



Strengthening arts, culture,
and creative expression as the
tools to cultivate a better
California for all.

Gavin Newsom, **Governor**

Jonathan Moscone, **Executive Director**

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MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

December 8, 2022

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

The members of the California Arts Council convened via web conference to discuss and vote on various items as listed in the minutes below. The full audio and video of the meeting can be accessed [here](#).

PRESENT:

Council Members

Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Chair
Consuelo (Chelo) Montoya, Vice-Chair
Roxanne Messina Captor
Gerald Clarke
Vicki Estrada
Ellen Gavin
Alex Israel
Phil Mercado

Arts Council Staff

Jonathan Moscone, Executive Director
Ayanna Kiburi, Deputy Director
Liz Azevedo, Director of Program Services
Kimberly Brown, Public Affairs Specialist
Kristin Margolis, Director of Legislative Affairs
Leslie Giovanini, Arts Programs Specialist
Qiana Moore, Outreach and Events Coordinator
Natalie Peeples, Arts Program Specialist
Gabrielle Rosado, Arts Program Specialist
Yaquelin Ruiz, Arts Program Specialist

1. Call to Order

Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez opened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. She expressed appreciation for all the Council members who had made themselves available to attend, both in person and online; the meeting was “hybrid.”

2. Acknowledgement of Tribal Land

Executive Director Jonathan Moscone gave the following tribute:

“On behalf of the California Arts Council, I would like to state that we are in solidarity with all indigenous people of Turtle Island, and in particular, those of California. We acknowledge that today’s meeting takes place on the now occupied lands of the Miwok, Maidu, and Nisenan people. They are the past, present, and future stewards of this land, water, and air. Our acknowledgement of the land we are borrowing is the first step in our journey to develop the relationships and cultural competencies that we need for us to support, with intention and action, all indigenous people.”

3. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum

Ms. Margolis conducted a roll call. Present were Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vice-Chair Chelo Montoya, Roxanne Messina Captor, Gerald Clarke, Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin, Alex Israel, and Phil Mercado.

Ms. Margolis announced that quorum was achieved.

4. Chair’s Report

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez gave a reflection on her time as Chair of the California Arts Council, which had covered the emergence of the pandemic. The CAC had operated remotely and the entire state arts ecosystem was suffering because of facility closures and work stoppage. Chair Gonzáles-Chávez had appreciated being able to participate in funding and providing relief to the field at that critical time. Of equal importance was keeping funding available. She recognized the untimely passing of Chair Larry Baza; it had catapulted Chair Gonzáles-Chávez into that position.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez described how the responsibility bestowed on the Council by the Legislature had not been fully taken on. The CAC was able to obtain a Legislative Committee opinion that confirmed that the appointed Council members were responsible for oversight and policy development related to all agreements, grants, contracts, MOUs, and interagency agreements entered into by the CAC. Moving forward, the Council now appears to be on level footing and is positioned to forge ahead with strong leadership, both with Executive Director Moscone and with strong and able Council members.

During Chair Gonzáles-Chávez’s tenure, the Council had focused on transparency and community engagement. She had appreciated the opportunity provided by Governor Newsom to serve on the Council – an experience she will long treasure.

5. Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Moscone began by expressing thanks to all the staff, as well as Chair Gonzáles-Chávez and Vice-Chair Montoya, for taking on additional work while he had been away.

Executive Director Moscone took note that the CAC staff had been doing diligent work processing 2,100 grants and contracts totaling \$131 million in state funds, and meeting regularly to try to simplify those processes, improve communications, and be as creative as possible in developing ways to more effectively support artists, culture bearers, and organizations who in turn support our California communities. Executive Director Moscone spoke about the CAC's mission to strengthen arts, culture, and creative expression as the tools to cultivate a better California for all. He noted that 97% of our budget goes out the door to the field.

He stated that his CAC consists of accountability, collaboration, and courage, explained below.

Collaboration. It is a necessity to make anything good happen in this world. The CAC has partnerships with 53 county arts agencies and our statewide regional networks. We are in partnership with the state's cultural districts and the California Creative Corps. These partners are vastly different, but share a similar commitment to engaging people in local communities in a way that the CAC cannot. Most of the administering organizations of the California Creative Corps are able to turn the money around much faster than we are at the State.

Although Zoom has increased engagement, it has strained relationships. Executive Director Moscone is planning for in-person Council meetings throughout the state in 2023. Beyond our meetings, it is a priority for the agency to convene our field in collaboration with statewide partners.

We will aim to hold a retreat in early 2023 to fully orient our Council in delving into the big topics and building the community of Council and staff. The public will be invited.

Accountability. Trust is born of holding ourselves and each other accountable to building and sustaining a relationship. To be accountable is a daily practice; one of its tenets is that opening processes up will shine the light on what is working, what is not working, what can be improved, and what can be learned from.

We are instituting a new policy today of more directly aligning the voice of the public with the voting process: during the time allotted to voting items, the Council will open the microphones for public comment specifically on the items.

We are going to open up the processes around Arts in Corrections (AIC), which exists as a contract program, in order to provide more engagement in the process. We will be convening experts in the field in a concerted effort to increase equitability and effectiveness in serving our incarcerated communities.

We are working on a justification proposal with the goal of reducing the next RFP's cost points value, from the state standard of 30% of the total points possible to 15%. This will enable innovative projects that have a higher cost structure to have a real chance at an AIC contract. We received 166 AIC applications and awarded 23 contracts; we will continue to develop this program.

Our greatest accountability is to get the money out the door and into the hands of every artist and cultural worker who needs our support. The administering organizations (AOs) of our Creative Corps who have filled out the paperwork will receive their full payment by December 16. Our

staff has been working every day to process the payments for grantees in both of our 2022 cycles; 95% of Cycle A grantees have been paid, while we are in the thick of processing grants for Cycle B grantees. The total money out the door is \$131 million, not including pending money for cultural districts and grants that will be coming through as member requests.

Executive Director Moscone made a promise to put a process in place to ensure that the CAC gets the money out the door with dramatically increased speed going forward. He explained the components of streamlining the process.

Courage. Executive Director Moscone emphasized that it takes courage for staff to listen, adapt, and lead with conviction and an open mind. On Monday he had visited the State Library for the unveiling of Forrest Stearns' mural entitled "California Remix." This mural extends and challenges the narrative of the original library mural done in 1930. Rather than obliterate this deeply problematic mural from the past, Forrest Stearns expanded groups of people whose story is told in public art. Its courage is in not shying away from its source, but standing up to it – making the story more complex, as often only art can do.

When Executive Director Moscone arrived, the CAC had made a profoundly courageous move to lead the way in addressing issues of racial inequities that have long defined both the funding world and the state government world. The agency has continued this work in the nonprofit sector.

