents allocations that differ in some way to the others. California Creative Communities is a program that functions on a two-year cycle and therefore was not a part of last year's budgeting. The ACTA technical assistance grant provides funds to just to one organization.

Gallegos asked if the Arts and Accessibility grant should then also receive an asterisk, since the funds are given only to the National Arts and Disability Center. Kiburi replied that because the NADC then regrants the funds to organizations and individuals, it was not called out in that way.

Devis asked about remaining \$6 million to be allocated by June 30, 2021—specifically about the figures

that were determined to spend and to save.

McGuinness replied that the work needs to be done by Council as time goes by, and that Council can determine that at following meetings.

Coppola answered that the thinking was to prepare for the potential for cuts or changes to the budget in the following two years.

Lindo reiterated the idea of saving because the Council was given the ability to spend over three fiscal years, and due to the impermanence of the one-time \$8 million allocation.

McGuinness agreed.

Coppola said that the priority went to the second and third year due to the uncertainty of the budget for those years.

Kiburi clarified the order of the decisions that needed to be made by Council: first to determine the amount of funds to spend or save, then another discussion about how to spend the money decided upon for this fiscal year.

Harris asked for clarification that the \$8 million was not included in the \$21 million.

Kiburi confirmed that the \$8 million is separate and not a part of the \$21 million.

Beasley asked for a correction to change the “June 31” to “June 30.”

Galli asked about what kind of information is coming from applicants that can help determine needs for the future.

Bown-Crawford replied that the staff would like to utilize some of the funds to conduct an evaluation from the field to guide future decisions. She told Council that the Governor’s office recommended that the Council be prudent, as the governor’s office gave the CAC three years to spend the money, in alignment with the governor’s prioritizing of “rainy-day funds.” At the same time, Bown-Crawford said it’s also important to set things in motion with some of the funds.

Harris asked if the three years was a directive from the Legislature.

Margolis responded that there was no specific directive.

Harris expressed his concern that in setting money aside, Council may lose the momentum behind its purpose and spend it in bits and pieces instead of something larger and more impactful.

Galli elaborated on her question and brought up the public comment about the DataArts profile data, that Council can utilize it in the proposed evaluation and show grantees how it is being effectively and

practically put to use.

Coppola mentioned a previous time when the Council was given additional funds and had to make decisions as to how to spend them. He said the Council members broke off into committees to come up with ideas, looking for feasible projects that would also bring positive attention to the CAC. He suggested looking at new media as a possibility.

Baza mentioned that Cultural Districts are not among the funding being discussed on the day's agenda, given that it was mandated by legislature without funding. He said the Council should consider funds for the program as it is evaluated and grows and develops.

Devis asked how the parameters for the discussion about spending the funds are being determined.

Lindo reminded that the Innovations and Aspirations Committee has been working toward that end.

Margolis commented on the great work of the committees and encouraged the Council to come together and look at the big picture. She reminded that the CAC sought legislation regarding the Cultural Districts designation and that it is therefore possible to bring legislation to ask for funding to continue the growth of the program and that utilizing funds currently available may detract from that possibility.

Kiburi reminded the Council that there are two hours set aside to hold a discussion regarding the additional funds. She suggested they voted on the amount, with the potential to ask for a change to that amount during the next day's discussion.

Coppola revisited the decisions from a previous allocation, mentioning a specific retreat to meet.

Oliver offered that the next day's discussion is a dialogue and not a decision process.

Lindo reminded Council that due to the amount of business items, the second day was no longer a retreat, but that the dialogue component was kept to have a conversation on how to allocate the additional funds.

At 11:22 a.m., McGuinness called for the vote. The motion passed 8-0.

XI. Voting Item: FY 18-19 Grant Allocations

Lindo referred back to McGuinness to discuss grant allocations (TAB 21, Item 11).

1. Arts and Accessibility Grant

McGuinness provided an overview of the voting items – allocating funds to Arts & Accessibility, Poetry Out Loud, and the State-Local Partners programs.

Beasley asked if any additional organizations that work with artists with disabilities is funded other than NADC.

Harris replied that the NADC is an umbrella organization that does regrating, is UCLA-based and has the most knowledge of the field.

Beasley and Gallegos both expressed concern regarding there being no additional organizations to consider.

