



A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

Advancing California through the Arts and Creativity

Ayanna Lalia Kiburi, Interim Executive Director

## MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

June 7, 2017

10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sebastopol Center for the Arts  
282 S. High Street  
Sebastopol, CA 95472  
(707) 829-4797

### **PRESENT:**

#### Council Members

Donn K. Harris, Chair  
Nashormeh Lindo, Vice Chair  
Larry Baza  
Phoebe Beasley  
Kathleen Gallegos  
Louise McGuinness  
Steve Oliver

*Council Members absent: Christopher Coppola, Juan Devis, Jaime Galli, and Rosalind Wyman*

#### Arts Council Staff

Ayanna Kiburi, Interim Executive Director  
Caitlin Fitzwater, Communications Director  
Shelly Gilbride, Programs Officer  
Josy Miller, Arts Education Program Specialist  
Mariana Moscoso, Arts in Corrections Program Analyst

#### Invited Attendees

Linda Galletta, Sebastopol Center for the Arts  
Kristen Madsen, Creative Sonoma  
Bill Schinsky, Panel Representative for Veterans Initiative in the Arts  
Santhosh Daniel, Panel Representative for Arts and Public Media  
Judge Luckey, Panel Representative for JUMP StArts  
Amanda Chiado, Panel Representative for Artists in Schools-Engagement

#### Other Attendees / Members of the Public

Suzanne Saucy, Artstart  
Ben Taylor, Santa Rosa Symphony  
Amanda Chiado, San Benito Arts Council  
Leslie Fay Marks, Oakland Symphony  
Alyssum Wier, Arts Council of Mendocino County

Debra Lucero, Shasta County Arts Council/CFTA/CAA  
Ashley Holmberg, Performing Arts Advocate/Santa Rosa Symphony  
Ray Garland, Luther Burbank Center for the Arts  
Ruth Mankin, Arts Education Consultant  
Robin Seltzer, Luther Burbank Center for the Arts  
Linda Churchill, Artstart  
Catherine Devriese, Sebastopol Center for the Arts  
Gloria Rubio-Verduzco, Creative Sonoma  
Samantha Kimpel, Creative Sonoma  
Stephan Stubbins, Transcendence Theatre Company  
Ray Hoy, Performing Artist  
Robert Brent, Sebastopol Center for the Arts  
Isabel Lopez, Collective of Arts Educators

## I. **Welcome From Host**

At 10:30 a.m., the Chair introduced Linda Galletta, the Executive Director of the Sebastopol Center for the Arts who provided a background on the Center. She noted the help Council member Oliver offered when the center was in financial trouble during the 2008 recession. Galletta shared that the center used to be a veteran hall and renovations revitalized the space. She also noted that the center gives priority to veteran meetings. Galletta thanked Oliver for supporting the center.

Kristen Madsen, the Director from Creative Sonoma, welcomed the Council to Sonoma County. She thanked Galletta for all of her work. Madsen acknowledged and thanked her staff, Gloria Rubio and Samantha Kimpel. Madsen shared her thoughts about the arts and as a philosopher/artist that included her three-part mantra of her office: 1) Leverage and distribute to the local arts ecosystem; 2) allow others to develop; and 3) trust in art and artists. She concluded her statements by introducing one of Creative Sonoma's grant recipients, Black Sheep Brass Band.

At 10:44, the Black Sheep Brass Band performed.

After the performance, Harris asked if the band members identify or work solely as artists. Band members said that many have day jobs. The Council thanked the band for their performance.

## II. **Call to Order, Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:52. Moscoso took the roll at 10:52 and a quorum was established.

## III. **ACTION ITEM: Minutes of Meeting on May 9, 2017**

Beasley noted that there was a mistake on the first page: Watson should be removed from staff and Kiburi's title should be changed to Interim Director. Baza noted a few names in the Public Comment section were incorrect and said he would send Moscoso the correct names by email.

ACTION ITEM: At 10:54, Oliver moved to approve the minutes as amended. Lindo seconded. The motion passed 7-0 with yes votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, Harris, Lindo, McGuinness and Oliver.

#### **IV. Chair's Report**

At 10:55, Harris initiated the Chair's Report. He commented on the social justice lens of the arts and the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love in San Francisco. Harris shared an anecdote from September 11, 2001, and noted the changes in art since then. He said that there was an upsurge of art dealing with the topic of 9/11 and social justice. Harris also noted that art is powerful and can make us feel alive as individuals, acknowledging Madsen's earlier statement.