The courage Executive Director Moscone brings to this job is to listen and to lead with curiosity and creativity. We will only get better the more all of us listen. Starting next week, Executive Director Moscone will go around the state to do just that; he will start at Folsom State Prison where he will attend the Actors' Gang Prison Project Family Holiday Open Workshop, then move on to Nevada City and Redding to learn about their cultural districts.

6. Welcome to California Poet Laureate Lee Herrick

Executive Director Moscone welcomed California Poet Laureate Lee Herrick, a writer, professor, and author of three books of poetry. The CAC honored Mr. Herrick with a reading of one of his poems, with each Council member taking a few lines.

Mr. Herrick stated that he was deeply honored, humbled, and excited to be appointed. He is on the Yokuts and Mono lands in Fresno. A few weeks ago the Governor and First Partner had surprised him in his classroom at Fresno City College with the news of his appointment. Mr. Herrick recognized the arts education, books, and programming that he has enjoyed for 50 years.

His platform is called "Our California." It has two prongs:

1. For all of the readings he will be doing throughout the state, he will ask the organizers or curators to pair a local social justice or civic engagement organization with the reading. He already has about 20 events booked – local events in Fresno, a poetry event in San Diego, a talk at the Creative Aging symposium, etc.

2. He will invite all Californians to write a poem about their city, town, or state – what they love and don't love about it, what beauty they find in it. The poems will be posted online. Mr. Herrick hoped an anthology would come from this effort.

He believed that there is poetry in everyone. He looked forward to meeting as many of the CAC as he can and seeing as many parts of the state as he can to talk about poetry.

7. Voting Item: [Minutes from Previous Council Meeting](#)

MOTION: Councilmember Estrada moved to approve the October 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Messina Captor seconded the motion.

Ayes: Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vice Chair Chelo Montoya, Vicki Estrada, Jodie Evans, Ellen Gavin, Roxanne Messina Captor.

Noes: None.

Abstain: Gerald Clarke.

The motion passed.

8. Public Comment

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez explained the CAC public comment policy. Ms. Margolis explained the process and provided specific instructions.

Live public comment (in person):

Mariana Moscoso, Associate Director of Artist Leadership at the Center for Cultural Power, stated that this is an Oakland-based, woman of color and artist-led organization that inspires artists and culture makers to imagine a world where power is distributed equally, and where we live in harmony with nature. She thanked the CAC for selecting them for the statewide administration of \$2.87 million in Creative Corps funds. With this support, they have launched their California Constellations fellowship, which provides two artist-disruptors and two culture bearers with a full-time salary of \$120,000 over an 18-month period with generous benefits. Over the next two years the organization will offer 72 awards of \$15,000 in impacted areas in California; these artists will be integrated into cohorts which are designed to build supportive relationships between awardees.

Mary Beth Barber, former CAC member and teaching artist, encouraged the CAC to take a leadership position in the arts education sector. Because of local control and its diffuse nature, things can move more slowly than expected. The Council may be able to provide assistance with implementation, for example: emergency credentials, the inclusion of the media arts single subject credential, and bringing in professional teaching artists. Ms. Barber also recommended finding other experts; the leader of the Framework Committee is now at the County Office of Education Consortium as the arts lead. From an equity perspective, having standards change from content to process is very good for equity.

David Mack, Executive Director of the Joe Goode Performance Group, expressed appreciation for Chair Gonzáles-Chávez's tenure, and to Vice-Chair Montoya and Executive Director Moscone for their new roles. The Joe Goode Performance Group is a CAC grantee and Mr. Mack thanked them for their support. He appreciated the CAC as they continue to advance equity in the field, and bring greater transparency around the California Corps program.

Live public comment (virtual):

Marie Acosta, artist, administrator, and former CAC staff member, expressed the hope that making art that serves the people of California and represents our many voices is a priority for the Council. Last November, working artists and representatives of arts-producing organizations spoke to the Council about directly supporting their work and their communities. Ms. Acosta urged the Council to directly manage, administer, and prioritize programs that directly fund California artists and arts-producing organizations, rather than subcontract to third party entities.

Raquel Redondiez, Director of SOMA Pilipinas in San Francisco, expressed appreciation to Chair Gonzáles-Chávez, Executive Director Moscone, Ms. Margolis, and everyone who contributed to and took part in the tour of SOMA Pilipinas in October. The CAC is taking a thoughtful and methodical approach in getting to know the cultural districts. Ms. Redondiez invited everyone to the Philippine Lantern Festival at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. They hope the event will be a model for bringing economic recovery using arts and cultural preservation.

Cara Goger, Executive Director of the Mariposa County Arts Council, spoke on behalf of the Coalition of County Arts Agencies. On December 5 they had sent a letter to the CAC to express support for ongoing partnership between State-Local Partners and the CAC. She expressed appreciation for the CAC's upcoming grant programs, the ongoing leadership of Executive Director Moscone, the Policy Committee, Equity Committee, staff, Chair Gonzáles-Chávez in particular, and Vice-Chair Montoya for stepping into the Chair position.

Griselda Suarez, narrative artist and Executive Director of the Arts Council for Long Beach, described that organization. She thanked the CAC for supporting their work with an AO grant for the Creative Corps. It enables arts and culture to be uplifted as a foundational change that makes our lives more just and whole. She looked forward to collaborating with the Council and the other AO colleagues.

Aundrea Stuckey spoke about Art Representation and Culture which is designed to empower youth to create diverse murals in Humboldt County that represent them. She thanked the Council for their recent outreach into rural cities and areas across California.

Peter Comiskey commented that the visit to the cultural districts had been extremely valuable. From the Balboa Park cultural district perspective, he shared that they continue to move with a launch date in early 2023 for their experience plan.

Eliza Tudor, Executive Director at Nevada County Arts Council, spoke about their recent activities as an AO for the California Creative Corps. They are preparing to regrant \$3.4 million in state funds to the most vulnerable communities across 19 counties in upstate California – by

far the largest region in terms of geography. They have been conducting an in-person listening tour of the region, during which they have been hosted by theater companies, arts councils and galleries, job centers, museums, city halls, community spaces, housing for artists, rancherias, and Veteran Memorials.

Jeff Jones, longtime CAC supporter, commented that CAC needlessly wastes huge amounts of money on bureaucracy. Instead of supporting nonprofit arts-producing and artist organizations, it seems like much of those agencies' funding is being siphoned off to support groups like the United Way and the San Francisco Foundation. The Council's tendency is to contract out rather than have staff run its own programs. As a result, an excessive amount of CAC funds are now consistently spent on administration. The standard amount is 15% – but after CAC takes its 15% and then adds another 15% for the group's intermediaries, the amount spent on administration is already approaching 25-30%. In addition, none of the state and regional networks with the cultural district funds support artists. Please consider ways to reign in the excessive administrative costs.