Lindo replied that Council can look at guidelines and potentially make a change to that later if that's a concern of Council.

ACTION ITEM: At 11:27 a.m., the Chair called for the motion to approve a \$165,000 local assistance grant in support of the Arts and Accessibility program, as jointly administered by the California Arts Council and the National Arts and Disability Center. Baza seconded.

Discussion:

Coppola asked if there is a list provided from the NADC for the regrating.

Baza commented that it would be a good idea to receive some kind of report from the organization.

Kiburi reminded that the NADC gave a presentation to Council at the Sacramento Council meeting in November 2017.

Galli asked for the criteria used to select grantees as a benefit to the Council's understanding of the organization.

Kiburi recommended that Council look at the program's guidelines and if they have additional needs, the Council can put the topic on a future agenda for discussion.

Gallegos inquired as to who is responsible for achievement of the bullet point regarding program enhancement to "expand the reach of the program to intersectionally underserved communities."

Kiburi replied that grantee (NADC) is responsible.

At 11:29 a.m., Lindo called for the vote. The motion is approved 8-0.

2. Poetry Out Loud Grants

ACTION ITEM: Lindo called for a motion to approve the 2018 California Poetry Out Loud (CA POL) local assistance grants allocation totaling \$275,000, which will provide grant support in the amount of \$5,000 each for CA POL partners to coordinate county POL programs and competitions, and to facilitate student travel. Coppola seconded.

No discussion.

Lindo called for the vote at 11:32 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

3. SLP Disaster Recovery Grants

ACTION ITEM: At 11:34 a.m., the Chair called for the motion to approve to fund six applications for the SLP Disaster Recovery Support special grant program at the recommend grant amount based on panel ranking and available designated NEA funding Gallegos seconded.

Discussion:

Gallegos asked what the money specifically will be used for.

Kiburi replied that the CAC has no information about what it is used for specifically since it is just now being distributed, but some details are within the SLP applications.

Gilbride added that the organizations being funded are regrating money to artists and arts organizations affected by fires. The organizations went through an application process to answer questions regarding the number of artists and organizations affected and what losses were incurred. There was also a requirement that funds will be directed toward things other than FEMA-supported costs, based on the NEA requirement to the CAC. Organizations will be required a final report regarding how funds are disbursed, since they will themselves have a grant application process to distribute funds. Gilbride also clarified that these funds are for artists and organizations in counties impacted by the October and December 2017 fires and mudslides, though many applicant organizations were also dealing with fires that occurred this year.

Kiburi spoke to the importance of this grant program and that staff is appreciative to have a mechanism for disaster support.

Galli asked if there is an opportunity to not be a special initiative and something that can regularly exist.

Kiburi said that there is an opportunity for a standardized process and program. If Council would like to consider that, there is an opportunity to create one

The Chair called for the vote at 11:38 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Break: Council Member Paperwork

At 11:40 p.m., Lindo announced a break due to the next item on the agenda, the grantee presentation, being unable to take place due to the meeting being ahead of schedule and presenters having not yet arrived.

XIII. Discussion Items

Council reconvened at 12:30 p.m. The Chair announced that the Council would move forward with agenda items until the presenters arrived.

1. Programs Calendar

Kiburi offered Council an overview of the programs calendar (TAB 24), calling attention to the busy panelist season. She reminded Council members that they might attend to gain better perspective on the adjudication process for grant programs.

Lindo also encouraged the Council to attend and observe panels.

2. Panelist Call Update

Kiburi shared an updated on the call for new panelists for grant program application reviews. She talked about the current panelist pool list as a resource for creating program panels, as well as the new panelist application that will be opened and promoted following the publishing of grant program guidelines. Applications will be open through November for the Council's vote in December. She asked that Council and the public help to get the word out about recruiting new applicants for the panelist pool and that the Programs staff is always seeking to diversify the panels as much as possible.

Beasley asked for an update on the proposed legislation to offer an honorarium to panelists.

Margolis told Council that the bill has passed through both houses of the Legislature and is currently on the Governor's desk for signature. Margolis said the Arts Council staff is confident that the governor will sign the bill and that he has until September 30 to do so. If the bill is signed, the Arts Council can start to offer honorariums to panelists in January of 2019.