Harris proposed three new ideas for the Council's consideration and vote to implement at a future meeting: 1) Council to determine a set of priority project areas and provide additional funding to certain projects that meet those criteria; 2) Council creates awards for exceptional organizations and 3) Council to implement internship program could build the leadership skills of "minorities" and underserved communities in an effort to improve leadership diversity of the field.

#### **V. Interim Director's Report**

At 11:02, Kiburi introduced her Interim Director's Report. She began by noting that the CAC is still awaiting the final budget outcomes. Kiburi shared that the SB 503 was approved with amendments. She said that the Arts in Corrections program was now providing arts programs in all 35 state adult correctional institutions. Kiburi added that there will be research to evaluate the program. Kiburi noted that the program went from 11 to 13 contractors. She added the contracts are through 2020.

Kiburi commented on the change to a new grants management system. Gilbride added that the new system will make positive changes and make grant making more efficient. She noted that there will be a different interface and use less paper. Gilbride added that the system will be more user-friendly. Gallegos asked if there will be staff support and Gilbride replied that there will be support.

Kiburi shared the recent HR changes. She stated Moscoso was promoted from the Council Liaison to the Arts in Corrections Program Analyst. Kiburi also noted there are two vacancies at the CAC: an Accountant and an Arts Program Associate position.

Harris asked the Council if they had any questions. Lindo commented there is an exhibition at the de Young on the Summer of Love.

#### **VI. Panel Recommendations 2016-2017**

At 11:11, Beasley introduced the Programs Committee. She introduced the committee members: herself, Baza, Kiburi, and Gilbride. Beasley and noted that the Programs Committee focused on implementing an equitable and consistent process for grant allocations. Beasley stated at the previous meeting the Council allocated \$9.2 million to grants. She added that at this meeting an additional \$1.8 million will be allocated. Beasley introduced each of the programs that the Council is voting on at this meeting.

Beasley noted each of the programs will be presented by its respective Arts Program Associate and a panel representative.

**Veterans Initiative in the Arts**

Gilbride introduced the Veterans Initiatives in the Arts (VIA) program. Gilbride noted that Jong was unable to join the Council meeting and introduce VIA because both of his children were sick. Gilbride noted the VIA program is in its second year, and there was an effort to increase outreach which resulted in a large application pool. Gilbride introduced the panel reviewer, Bill Schinsky, founder of the Coachella Valley Art Center.

Schinsky provided introductory comments about the program and the panel. He said his experience within the panel was unique because he was the only combat veteran of the group. He noted the panel process was very organized.

Schinsky said that the main question he and the other panelists had through the process was whether the applicants worked with veterans or have veterans in the program structure. He said that the panel came to the consensus that the programs that dealt directly with veterans were very important. Schinsky said that the geographical locations of the applicants were an important element that the panel had to consider. He said that the recommendations represent strong programs and that these programs are vital because the creative process helps keep veterans alive. He hoped the program will grow and concluded that he will be a cheerleader for the program.

Harris thanked Schinsky for his service. He noted that as the Summer of Love initiated, veterans were on their way to war.

Gallegos asked why there were so many theater programs in the recommendations. Schinsky said that the level of program involvement with veterans greatly determined the score. Gallegos asked for more information about the unfunded programs. Gilbride said the panelist notes are available for reference and could be provided to Gallegos at another time. Gilbride reminded the Council that the applicants provide work samples. Schinsky added some applicants did not provide samples or had great ideas, but lacked in execution.

Harris asked if the number of applicants had increased. Gilbride noted there was a 50 percent increase in programs.

Harris asked if all the applicants were military oriented. Schinsky said about 90 percent were and added that the strongest programs help veterans express and work through pain. Harris thanked Schinsky for his comments.

Gallegos expressed her desire to vote on individual program awards.

FOLLOW-UP ITEM: Gilbride to provide panelist notes to Gallegos regarding the applicant that was not funded in the VIA program.

**ACTION ITEM:** At 11:43, Gallegos moved to approve the Veterans Initiative in the Arts recommendations. Oliver seconded. The motion passed with 7-0 with yes votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, Harris, Lindo, McGuinness, and Oliver.