Tim Taylor, Executive Director of the California Small School District Association, encouraged the Council to continue to expand the California cultural district project. Rural students do not have the access of large urban and suburban areas. He also commented that after the Camp Fire in Butte County, the Division of Performing Arts really healed those children. The arts are our ticket, along with physical education and wellness, for helping children with trauma.

Rachel Osajima, Director of the Alameda County Arts Commission, thanked the Council for their support of the collaboration between the CAC and the State-Local Partners. She expressed sincere appreciation to Chair Gonzáles-Chávez as the CAC Chairperson.

Leslie Castellano, Executive Director of the Ink People in Eureka, appreciated the CAC. She had seen tremendous impact through implementation of programs throughout the region. She also expressed appreciation for the cultural arts program; Eureka is one of the recognized cultural arts districts. They have a fantastic team of contributors. They are looking forward to amplifying diverse representation of people within the community. There are some great collaborations going on with the Wiyot Tribe which has opened up a new cultural center.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez thanked everyone who participated in Public Comment. It is only through their contact with the CAC that the Council better learns the needs of the field and is able to respond.

Written public comment submissions:

- Sonia Tiwari (She/Her/Hers)
RE: Agenda Item 12.Voting Item: Recommended Grant Programs for 2023

Please bring back innovations + intersections category of awards as it will greatly help interdisciplinary artists who don't fall in traditional categories!

- Terry LeMoncheck (She/Her/Hers), Arts and Culture El Dorado, El Dorado County
Current or Former Grantee: Arts & Cultural Organizations General Operating Relief, Organizational Development, State-Local Partnership, Veterans in the Arts, State-Local Partner Mentorship

I write to encourage Council Members and staff leadership to consider the future of the State-Local Partner Mentorship program. As you may know, Arts and Culture El Dorado is currently the mentor organization for Alpine County. This community is engaged and enthusiastic about the possibility of establishing a local arts agency, and the project is proceeding well. However, current CAC guidelines stipulate that organizations must have two years of programming to apply for any grant. I respectfully urge you to consider ways in which a brand-new State-Local Partner in Alpine County could receive funds before that two-year period. Arts and Culture El Dorado would be happy to serve as a fiscal sponsor for the new SLP (we have an Incubator program already in place) and it would be especially meaningful for us to be able to tell our new partners in Alpine County that CAC funding is possible, even at the earliest juncture. If the objective of the SLP-M program is to establish an SLP in a county without one, it seems logical and appropriate for the CAC to offer the critical funding support that would enable the new agency to thrive. Thank you very much for considering this request. I would be pleased to make a presentation at a CAC meeting on the progress and outcomes of the SLP-M program, in its pilot year

- Tomas Benitez (He/Him/His), Latino Arts Network, Los Angeles County
Current or Former Grantee: Statewide and Regional Networks

The operation of the CAC needs to be more transparent. This is a comment echoed across the state by organizations of all sizes, disciplines and regions. Please take to heart, I hear about the disconnect, inability to get the state to respond to questions or problems, the lack of more peer panels, the diversity of the peer panels, the m.o.p. for payment to grantees.

The tendency to subcontract for dissemination of grant review and oversight, as well as to select awardees, with the SLP's is alarming. Another step in the process to seek funds and support. In theory it works but it will not work unless all the SLP's follow uniform processes, and that will not happen. The SLP's do a fine job with what they have to oversee, to add to that burden will not empower them but rather add to an administrative overload and likely lead to more inefficiency. The state agency needs to address the challenge of tasking this work internally, it is the mandate for the existence of the agency.

Continue to fund small and grass roots organizations with non matching grant opportunities. Tech support should include completing the dataArts if it is a requirement, PRIOR to asking for the attachment in the application. It is silly to ask the umbrella for theirs, and not help the actual applying organization develop a dataArts of their own.

Respectfully Submitted, Tomas J. Benitez

- Jamie (She/They), Sacramento County

I am a cultural artist & worker in Sacramento/Nisenan land that just completed an artist residency. Although I was thrilled at opportunity to develop a studio practice, I have found that the art institutions here do not have the praxis or infrastructure to support specifically cultural artists. I am a Filipinx artist currently excavating my cultural identity through some of my culture's dying art forms. Art is also a great pathway to placemaking and connection. We are in need of a culture shift in Sacramento's art spaces to develop a practice where a true exchange and collaboration can take place and it is feel less extractive.

How can California Arts Council help support the much needed conversation that cultural artists not only need the resources but also a trauma-informed approach on HOW these institutions can best support and uplift intersectional BIPOC artists in Sacramento?

- Andrea Hansen, Kern Dance Alliance, Kern County
Current or Former Grantee: Arts & Cultural Organizations General Operating Relief, California Creative Corps, Creative Youth Development (formerly Youth Arts Action)
RE: Agenda Item 11. Creative Corps AO Presentation: City of Sacramento, Office of Arts and Culture

Today, I wish to raise awareness of the 14 AO grantees that will administer funding in our regions and how this may impact our financial status with respect to applying for future Ca Arts Council grant cycles.

I wish to draw the Council's attention to separating the \$4+ million dollar award given to our agencies and our actual total operating revenue in our grant applications. The AOs have been given the extraordinary task of ensuring the Creative Corps goals are met within our regions, however; it is important to note this money is NOT ours and does not support our general operating expenses and programs.

As we move into a new year/new grant cycle, I ask that the Council give consideration to allowing the AOs to submit total operating revenue that does not reflect our Creative Corps funding. If we were made to submit our revenues that include our \$4+ million dollar awards, this could greatly skew our requested grant amounts that do not reflect our actual financial status.

May I suggest an option within SmartSimple that allows AOs to indicate their total operating revenue without our Creative Corps awards? It is imperative that the grant review panelists are given the most accurate financial snapshot of our operations.

I appreciate your time - thank you.

- Marie Acosta (She/Her/Hers), Sacramento County
Current or Former Grantee: Individual Artists Fellowship

GOOD MORNING

MY NAME IS MARIE ACOSTA. I AM A CAREER ARTIST AND ADMINISTRATOR AND I HAVE DEVOTED MY CAREER TO ANTI-RACISM IN THE ARTS. AS A LONG-TIME

SUPPORTER OF THE CREATIVE INITIATIVES OF THE ARTS COUNCIL IN THE PAST, I HOPE TO SEE ACTIONS THAT PRIORITIZE DIRECT FUNDING OF ARTISTS AND ARTS PRODUCING ORGANIZATIONS. MAKING ART THAT SERVES THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA AND REPRESENTS OUR MANY VOICES MANY THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT OUT IN THE PAST IS, IS I HOPE YOUR PRIORITY. WE MADE OUR VOICES CLEAR LAST NOVEMBER WHEN AN OVERWHELMING PARTICIPATION OF WORKING ARTISTS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF ARTS PRODUCING ORGANIZATIONS SPOKE TO YOU ABOUT DIRECTLY SUPPORTING OUR WORK AND OUR COMMUNITIES. I URGE THE COUNCIL TO DIRECTLY MANAGE, ADMINISTER AND PRIORITIZE PROGRAMS THAT DIRECTLY FUND CA ARTISTS AND ARTS PRODUCING ORGANIZATIONS RATHER THAN SUB-CONTRACT TO THIRD PARTY ENTITIES. THE CAC CAN STRENGTHEN THE CALIFORNIA'S CREATIVE WORK BUT ONLY BY PRIORITIZING THE WORKERS WHO CREATE.