Kiburi reminded the Council that the CAC already covers travel accommodations and a per diem for panelists, but said the honorarium is a worthwhile addition for recognizing their hard work.

Wyman asked what the average rate of honorariums is for other state agencies that assemble peer-review panels.

Margolis responded that not many California state agencies have similar panels, but that she has looked into examples across the country to advise the amount.

Wyman suggested looking at Los Angeles County for examples.

Coppola asked if honorariums are something that could be covered by the \$2 million agreed upon for the special initiative. He also inquired about bringing more influential and recognized individuals in to be panelists, as in prior years.

Gilbride commented that Coppola is referring to webinar series in years past rather than panels and suggested that Public Affairs Director Caitlin Fitzwater might be able to expand on that at a future meeting.

Harris inquired about the webinars' relationship to panelists.

Coppola responded that as it happened concurrently, the webinars are available to panelists to listen in and glean information.

Devis inquired about the volume of programs, the busy calendar and whether Council could have a conversation about hiring additional CAC staff, referencing the public comment from Californians for the Arts regarding staff positions.

Bown-Crawford replied that the additional funds did not come with authority to add positions to the staff.

Kiburi added that the letter referenced was sent to the Council Chair from the Californians for the Arts, acknowledging that the increased funds did not come with positions attached. There are currently two vacancies on the CAC staff, unrelated to the budget increase, but that the staff, as a state agency, will be looking for ways to advocate for additional positions.

Margolis pointed out that Council does have the ability to advocate to the Legislature and Governor, and specifically to who appointed them, as to why additional positions are needed. She emphasized that it's particularly effective for members appointed by the Pro Tem and Speaker.

Harris asked if the reason the positions were not attached were due to the one-time nature of the increase.

Margolis confirmed.

McGuinness asked when Council should reach out to the Legislature.

Margolis responded that Council can begin speaking with the Legislature when it returns to session in January.

McGuinness asked if it would be appropriate as a Council body to write a letter asking for new positions.

Margolis replied that she does think it's appropriate for Council as a collective to write a letter to the Governor's office, copying the Speaker and the Pro Tem, particularly since they need to establish a relationship with the new administration after Gov. Jerry Brown's departure.

Wyman mentioned the Council sending a thank you letter from Council to Jerry Brown for his years of service.

Margolis agreed and reminded Council that Arts in Corrections returned under Gov. Brown, in addition to the \$5 million increase he allocated for the arts, separate from the Legislature's

addition.

Kiburi clarified there is no competition between local assistance funding and funding used for staffing and operations.

The Chair thanked Wyman for her advocacy on the part of the Council and arts funding for the state. She recalls that the idea of the panelist bill was first brought to the CAC's attention by artist, Mildred Howard, at a public meeting in Santa Cruz. She added that it's an issue of equity that will open up the panelist pool in ways that can't happen without compensation.

Bown-Crawford added that it can be a long drive from a rural community, as she once did when she was a panelist for the CAC, and her school district would not compensate her for the costs. The honorarium will be especially beneficial for people in a similar situation.

Coppola noted that in conversations with conservative politicians regarding the importance of art, they understood its impact to improve the workforce, to be creative and think differently. He acknowledged Gov. Jerry Brown's suggestion for approaches similar to that to help resonate the power of the arts with certain groups.

Wyman acknowledged that the Council has worked hard to earn the respect of the Legislature by spending its money smartly and spreading it across the state, including smaller communities. She encouraged Council members who will continue their terms to continue that practice.

Harris mentioned their work to assist Imperial County, to offer guidance and initiate their first funds as a State-Local Partner.

XIV. Council's Accomplishments

Lindo provided an overview of the accomplishments of Council over the last five years, including an excerpt of CAC enabling legislative mandates and expansions of grant programs to support creative placemaking; system-engaged youth; arts and media; veterans; professional development and consultation services; artist residencies; new and emerging organizations in communities of color, immigrant and refugee communities, and tribal or indigenous groups; arts learning; and arts research. She acknowledged the increased diversity in panelist marketing, inclusion, and retention; the growth of Poetry Out Loud, support for state public art and the CAC's 40th anniversary in 2016.