*Arts and Public Media*

At 11: 43, Gilbride introduced the Arts and Public Media (APM) program lead, Fitzwater. Fitzwater began by noting that media organizations of many types will be funded under the new iteration of the program. She informed the Council and members of the public that the panel occurred in April. She introduced the panel representative, Santhosh Daniel.

Daniel thanked the Council for the invitation. He noted that he has participated in numerous panels and that it was the first time he sat in a panel for a state agency. Daniel said that he learned about the arts field at the state government level. He added the panelists felt it was an important panel because it is the reintroduction of the program. Daniel shared there was not a redundancy of perspectives because each of the panelists came from different backgrounds. He also added that the panelists learned from each other.

He noted the pool of applicants was small but the range of applications demonstrated a widened definition of media arts. Daniel added that all of the applications were interesting but the ones recommended for funding were exemplary. Daniel noted some programs had very interesting approaches—intending to demonstrate the therapeutic and restorative aspects of public media. Daniel added that oftentimes artistic submovements are not considered in the grant review processes and this round of applicants pushed the panel to expand their definition of public media arts. He added that there were probably more interesting programs across the state and hopes the program will become more robust. Fitzwater asked the Council for questions.

Beasley asked about the meaning of “zines”. Fitzwater described “zines” as mini-magazines.

Harris asked if this grant program focused on electronic distribution. Fitzwater said distribution was diverse but that the main goal of the program had to focus on media. Daniel added that storytelling has been diversified in the form of podcasts.

Gallegos acknowledged the World Beat program with a San Diego/Tijuana project and asked if it was possible to do such an exchange with artists outside of California. Fitzwater responded it is allowed as long as the organization and artists are also based in California. She also referred to a similar exchange program funded under Local Impact. Baza noted there is a tradition in San Diego with artist exchanges with artists on the other side of the border.

Harris asked about the factors involved in some applicants ranking low (in unfundable range). Daniel responded there were a number of factors. He noted that some applications did not provide a strong narrative, stating why they were doing the project. Daniel said that if an application was unable to express the importance of the project, it was not considered a strong application. He also said there were applications that were marketing focused and that the panelists felt in good faith they could not fund such projects. He also added that there were applicants that were apparently applying for the first time

and did not know how to present themselves. He concluded his presentations stating that there are regions in California that may not have media access but may need support.

ACTION ITEM: At 12:08 p.m., McGuinness moved to approve the Arts and Public Media recommendations. Oliver seconded. The motion passed at 12:18, 7-0 with yes votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, Harris, Lindo, McGuinness, and Oliver.

12:18 Break

JUMP StArts

At 12:20, Miller introduced Jump StArts. Miller noted that the CAC is currently undergoing an outside evaluation of this program, and that will hopefully lead to an even more impactful program. Miller introduced Judge Luckey and provided information about his background.

Luckey shared his experiences in the panel, highlighting that the panel worked very well together. He also explained the reasoning behind the recommendations, noting that the programs that are recommended for funding the exemplary applications. He concluded his remarks by stating these programs provide an education that will help students academically and that the programs were diverse. Miller asked the Council for questions.

Harris asked what the challenges were in reviewing these applications. Miller answered that these programs are all managed very differently by different communities. She added that programs need to demonstrate they are very collaborative with the county government.

Lindo asked how outreach was done for the program, noting that she was aware of programs that did not know about the grant program. Miller noted that there are 70,000 children in the juvenile system in California and acknowledged that there will be room for the program to grow. Miller added that the evaluation will draw more public attention to the program.

Harris said there is a different mix in the high-ranking applications. He appreciated this difference. He also asked what other organizations do work outside juvenile hall. He highlighted a program for young pregnant girls.

ACTION ITEM: At 12:31, Beasley moved to approve the JUMP StArts recommendations. Baza seconded. The motion passed with 7-0 with yes votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, Harris, Lindo, McGuinness, and Oliver.

Reentry Through the Arts

Gilbride introduced the Reentry Through the Arts Program. She said that unfortunately Katie McCleary, from 916 Ink, was not available to represent the panel due to an accident on the freeway.