Marie

- Linda Grimes (She/Her/Hers), San Pedro Waterfront Arts District, Los Angeles County
Current or Former Grantee: Arts & Cultural Organizations General Operating Relief, California Cultural Districts

Thank you for your ongoing support of California Cultural Districts. We appreciate the recognition and look forward to next steps.

- Maeva (My-EEE-vuh) (She/Her/Hers), Los Angeles County
RE: Agenda Item 17. In Memoriam

Unfortunately, I forgot about today's meeting as I took the day as a mental health day so I'm unsure if anyone mentioned the recent departure of Yakira Chambers. She was a friend and colleague of mine that passed away recently. Within the entertainment industry, she was an actress, producer, creator and writer.

She made a difference in my life both professionally and personally. Yakira provided a bridge for me and other black women to progress and move forward in an industry that can be overly critical of the black woman. She opened doors for us and helped us attain access to dreams that seemed out of our reach.

...overlooked by many...but seen by her. [In gratitude, Yakira...in gratitude.]

Due to her death being unexpected and sudden, a GoFundMe page has been set up to help her family cover the funeral expenses. If you search her name on GoFundMe, it will come up. She was only 42 and was a joy to work with so I just wanted to take a moment to honor her and give her the time and respect that she deserves.

9. Voting Item: [Recommended Grant Programs and Guidelines](#)

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez stated that these were for programs not new to the CAC. They are continuing so that the Council can utilize the funds that were allocated.

Mr. Israel stated that this was the first voting item coming from the Policy Committee. The guidelines for three programs – Cultural Pathways-Technical Assistance, Individual Artists Fellowship Region 4, and Creative Youth Development – were already approved by the Council last year. For the first two, we did not receive a sufficient number of applicants. The Council voted not to fund ineligible applicants, but to clarify the guidelines and reopen the programs for applications. Creative Youth Development is being reopened to solicit more applicants as we have more governmentally earmarked funds to award the program. The Council voted to reopen the grant process and we must allocate the remaining money before June 2023.

The guidelines have undergone minor changes as outlined in the memo. We are taking measures to promote the reopening of these award categories to ensure that we cultivate a more robust applicant pool.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez stated the recommendation from the Policy Committee: for the Council to approve the attached guidelines for Cultural Pathways-Technical Assistance, Individual Artists Fellowship Administering Organization Region 4, and Creative Youth Development.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Montoya moved to support the recommendation of the Committee. Councilmember Messina Captor seconded the motion.

Public Comment:

Aundrea Stuckey commented that education through art on difficult topics such as racial trauma definitely needs more support in the rural area of Humboldt County. She had applied for the Technical Assistance grant but found it very confusing. There are many barriers to access in applying for many of these grants. She was pleased to hear that this program was continuing.

Council Discussion:

Ms. Gavin commented on Cultural Pathways Technical Assistance. It is \$150,000 for two years and is going to go to one organization that can provide technical assistance to the 78 recipients that might request it. We could have made a simpler process in which we let it be known to the 78 recipients that there was some money for development consultancies; they might have individually found someone they wanted to work with. It would have been a supplementary grant with a simple application. This course of action might have been more effective.

Ms. Gavin further explained that rather than putting out an RFP, we should take the \$150,000 and put out a simple application process to the existing 78 Cultural Pathway recipients who are already funded. We would ask if they have an identified need and a consultant with a bio. They could apply for the additional funding. It would be a much more grass-roots approach.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez asked if the maker of the Motion would accept a modification to pull Technical Pathways Assistance out for separate discussion. Vice-Chair Montoya asked staff about the feasibility of the Motion. Ms. Kiburi responded that it would be possible to take the funds allocated for this grant program to be individually allocated to each of the Cultural Pathways grantees as an augment to their grant program. She also noted that this is not an RFP but a set of guidelines for grant applications.

Ms. Azevedo stated that whatever decision the Council makes today, staff can find a way to make it work. It would be more work for staff to develop new grant program guidelines for grantees to apply for Technical Assistance funds to do their own selection process with a consultant, compared with awarding a single grantee to provide technical assistance for the field of 78 existing grantees.

Mr. Israel liked Ms. Gavin's idea, but wondered whether the Cultural Pathway grantees that have been awarded are able to identify on their own where they might find technical assistance. This might be easier for large organizations than smaller ones.

Ms. Azevedo reminded the Council that written within the Cultural Pathways grant guidelines that the current grantees were awarded, it did say that the CAC would identify a Technical Assistance provider.

Mr. Israel suggested for the Council to see if they are able to find an AO that could take on this project.

Vice-Chair Montoya accepted the Amendment: to move forward with only the Individual Artist Fellowship Administering Organization Region 4 and Creative Youth Development. Ms. Messina Captor also accepted.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez expressed a concern about the timeline. This was proposed to be released on December 12, and everyone was supposed to respond by January 12. In the nonprofit sector, everyone is getting ready for the holidays and shutting down, and organizations will start looking in January for new grant opportunities. They will be in a time crunch to make the January 12 deadline. Would it be possible to extend the deadline to January 28? Robust outreach could occur and people would have the opportunity to fill out an application. Would the makers of the Motion accept such a change to the date? Both responded that they would accept.

VOTE:

Ayes: Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vice-Chair Chelo Montoya, Roxanne Messina Captor, Gerald Clarke, Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin, Alex Israel, Phil Mercado.

Noes: None.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilmember Gavin moved to reconsider the guidelines and look at the pool of 78 Cultural Pathways grantees, augmenting their grants in a simple process rather than put out an AO grant RFP. Councilmember Estrada seconded the motion.

Council Discussion:

Executive Director Moscone wanted to be mindful that whatever our intention is, a bait and switch has occurred because of what was in the guidelines and what was promised. We have to contend with that issue. He did feel that we should move forward with this template of augmenting grants.

Ms. Kiburi also noted that the grantees have been awarded and have started their work. There are many grantees in that program who may not be able to identify resources to support them in the way they need; they are relying on us coming through with what we promised.