Lindo added that all the accomplishments were brought about by the Council's ideas and work.

Coppola mentioned the addition of personal donations from Council members over the years to support initiatives like Poetry Out Loud and the anniversary celebration.

Harris thanked the Chair for putting together the Council's list of accomplishments.

Devis commented on the Cultural Districts program not being included on the list.

Lindo replied that the program wasn't mentioned due to it being a legislative mandate.

Kiburi said it is important to understand that the CAC administers the program, but it is not funded under local assistance funding. Since it was mandated but without funding, the CAC decided to allocate some of the operations funding to pay for it. Council can discuss changing that. The list of accomplishments was intended to highlight ideas and work generated by the Council.

Lindo added that the list is also just a sample of all of the Council's work over the last five years.

Harris said the implementation of the program was an accomplishment, regardless of mandate.

Council agreed.

Bown-Crawford responded the Council had been instrumental in supporting the Cultural Districts program.

Harris acknowledged Assemblymember Bloom for the establishment of the Cultural Districts program.

Baza added that it was co-authored by Assemblywoman Marie Waldron from San Diego County.

Lindo asked the Council for any additions or comments from those on Council prior to her term.

Coppola mentioned Student Voices and his school's involvement.

Beasley asked if Council could move to agenda items that are scheduled for tomorrow.

Bown-Crawford replied that because of the public posting, Council cannot address things slated for the following day's meeting.

Harris mentioned that during his last meeting as Chair, he talked about the #MeToo movement and the importance that he felt. Although it wasn't mentioned in the previous meeting's minutes, he recommended that the Council do something in response and support for the movement.

Coppola mentioned when Bown-Crawford came to speak at his school, she spoke to youth empowerment, youth leadership, and support for the youth. Coppola stated that he thinks Council should do more to that end, and asked Bown-Crawford to elaborate on what she said.

Bown-Crawford replied that she talked about how the development of leaders in any field can best happen in art schools with teachers as guides because students can see those sitting at the table as creative, regardless of the subject matter.

Galli and Gallegos left the meeting.

Coppola said that many art schools are losing money and making a lot of cuts to stay afloat. He would like Council to have a discussion about why art schools are currently struggling to get financial support.

Harris stated that even in the best of times the arts are a hard-won battle to convince others of their value. He mentioned Senator Jim Nielsen and Assemblyman Tom Lackey as conservative arts supporters.

Margolis stated that the CAC has a large number of Republican support, with the two in particular as champions of the arts. She said the Legislature views it as nonpartisan. The panelist bill received unanimous support and the Cultural District bill had the full support of the Republican caucus by the end.

Harris asked what the factors were in their support.

Margolis replied that many of the Republicans represented rural counties and once the benefits were made clear, they were supportive.

Coppola mentioned the listening tours that the Council did years ago as an added benefit to CAC support. Harris and Coppola agreed that the Council should revisit something similar in the future.

Lindo added a note about her research into arts in education in support of STEAM programs. A Google study determined that the top characteristics of its employees were soft skills – coaching, listening, insight, empathy, etc. She stressed that the Council should increase the message to garner more support for STEAM.

McGuinness added that critical thinking was always emphasized as an important element in teaching, and artists can't be successful without it. She mentioned utilizing that as a point of discussion when advocating for the importance of art—that art is an intellectual endeavor.

XV. Break: Council Member Paperwork

Lindo urged Council members to do paperwork while waiting for the presenter to arrive. Lindo announced a tour of the Plaza de la Raza grounds by Tomas Benitez while Council and attendees await the presentation.

XVI. Grantee Presentation: LA County Arts Commission Overview

Council reconvened at 2:43 p.m.

Lindo introduced and welcomed grantee presenters, Kristin Sakoda, Executive Director, and Anji Gaspar Milanovic, Director of Grants and Professional Development for the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Sakoda thanked Lindo for the introduction and all of the CAC Council and staff for inviting her and the

LACAC to speak. She congratulated Plaza de la Raza on 50 years as an organization and stated that the LACAC was proud to be a supporter.

Sakoda introduced herself as the new Executive Director of the LACAC, arriving from New York City in February. She is the first new leader after predecessor Laura Zucker, the LACAC founder.