Gilbride noted it was appropriate that the Reentry program is introduced after Jump StArts. She said it was modeled after the Jump StArts program. She added that Reentry programs help to reintroduce formerly incarcerated individuals back into the community in a holistic manner. She stated that the

program received 15 applicants, mostly located in urban settings. Gilbride added that 10 are recommended for funding. Gilbride added that presently there is a Request for Proposal for the program's evaluation. She continued that it is important to add evaluation to this program because as more incarcerated people are being released into the community due to justice reform, there is a need to understand best practices. Gilbride noted that many of the applicants were for youth programs. She stated that the guidelines did not require the programs to focus on adults, But that the staff will be analyzing the overlap between Jump StArts and Reentry Through the Arts. She added that this is an important program because it helps previously incarcerated individuals adjust to being outside of incarceration. She noted an important aspect of the program is the art and learning more of the program's outcomes.

Beasley asked for the timeline of the arts program from incarcerated to outside of incarceration. Gilbride noted that this program is only for post-release. Oliver added that this program is designed for recently released incarcerated individuals. Gilbride said the Arts in Corrections program is very different from Reentry because of the program settings.

Kiburi stated there is an effort to bridge the programs in Arts in Corrections and the Reentry, particularly noting how the programs will work together. She added the goal is to keep previously incarcerated individuals from reentering the prison system.

McGuinness asked what organizations assist with the transition between incarceration and release. Gilbride stated that that is the goal of the program, to be the bridge between incarceration and release.

Harris asked about the evaluation of the program. Kiburi emphasized the importance of the evaluation of the program.

Gallegos asked how the program will reach the Latino and black communities that are largely affected by incarceration. Gilbride noted the social services applicants typically provided this information. She added it was very important how the applicants discussed the demographics of the populations served. Gilbride shared that Mary Sutton, the founder of Remake, helped the panel understand the challenges of the reentry programs.

Kiburi reminded the Council of the relationship the CAC is building with the Office of Health Equity and how they are positioned to assist with our training opportunities.

**ACTION ITEM:** At 12:52, Gallegos moved to approve the Reentry through the Arts recommendations. Oliver seconded. The motion passed 7-0 with yes votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, Harris, Lindo, McGuinness, and Oliver.

#### *Research in the Arts*

At 12:53, Gilbride invited Miller to join her to speak about the Research in the Arts program. Miller provided a background about the program. Miller reminded the Council that it is a unique program nationally. She added that the program will facilitate research in universities and research firms, to study the value of the arts. Miller stated that the initial cohort was small, with 10 applications and the panel

was administered telephonically. She added the research applicants were diverse and target different sectors in the arts.

Gilbride said the CAC had never done a virtual panel before. She added that there were not visual components in the applications and that the panel ran as a webinar with a screen share. Gilbride noted that the panelists were thoughtful and thorough. Harris asked the Council had any questions.

Gallegos commented that the program is important in the field but that she was underwhelmed with the recommendations. She said the applicants were not presenting cutting-edge research. Gilbride said that the applicants are providing scientific data that is currently not available. She added that the goal of the program is to quantify the qualitative things that we know of the arts. Gallegos expressed she wanted to know what other Council members think. Harris expressed the pool of applicants may become more interesting as the programs grow.

McGuinness said the recommended programs are certainly addressing topics dealing with health. Kiburi asked Gallegos to elaborate on her concerns. Gallegos explained she would like to have work that goes deeper into the science of the affect of the arts. Miller explained that at the end of the program there will be a journal-length paper that will be completed. Gilbride noted different fields applied to the grant and had different ways of expressing their methodology.

Baza emphasized the importance of this new program area and that once again the CAC is treading new ground. He noted that the new cohort will express how the field is being affected. Baza said that the National Endowment for the Arts is interested in the work we are doing in this area and that this program will be able to grow. Kiburi encouraged the Council to look at the guidelines.

Lindo asked why some organizations were not funded. She specifically noted a research project that works to study disability in the arts. Miller noted that the current application was for an evaluation of a specific program that cannot be broadly applicable. She added that there were applications that were in the early stages of the research.

**ACTION ITEM:** At 1:08, Baza moved to approve the Research in the Arts recommendations. McGuinness seconded. The motion passed 6-0 with yes votes from Baza, Beasley, Harris, Lindo, McGuinness, and Oliver. Gallegos abstained.

At 1:09, Gilbride noted that this was the end of the grant allocations for 2016-2017.

## **VII. Panel Recommendations 2017-2018: Artists in Schools-Engagement**

At 1:11, Miller introduced the AIS Engagement and Professional Development. Miller noted that this is the longest standing program that the CAC currently has. She said that this program is for in-school arts programming. Miller noted that there was a robust group of applicants with strong applications. Miller noted that the program received 170 applications. She added that 20 percent of the applicants were new. Miller added there were a few applicants that work with 0- to 5-year-old kids, and highlighted a program that works with children 0-5 of incarcerated parents. She said the majority is for Title I schools to

support programs for children that would not normally receive arts funding. Miller introduced panel representative Amanda Chiado.