Ms. Gavin felt that this line of thought was a little condescending. In the development of arts organizations, you learn as you go, and you learn from your peers how to write grants and build a Board. For the few who really need assistance, the Council and staff should be able to help. Ms. Gavin agreed with earlier comments from the public about having AOs doing work that should be done at CAC. It adds another layer of administration and takes away 20% of grant award to be used on administering the grant. An applicant had not been found when the RFP had gone out. She would like to try an easier and more grass roots approach.

Ms. Kiburi underscored that earlier the Council had approved guidelines for the Cultural Pathways program, and in engaging with the grantees, they indicated that they wanted this technical assistance opportunity; they had input.

Ms. Estrada asked if we could now technically and legally change the basic Motion without reissuing any Public Comment. Chair Gonzáles-Chávez confirmed.

Mr. Israel asked what happens if we reopen this award and still do not find a suitable AO to administer the Technical Assistance for Cultural Pathways. Chair Gonzáles-Chávez replied that it would have to come back to the Council. Mr. Israel asked if it is worth seeing if we find a suitable AO, and if not, we could create a new template that follows Ms. Gavin's suggestion. Chair Gonzáles-Chávez answered that it delays the opportunity to deliver service; but if no one responds to the RFP, it will have to come back to the Council.

Ms. Estrada said that she did not like the idea of delaying the money any more.

Ms. Kiburi clarified that this is not an AO grant program – it is a technical assistance grant and there are no administrating costs attached to it. Chair Gonzáles-Chávez explained the distinction: an AO applies to operate one of the grant programs, and they will take their percentage for administrative overhead. What is currently being proposed is not an AO relationship; instead it identifies a person or organization who is going to be paid to deliver a direct service, i.e., technical assistance to the Cultural Pathways grantees.

Ms. Kiburi pointed out that this might not be a separate application – it is an augmentation to the current scope of work.

Vice-Chair Montoya asked if this is still possible with the contradictory language in the original grant – can we legally do that? Ms. Kiburi answered that you can; but in terms of transparency, you are changing what you said you were going to offer.

Ms. Gavin pointed out that there are 14 different areas laid out in the application for consultancy. She did not think that was a reasonable claim for any one organization to be able to do. She also hoped that we could be available on a limited basis to provide consultants for grantees who cannot find any.

VOTE:

Ayes: Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin.

Noes: Gerald Clarke, Alex Israel, Phil Mercado.

Abstain: Vice-Chair Chelo Montoya, Roxanne Messina Captor.

The motion failed.

MOTION: Councilmember Messina Captor moved that the Council accept the recommendation of the Committee with the extension of the timeframe. Councilmember Mercado seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes: Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vice-Chair Chelo Montoya, Roxanne Messina Captor, Gerald Clarke, Vicki Estrada, Alex Israel, Phil Mercado.

Noes: Ellen Gavin.

The motion passed.

10. Staff Presentation: California Creative Corps and Cultural Districts Updates

Ms. Margolis began with a basic overview of the California cultural districts. In 2015, AB 189 established the authority for the CAC to designate cultural districts. Fourteen were designated originally. In 2022, Governor Newsom allocated \$30 million to this program, giving CAC the opportunity to support the existing districts properly and to designate new cultural districts as well as developing districts.

The CAC has temporarily allocated staff to gain an understanding of the cultural districts. We are presently completing one-on-one meetings with each of them. We have heard repeatedly about the need for unrestricted funds to allow each district to achieve its unique goals; the need for designated staff; and the need for technical support. We have also heard that they would like the CAC to facilitate ongoing peer group meetings for the sharing of best practices and the establishment of relationships. They also would like help in establishing relationships with Caltrans so they can have signage, as well as the promotion of economic development opportunities for tourism.

In spite of the pandemic, the cultural districts have developed a deep connection with the communities. They have put themselves in a unique position to support artists and cultural workers, and to maintain economic vitality.

Ms. Margolis introduced Amy Garrett from the Programs Unit; she is temporarily supporting cultural districts. She has been a valuable asset to cultural districts statewide.

Ms. Margolis shared examples of what is happening in the 14 districts.

- Soma Pilipinas has put together a pop-up arts hub housed in a vacant space atop a downtown San Francisco parking lot.
- Calle 24 Latino is working to create a tour-permitting process with the county. Fees will be used to support local artists and mural restoration.
- Balboa Park is working with the Parks and Recreation Department to undertake a review of all the available demographic spending data to create a Framework for the Future comprehensive document, detailing how the city invests annually across all cultural district facilities and community-based arts and cultural organizations.
- An example of advocacy is Barrio Logan, which has been advocating for their community by pursuing a land trust that will allow the cultural district to own more of its geographic space, to protect against a second wave of gentrification.
- Truckee is successfully modeling an urban and artist housing maker space in a very rural area.
- Emeryville has created an interactive geo-map to guide visitors to access the many indoor and outdoor public art installations.

Ms. Margolis displayed a timeline showing highlights of what will be happening with the cultural districts.

She spoke about the California Creative Corps. The 2021 State Budget included a General Fund allocation for the CAC to implement the California Creative Corps program. Its intention is to provide a broad geographic reach and to serve all 58 counties, while prioritizing communities that demonstrate the highest level of need as indicated by the Healthy Places Index.

Three Arts Program Specialist staff have been hired for this program: Julie Starkey, Mon Pham, and Charlie O'Malley.

Ms. Margolis displayed a map of all of the districts. Fourteen AOs have been selected to administer the funds. They are connected to their communities in a way that the CAC is not. They are collaborating with each other to reach every corner of the state.

Ms. Margolis showed an example of an eblast that the Council is sharing with all of the Creative Corps.

She showed a timeline of the next three years.

Examples of what is happening are as follows:

- The Center of Cultural Power based in Oakland has already opened its applications for their Constellation Satellite grant program.
- The Arts Collaborative of Nevada County encompasses 19 county north state regions. They have been holding listening sessions across the regions.
- Kern Dance Alliance has launched their website for the program KDA Creative Corps. They are working closely with the United Way of Merced. AOs are coming in and helping artists write grant applications.

11. Creative Corps AO Presentation: City of Sacramento, Office of Arts and Culture

Melissa Cirone from the Sacramento Office of Arts and Culture, another AO, gave a presentation on the Creative Corps grant program during one of the regional conversations hosted by Californians for the Arts.

Ms. Cirone stated that Creative Corps centers the individual artist as the driver of change and the creator of more effective communications around California's most challenging issues. At least 60% of the funds go directly to artists. The program allows us to work regionally to tackle issues and share resources. We are able to do the cross-sector work where we continue to have the biggest impact.

The program is going to be multipronged:

- It will include up to five large grants funded to organizations or art-focused units of government that are already engaged in cross-sector work or have developed cross-sector relationships.
- All five counties will be represented in the grants, and will be specifically focused on a rural community or one in the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index.
- About 20 smaller grants will be more responsive to emerging partnerships.
- A cohort of five artists will be awarded full-time temporary positions for up to one year in a Sacramento city department or division.