Sakoda gave an overview of the size and scope of Los Angeles County, a population of 10 million, 4,000 square miles with rich and vibrant geographic, ethnic, cultural and economic diversity. Los Angeles County is home to more than 200 museums and 100 theaters—more than New York, San Francisco, and London.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted in May unanimously to transition the LACAC into the first ever county Department of Arts and Culture. Sakoda mentioned the symbolism of this change with regard to the value of arts and culture.

Sakoda provided a brief summary of the work of each of the LACAC division: the Grant and Professional Development Division (with an Organizational Grant Program, a Community Impact Arts Grant, and an Arts Internship Grant Program), the Arts Education Division, the Civic Art Division, and the Research and Evaluation Division, and elaborated on the county's Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative. She thanked the CAC for its support that has been crucial for the LACAC's work to build capacity for L.A. arts organizations, and opened the conversation for questions from the Council.

Oliver asked how the LACAC income is divided.

Sakoda replied that the LACAC is countywide, but jurisdictional boundaries of its elected officials are part of the breakdown analysis. There are times when individual districts have discretionary funding, but the main grants are simply for the county.

Oliver asked about fee structure.

Sakoda replied that there is no current revenue stream. There is a proposed legislation for private development in unincorporated areas to provide 1 percent for art projects, which would be the first time for a dedicated revenue stream.

McGuinness asked if LACAC funding was consistent.

Sakoda replied that funding is generally consistent. There was a reduction due to the Ford Amphitheatre becoming its own entity, but otherwise it has remained consistent in recent years. She attributed this to strong political will in L.A. County, but added that while the funding is stable, it has not grown while the county continues to. The LACAC has more applicants in pool than ever before – and they are now funding just 50 percent of the request amount as opposed to a previous 90 percent. More support for the nonprofit arts field is still needed.

Kiburi thanked the LACAC for the presentation. She asked about the incorporation of a racial equity

statement within the LACAC strategic plan from the standpoint of becoming a county department, and how Proposition 209 has impacted or affected developing equitable practices and processes.

Sakoda responded that changes surrounding equity are relatively new to arts philanthropy in the last five years when compared grassroots arts organizations who have advocated for social justice work for much longer. She suggested listening to those impacted by whatever the topic is, and using and disaggregating data and geography to reach goals. The lack of agency felt due to Proposition 209 isn't real—many things are within the control of agencies. She also suggested placing value on community knowledge when adjudicating applicants.

Gaspar Milanovic mentioned a revamping of the LACAC final reporting that helps analyze social services and arts programming intersectionality that could be shared with the Council.

Beasley asked about utilizing public/private partnerships.

Sakoda replied that the Arts for All (now Arts for Education) collective, started by LACAC founder Laura Zucker, was about returning arts to the school system. The collective impact model, working with a group of actors for a shared purpose, helped give language to what was already happening. The LACAC didn't control what the collective does, but provides leadership and administrative support as a backbone of the collective impact model. The collective being part of the conversation and not just providing funding makes a difference in driving interest and involvement.

Beasley suggested that some had the impression that the LACAC was competing with nonprofits in the field by asking for funding.

Sakoda replied that the Arts for Education collective is systemic and not duplicative of what teaching artists and cultural partners would be doing. She agreed that agencies need to be mindful of appropriate partnerships.

Oliver asked if the LACAC offered individual scholarships.

Sakoda replied that they do not.

Oliver asked about any work in affordable housing or studios for artists.

Sakoda replied that work in the area is happening more on a city level.

Devis mentioned the public comment regarding low-staffed emerging organizations finding DataArts profiles and requirements cumbersome, and asked what the LACAC is doing to assist.

Sakoda replied that the LACAC has begun looking at its main program with an equity lens this year, and removed certain requirements to ease the administrative burden. They streamlined reporting and standards. The LACAC racial equity requirement was scaled (i.e., statement if you are a smaller organization, a racial equity plan if larger).

Gaspar Milanovic added that the Cultural Data Project has been streamlined, and organizations with a budget of less than \$500,000 are required to input less program and budget information. The commission is considering a different kind of application for smaller organizations, as most of their organizations have a budget of less than \$300,000 and many are volunteer-run.

The Chair thanks Sakoda and Gaspar Milanovic for their presentation and their time.

XVII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.