Chiado said she found the panel very exciting, and that the panel process made her aware about the ways she can improve her own programs by understanding the work happening throughout the state. Chiado also noted the excellent facilitation and organization of the panel by Miller. Chiado noted that many of the programs have been very refined. She noted the importance of the collaboration between the artist teacher and the teacher. She added strong applications articulated the clear collaboration and stated that overall the work is crucial to California and our communities. Harris asked for questions.

Harris asked Miller to explain the four strands of the AIS program. Miller provided an explanation of the different strands of the program. Gilbride reiterated that the AIS Engagement is for 2017-2018.

Harris noted that there is Legislative Toolkit on the agenda. Fitzwater commented that Margolis was unable to attend because of the budget senate hearings.

**ACTION ITEM:** At 1:24, McGuinness moved to approve the Artists in Schools-Engagement recommendations. Oliver seconded. The motion passed with 7-0 with yes votes from Baza, Beasley, Gallegos, Harris, Lindo, McGuinness, and Oliver.

### **VIII. Informational Update on State Public Art Projects**

At 14:25, Harris introduced the following item on the agenda. Fitzwater introduced the topic of Public Art. She noted the statute from the state government code that indicated the CAC's involvement related to the purchase, lease or commission of public art that resides on a state property. State Government code indicates that if a state building is being constructed and if there is a budget for art to be included in the development of that building, that the art work must be adjudicated and evaluated by a panel of multiple representatives.

Fitzwater continued noting that during the 2000s, the CAC was not actively engaged because it didn't have the capacity to do so and there wasn't a huge amount of State construction. Fitzwater stated that the previous CAC Executive Director, Craig Watson, spoke to the Chair of the California Air Resources Board and she had plans on reaching out to the CAC to formally assist with public art in a new building. This event reinstated the conversations around State public art for current construction projects.

Fitzwater informed the Council that a Public Art Expert was hired. The consultant, Shelly Willis, was hired for a period of six months with a \$15,000 limited contract. Fitzwater directed the Council to her biography in the Council book, noting she was the previous Director of Public Art and the Director of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission. Fitzwater added that in the limited time as the consultant she had already done a lot and has been introduced to the teams that are managing the construction process to the high rises in Sacramento and the Air Resources Board campus in Riverside. She is currently acting on behalf of the CAC.

Lindo asked if the statute is different from the percent for art. Fitzwater said the state mandate is different. Percent for art is usually a local policy. Gallegos asked if this will work for existing buildings. Fitzwater said it does not.

Fitzwater provided information about the partnership with Caltrans and noted that Caltrans properties are places where murals can be installed. She added that this could potentially be an area of focus and that Willis would help coordinate stakeholder meetings for public art related to Caltrans.

Fitzwater thanked Kiburi for allowing this topic on the agenda.

Gallegos asked how the percentage of the funding will work. Fitzwater responded that art work needs to be part of the initial budget of the design of the building.

Gallegos asked if the money will come through the CAC. Fitzwater said the money will not and noted Oliver's expertise on the subject of public art. Oliver said the process is very complicated and recounted an anecdote about a public artwork created for and by the UC Regents.

Lindo asked how artists that do not know the scope of work for a public art would be assisted. Fitzwater noted that the CAC website is the largest repository of artist calls in the state. Lindo said she is concerned with the diversity of artists chosen for the project. Gallegos noted that the County and Metro Arts of LA provide assistance for artists to answer calls for public art.

Baza noted that it is a step forward in this project and acknowledged Oliver is an excellent choice as a representative for the CAC.

Fitzwater noted that public art are typically funded privately or local governments.

## **IX. Public Comment**

At 1:57, Harris called for the Public Comment. The following individuals provided public comment:

■ Susanne Savoy, Artsmart

Thanked the CAC for coming to Sonoma County and for awarding Artsmart a grant. She commented on the Reentry Through the Arts and asked if there is a chance for the program to work with the sheriff's department.

■ Gloria Rubio-Verduzco, Creative Sonoma

Rubio-Verduzco shared she grew up in the Central Valley. She said that it is important to support emerging arts leaders. She added that she received a scholarship from the Americans for the Arts for People of Color. Rubio-Verduzco concluded her comments noting that the CAC can help emerging arts leaders of color in arts administration is possible.