They plan to introduce themselves to the region through a series of "mixers" focusing on one or more of the campaign goals. For example, a mixer on climate mitigation and emergency preparedness might take place in Yolo and Alpine Counties, and might include artists interested in exploring these issues with regional partners.

Ms. Estrada asked about the outreach taking place in April of next year. How will you bring potential new cultural districts in? Ms. Margolis answered that they are going to do listening tours that will be mainly virtual. The Council will be invited to participate in all of them. Once the first 14 have been redesignated, we will have a convening with all of them to which the Council will be invited.

12. Voting Item: [Recommended Grant Programs for 2023](#)

Vice-Chair Montoya stated that the Programs Policy Committee would present their recommendations for the program for the fiscal year.

Mr. Israel presented the Committee's recommendations to open the programs listed in the memo with 2023 Local Assistance funds. He stressed that it was urgent to vote on the recommendations today in order to maintain our grant-making timeline and to ensure that the money gets into the hands of those who need it most in a timely fashion, as promised.

The Committee had gone through a number of considerations. Two had been discussed at the previous meetings and were centered around balancing general operating and project support costs and consolidating grant programs.

The third consideration was our focus on priority communities. Rather than creating small pockets of funding to serve niche groups, the communities will be prioritized for the impact projects banner. They will now have access to larger grant funding pools.

The fourth consideration was to continue to maintain strong ties to our partner organizations and to continue to work with the National Endowment for the Arts, which is reflected in our Folk and Traditional Arts program.

A fifth consideration was our budget projection. We will not know how much we actually have to spend on grant funding until June 15. Given that constraint, if we vote to fund the seven recommended programs, we will be able to fund them deeply regardless of budgetary unknowns.

Our final grant consideration was new and other grant programs: Arts and Accessibility and Arts Administrators Pipeline. Neither had enough eligible applications and we were unable to find an AO to support them. We need more time. We should expect to see a vote on whether the staff should be let loose to revise the guidelines for these grant programs in January with an approximate timeline of a couple of months.

At the previous meeting there was discussion on opening a touring and presenting program. The Committee felt that we need time for a full assessment of this idea.

Mr. Israel referenced the spreadsheet included in the memo. The first seven items are recommended programs; the next seven are current legislatively mandated programs with funding from the State Budget. The next items are individual artist fellowships, funded through 2024, and the last items are four programs that the Council has already voted to support with 2022 funds.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez gave the Committee's suggestion: that the Council vote to open only the programs indicated on the list, with projected 2023 Local Assistance funds. The programs are State-Local Partners, State-Local Partners – Mentorship, Statewide and Regional Networks, Folk and Traditional Arts – Administering Organization, Arts and Cultural Organizations, Cultural Pathways, and Impact Projects. Chair Gonzáles-Chávez noted that it is also appropriate for the Council to consider other possible programs.

MOTION: Councilmember Messina Captor moved to accept the recommendation of the Committee. Councilmember Estrada seconded the motion.

Public Comment:

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez pointed out that public comment after a motion is made is a new process. The Council is bringing the public in to comment specifically on action items so that we can hear from you before we take action.

Susie Tanner had a comment, but there were problems with audio.

Council Discussion:

Ms. Estrada asked why Folk and Traditional Arts was not listed as a small organization; how did you determine which programs were prioritized as small organizations? Josy Miller, Arts Program Specialist, stated that on the spreadsheet, the Council had requested at the October meeting to identify which programs currently prioritized small organizations. Reflected in the chart were the programs that, in the current iterations of the program guidelines, actively call out only organizations up to \$150,000 for Cultural Pathways and up to \$250,000 for General Operating Support.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez noted that this issue has been a point of interest and discussion in the past. However, what we have before us has already been approved. We cannot adjust the dollar amounts for these programs now.

Ms. Gavin asked for clarification. Chair Gonzáles-Chávez explained that moving forward, the Council can reintroduce these and make changes to the dollar amounts.

Ms. Gavin commended Mr. Israel and Ms. Evans for taking in the idea of simplifying and understanding that the field is talking about having General Operating Support. She very much liked the idea of the touring and presenting program for promoting California culture. There are multicultural institutions that have legacy status, that are midsize and larger, that have decades of commitment to represent their culture. They should be included in General Operating Support.

Executive Director Moscone clarified that today is about the program guidelines, which include the cap. Raising the cap can happen when we are in the guidelines process. Voting on these programs does not keep us from having that conversation.

Ms. Tanner, Director of Theater Workers Project, returned to the line. They have been grantees for many years. She was confused about referring to “Re-enter through the Arts” as a niche community. Research shows that there are thousands of formerly incarcerated individuals returning to communities who re-enter through the arts. This is a large and vibrant population that needs to be served. Ms. Tanner asked about the amount of the current Impact grant. They have an Impact grant that augments their funding to a prison in Los Angeles County. They have been working on that program since September but have not yet received the funding.

Mr. Clarke asked about the “explicit inclusion” mentioned in the Decision Support Tool on page 3. Ms. Miller answered that right now the Council is voting on the program openings; in January they will vote on their allocations, and at the following meeting they will vote on the actual guidelines. Between now and then, the Policy Committee will work with staff to make sure that the language of those guidelines reflects the wishes of the Council.

Deputy Director Kiburi reiterated that this was a time for voting on grant programs and talking about any additional program that the Council wants to have funded.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez mentioned that there is a program that does not fit into any of the current categories: the Touring Artist program. Impact Projects could be expanded to include many of the groups that have been independently designated in the past. The pandemic affected our performing arts artists tremendously. The CAC previously had a touring artist program; Chair Gonzáles-Chávez would like it added to the list now. The program supported not only the artists,

but also the community: they would have access to the artists. Signing up the artists to participate would require considerable work, but it would be well worth it.

Ms. Messina Captor noted that most of the arts organizations have a program under their banner that tours and does outreach. She asked how the Touring Artist program works. Ms. Gavin answered that in the past, touring artists would apply to become part of a catalog. The presenting organization and the artist would apply together to tour. The performance was underwritten and the venue's role was to promote it. The program provided a taste of California culture by showing artists from around the state.

Mr. Israel felt that this would be a potentially great program, especially after Covid. He noted that the program has not been active for a long time, so reinstating it and activating the guidelines would require a substantial amount of work and dialogue with the communities. Does staff have time to do this? Or alternatively, should we make it a priority for 2024?

Ms. Azevedo responded to several of the comments. Staff has several current Impact Project grantees that are doing similar projects with the funds they have received in 2022 from the CAC. There is an opportunity to incorporate a touring project within an application for Impact Project funding in 2023. Just as staff works with the Council to develop guidelines to call out support for underserved, underresourced communities, artists, and culture bearers, staff can include language that specifically supports an application from an artist who wants to work on their own or collaboratively with a local arts organization to promote a touring project. There is flexibility within the Impact Project program to incorporate those different types of projects.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez stressed that she wanted the community to understand how to access those artists. As Ms. Gavin mentioned, there used to be a catalog listing all the touring artists. If this were a standalone program, we will have a better opportunity to build it so that it will be effective, and offer access and equity.

Ms. Margolis recommended for a staff member to look at our old files and give a presentation to the Council. This might help the Council determine which direction to go.

Deputy Director Kiburi suggested to emphasize in the Impact Project grant guidelines that the touring program was an option. Staff could then provide data for the Programs Committee to consider in next year's funding for a full-on touring program.

Executive Director Moscone noted the importance of Impact grants going forward. Guidelines and allocations are going to be very important.

Mr. Israel suggested writing guidelines for the Impact program before we determine allocation. Deputy Director Kiburi responded that this could happen, but you would not know how much money you have for the different grant programs. Once you get to the minutiae of the program design, the allocation conversation happens.

As the maker of the Motion, Ms. Messina Captor did not accept the addition of the Touring Artists program. She wanted to accept what the Committee has done, and have the Touring Artists program discussed in Committee, to be brought before the Council at a later date.

Mr. Israel stated that he would really like to hear from staff about the previous iteration of the Touring Artists program.

Ayes: Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vice-Chair Chelo Montoya, Roxanne Messina Captor, Gerald Clarke, Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin, Alex Israel, Phil Mercado.

Noes: none.

The motion passed unanimously.

13. Voting Item: Election of the Chair and Vice Chair Council Seats

As a member of the Governance Committee, Ms. Gavin presented the slate: Consuelo Montoya as Chair and Vicki Estrada as Vice-Chair. She asked if any other members of the Council wanted to put their name forward. There were none.

MOTION: Chair Gonzáles-Chávez moved to elect Consuelo Montoya as Chair and Vicki Estrada as Vice-Chair. Councilmember Clarke seconded the motion.

There was no public discussion.

VOTE:

Ayes: Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vice-Chair Chelo Montoya, Roxanne Messina Captor, Gerald Clarke, Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin, Alex Israel, Phil Mercado.

Noes: none.

The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Montoya stated that she was extremely grateful for this community of support and for entrusting her with this great responsibility for California. She also acknowledged the shoulders that she stood upon: Nashormeh Lindo, Larry Baza, and Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez.

14. Council Committee Updates

[Equity Committee](#)

Vice-Chair Montoya recognized Katherin Canton for their extensive work and guidance to the Committee.

She gave a recap of the Equity Committee's work in 2022.

- They recommended to the Council the inclusion of the Equity Assessment for the 2022 guidelines. They were adopted and implemented.
- Staff conducted a two-hour workshop with State-Local Partnerships (SLPs) to introduce the assessment purpose and process and to introduce the data collection tools. Data was gathered to establish our equity baseline. The data was presented at the September CAC meeting.

The Committee recommended moving forward with a convening that will be co-designed with SLPs.

Mr. Clarke stated that the Committee felt it important to gather people together at this convening to restart relationships between the CAC and the SLPs. They also felt it important to provide time for the SLPs to talk about the issues they face, that they think are most important, as well as to build upon the assessment and the data. The Committee sought for everyone to be on the same page moving forward. The convening was targeted for Fall 2023.

Vice-Chair Montoya stated that the decision support tool provides an open-ended space for articulating how the funds get dispersed. The Committee wanted to ensure that it does not create a large impact on staffing, and they want to roll it out properly to the SLPs in an effective and collaborative manner. The Committee thought it best to build it into the existing guidelines of the current grant, rather than start a new grant.

The slate included both the SLPs and the SLP Mentorship program. Vice-Chair Montoya reminded the Council that we started that project with the intention of covering the gaps in the counties that have been vacant of SLPs. This was a call to the Committee that is designated to consider that grant. Regarding the Equity convening, the SLP Mentorship program would be a great place for this work to happen. We could shape that in the guidelines.

Mr. Clarke added that part of the collaborative effort that we envision is to encourage buy-in by all the participants. We are doing this together; it is not being dictated.

Vice-Chair Montoya clarified that the convening would take place in 2024. We do not want to shorten the planning time needed to make this effective.

Discussion:

Mr. Israel asked what the convening would look like. Vice-Chair Montoya answered that its focus would be the SLP partnership; direct attendees would be the SLP members. We would want to ensure that the right Council members – no more than two – are there. Staff and invited guests, depending on the topics, would attend. The goal is to advance this work. The convening would provide space for the SLPs to discuss their priorities and things they need to advance. Ideally the event would be in person, with the option to go to virtual for accessibility.

Executive Director Moscone felt that the time the Committee is taking with our SLP partners to develop relationships and build trust is a valuable model for how we work. This is how we hear, heal, and move together on very important issues around equity.

Strategic Framework Committee

Mr. Mercado stated that the Strategic Framework document, formulated using a lot of time, energy, and resources to be our governing document from 2020-27, had been put on hold because of the pandemic. We have not been able to implement much of the work that was laid out, although we have implemented the decision-making tool.

The goal of the Committee is to look at the CAC's aspirations. Currently there are five broad areas:

- Grant-making
- Programs
- Partnerships
- Policy
- Public Communications

Under those are about 28 subtopics. The Committee is starting to go through them to see if they are still applicable to today, and to reprioritize them.

Ms. Messina Captor reported that they had looked at the first section: *Grant-making*. They were looking at aspirations and turning them into objectives. Change is already happening to *Council Timeline*, as seen in this meeting. *General Operating* needed more checks and balances; we need to understand how people are really using those funds and how it is impacting their programs. *Geographic Equity* is an area we are really delving into. We have not yet gotten very much into the *Individual Artist* area, but that program seems to be solid.

Legislative Committee

(No report provided.)

Governance Committee

Ms. Gavin reported that the issue they have been taking up is openness and participation. They would like to have more community participation; that should increase once people realize that they can speak on individual issues.

They are still looking at the issue of opening up beyond two members for each committee. After utilizing the decision-making tool, the Committee needs to have a conversation with staff to determine their time, resources, etc. In utilizing the tool, they had realized that there are sections that need to be clarified, for example, when there is a conflict between what the Council and the staff want, what are the principles to fall back on? Along with the Executive Director, they felt that a Council retreat early in the year would be very beneficial for understanding all the programs. This is a huge organization with many constituents and a lot of funding, and it could all be clarified.

15. Voting Item: Reinstatement of Grantee Award

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez stated that there had been an issue with how a program was reviewed; because of a glitch in the state process, the CAC had not had accurate information about an organization. The Council was now reintroducing the organization so it could get the funding it deserved. She noted that the error had been more technical than policy.