■ Steven Stubbins, Transcendence Theatre Company

Stubbins shared he is a Broadway performer that has worked to save public state arts. He shared that he is passionate about the area and is connecting tourism with the arts. Stubbins asked if there are other communities doing this work.

■ Ruth Mankin, Arts Education Consultant

Mankin shared she works with several arts organizations. She said she was glad to have attended the meeting and learn what is happening at the CAC. She added that people typically do not view artists as professionals and that the CAC is doing a good job at changing this perception.

■ Debra Lucero (Friends of the Arts—Upstate), Alyssum Wier (Arts Council of Mendocino County), and Kristen Madsen (Creative Sonoma)

Lucero shared she is the part of the True North Arts Alliance, noting that they are operating in the rural area and representing six counties. She said the State-Local Partners are the backbone in their respective areas. She shared examples of the unique work the State-Local Partners do across the state. She directed the Council to a letter signed by all of the State-Local Partners.

■ Alyssum Wier, Arts Council of Mendocino County

She thanked the CAC for its funding to the State-Local Partners. Wier referred to Nina Simon's (Executive Director, Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History) speech at Confluence to express emotion in a safe space at this time through the arts.

■ Ray Hoy, performing artist and board of director for a local nonprofit

He thanked the Council for coming and said he learned a lot throughout the meeting. He noted the importance of diversity in the arts in terms of art medium. Hoy teaches magic to children. He performed a magic trick. He finalized his comment by asserting the possibilities of teaching to a wider audience.

■ Robert Brent, Board of Directors at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts

Brent offered a tour of the building after the Council meeting. He acknowledged that Councilmember Oliver had offered to help finance the building but the community was able to raise funds for the Center. Brent noted that the building is leased because it is a veteran's hall that was not well-kept and the funding helped renovate the building.

■ Isabel Lopez, Collective of Arts Educators

Lopez noted that Creative Sonoma has created a lot of workshops that have helped her build her organization. She noted the numerous positive impacts of the arts. She said she would like to know more about the CAC. Lopez said the majority of individuals in the collective are people of color and added the goal of the group is to do things collectively within the arts.

## X. Council Member Updates

At 2:26, the Chair asked for the Council Member Updates.

Beasley shared about her work on the State Summer School for the Arts. She said it is a program for high school students to attend summer camp where several disciplines taught to the students. She added the Herb Alpert Foundation provides scholarships and they also offer \$75,000 to emerging artists.

Lindo noted the de Young Museum in San Francisco purchased a collection of artworks by contemporary Southern artists. The collection was received in February and it is currently on exhibition. The title of the exhibition is *Revelations: Art from the African American South*. She noted that it is open 10 months and encouraged everyone to attend the exhibition because of the excellence of the work.

McGuinness shared she attended a show about documentaries by girls from the Helen Gurley Brown Foundation. She noted that it is a program to encourage young women to participate in public media. She also shared that there is a Dorothea Lange exhibition at Oakland Museum.

Baza commented on issues related to the draconian funding cuts to National Endowment for the Arts by the current president's administration. He added that the local mayor of San Diego is also proposing cuts to the arts. Baza asked the Council and members of the public to send letters to the government to express the importance of funding for the arts.

Harris noted that the Council needed to start thinking about the officer chairs and committee positions on the Council.

Gallegos shared her experiences at the two Cultural Districts site visits she participated in. She noted that she visited Little Tokyo and Santa Ana. She said the Santa Ana district is requesting the designation to maintain the culture in Santa Ana.

Fitzwater thanked Gallegos, Lindo, Harris, McGuinness, and staff for visiting at some of the site visits for the Cultural Districts program. She noted that there will be a telephonic meeting to discuss the Cultural Districts Recommendations. Fitzwater added that the visits were a critical process of the site visits. She also noted that the process made it clear which applicants will move forward in the process. Gallegos asked to discuss the experience of the other members visiting the districts. Kiburi and Fitzwater noted that the topic was not agendized.

Harris noted that it is time to start forming the committees for the Strategic Plan.

Kiburi thanked Oliver for inviting the Council and staff to Oliver Ranch.

ACTION ITEM: Assign Committee for the new Strategic Plan.

## **XI. Adjournment**

The meeting is adjourned at 2:45 p.m.