Ms. Azevedo gave a summary of what had happened. During the process of submitting their grant award contracts from Cycle A, which the Council had approved, an awardee had been deemed ineligible to receive funds. The CAC had received information from the processing

agencies (the Department of General Services and the State Controller's Office) that the awardee was not in good standing with the Secretary of State's office. The awardee's approved Cycle A awards had been terminated and they were removed from the Council's consideration when the Council approved allocations for the Cycle B Creative Youth Development slate of grant programs.

However, the awardee was very much impacted by that decision. They reached out to the Secretary of State's office and were told they would have to go through an extended legal process to change their record. They reached out to the CAC to see if anything else could be done to show that they were in good standing. Our team did extended research and determined that the awardee had in fact been in good standing throughout. Their record in the Secretary of State's office had been confused with another organization that is in fact in suspended status.

After doing the research and making that determination, we are now reinstating the terminated awards, which do not have to go through Council approval because they had already been awarded and their contract documents had already been submitted. However, we needed to bring the organization back to the Council to approve allocations for their appropriately ranked grants.

Deputy Director Kiburi noted that all applicants must attest to being in good standing. Therefore we do not check that when we do eligibility screening.

Ms. Azevedo stated that there are some verification websites we can use at a high level to check that someone is actually a nonprofit organization with the IRS. We can also check the Secretary of State's online business file that shows if an organization is in good standing or suspended by either the Secretary of State's office or the Franchise Tax Board. If they show suspended status, the State will not do business or pay funds to the entity until that status is remedied. These checks would add time to the eligibility check process. We are looking at providing the same websites as part of the pre-application toolkit that we want to roll out in 2023, to support applicants ahead of submitting their applications – they can self-check those websites to see if they have any issues before they certify themselves as being in good standing.

Ms. Messina Captor commented that in her dealings with the Franchise Tax Board, she has seen that they constantly make this mistake.

Mr. Clarke asked for confirmation that the \$141,000 allocation for the awardee was waiting to be dispersed. Deputy Director Kiburi confirmed; there is a zero impact on the budget.

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez gave the language of the motion required to move forward: the Allocations Committee recommends that the Council approve allocations in the amount of \$141,250 for the organization Everybody Dance Now! in the following programs:

- \$14,250 for Arts Integration Training
- \$35,000 for Jump StArts (Cycle B)
- \$54,000 for Artists in Schools
- \$38,000 for Creative Youth Development

MOTION: Councilmember Estrada made the Motion. Vice-Chair Montoya seconded the motion.

There was no public discussion.

VOTE:

Ayes: Chair Lilia Gonzáles-Chávez, Vice-Chair Chelo Montoya, Roxanne Messina Captor, Gerald Clarke, Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin, Alex Israel, Phil Mercado.

Noes: none.

The motion passed unanimously.

16. Future Agenda Items and Council Member Retreat 2023

Executive Director Moscone spoke about the upcoming January retreat. It will include staff and be hybrid (in-person and online). We will invite the public. The retreat will get us all on the same footing with deep-diving into some key issues that come up in almost every meeting, including the orientation process.

An orientation process involves a team and a year-long staff buddy to answer questions. We are going to create a culture of orientation, not just a day of orientation.

Executive Director Moscone opened a brainstorming session with the question: *What would a successful retreat look like to you?*

The Council offered the following responses:

- Full participation
- A new level of comfort with one another
- Breaking into committees, and having the committees come back and connect with each other so that we all understand what everyone is doing
- Level setting with background of the agency, expectations, and roles
- Everyone mastering and teaching something – not just staff
- Basic fluency with the Council itself and its role in California’s government and culture
- A reader/packet of essential documents
- Gain a full understanding of the Strategic Framework
- Excellent snacks, healthy snacks, great food
- Staff and Council integrate
- Recreate; fun; not be bored in any way
- A simple mission statement
- Sharing of life stories
- Revisiting or refining the decision support tool
- The general public will be invited and have spaces in which they can comment.
- Identify common goals and priorities for the future of the Council
- Clarity about what 2023 looks like

- Social downtime
- Engaging around the WolfBrown evaluations
- A visual board with Post-It notes that everyone has written and drawn upon
- Lee performance
- A shaman to bless the day
- A first step beyond land acknowledgments
- Past Council Members for historical perspective and advice
- Everyone should feel better when they leave than when they arrive
- Invite grantees for presentations, performances, etc.
- The Native Artists Convening Report

Ms. Azevedo suggested engaging with California indigenous peoples in determining where the convening should take place, developing a relationship for them to host us and for us to compensate for their hosting. Tribes may have a conference center or hotel to offer.

Deputy Director Kiburi stated that the Native Artists Convening Report was supported and collaborated by Christina Snider, the Governor’s Tribal Advisor. To move on the document, we could speak to her again.

Executive Director Moscone added that he wanted the convening to have a firm commitment to what we are going to do to be in relationship with disabled artists and communities.

He announced that he would put the list items together, and ask the Council to vote on what is most important. We will come back with a prioritized plan.

He stated that he, Vice-Chair Montoya, Ms. Moore, and others deeply want to prioritize our relationship to communities we are not now serving, in thinking about where to have our in-person meetings next year. Deputy Director Kiburi said that staff is looking at the state as a whole and identifying which counties are not sending in any applications. That will be a start for the discussion on meeting locations.

17. In Memoriam

Vice-Chair Montoya, Mr. Israel, and Ms. Estrada recognized the following individuals who have recently passed.

- Josefa Salinas, “La Angelita de la Noche:” L.A. mother, sister, radio legend, inspiration and philanthropist.
- Eva Marie Johnson: actress, director, voice, and dialect coach. Founding faculty at California State Summer School for the Arts.
- “Coolio” Artis Leon Ivey: well-known West Coast rapper.
- Emmeric Konrad: painter in the downtown L.A. arts scene.
- Tara Thomas: L.A. culinary scene star; opened Traxx Restaurant.
- Arturo Nuñez, “Cousin Artie:” actor, producer, collector, and maker of amazing chili beans.
- Peter Keller: president and CEO of the Bowers Museum.

- Dagny Corcoran: owner and operator of the Art Catalogues bookstore.
- Billy Al Bengston: early California pop artist.
- Deanna Spehn: advisor to Toni Atkins.

18. Celebrating Outgoing Council Members

Executive Director Moscone thanked Chair Gonzáles-Chávez for her fierce leadership, collegueship, ferociousness at times, and fun. He presented her with a personalized wood gavel in appreciation.

She received a standing ovation. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve; it had been a tremendous experience. She had appreciated working with such a diverse and dynamic group of individuals. We were collegial and respectful, and managed to get a lot done.

Executive Director Moscone stated that the next meeting would be online in January.

19. Adjournment

Chair Gonzáles-Chávez adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m.