

**Indiana Arts Commission
Quarterly Business Meeting**

Friday, December 12, 2025, 9:00 a.m. (ET)

Hulman Riverhouse, Indianapolis Zoo

1200 W Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46222

Dave Haist, Chair



Commissioners Present: Réna Bradley, Chad Bolser, Jeanne Campbell, Dawn Conwell, Dave Haist, Greg Hull, Jake Oakman, Kelsey Peaper, Scott Wylie

Commissioners Present via Zoom: Rick James, Walter Knabe, Renee Thomas

Commissioners Absent: Azizi Arrington-Slocum, Daniel Martinez

IAC Staff Members Present: Jordan Adams, Eric Ashby, Connie Brahm, Britt Fechtman, Austin Hendricks, Anne Johansson, Miah Michaelsen, Stephanie Pfindler, Gwendolyn Pickett, André Zhang Sonera

Regional Arts Partners Present: Kayla, Myers, Sherri Wright

Special Presenters Present: Jim Rawlinson

Others Present: Dr. Robert Schumaker

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

- a. Welcome.** Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) Commission Chair Dave Haist called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM.
- b. Welcome from the Indianapolis Zoo.** Mr. Haist invited Commissioner Jake Oakman to welcome the IAC to the Indianapolis Zoo. Mr. Oakman is the Senior Vice President of External Relations at the Indianapolis Zoo. Mr. Oakman also introduced Dr. Robert W. Schumaker who is the President and CEO of the Zoo and gave a bit of his background. Dr. Schumaker thanked the Commission for having this meeting at the Zoo as well as some additional background of the Zoo and its mission, highlighted its efforts in conservation, and expounded on their relationship to the arts.
- c. Welcome, New Commissioners Jeanne Campbell, Dawn Conwell, Rick James, and Judith P. Sawyier.** Mr. Haist then welcomed the IAC's newest Commissioners. Commissioners Jeanne Campbell and Dawn Conwell were present in the room at this meeting, and Commissioner Rick James was present on Zoom. Mr. Haist welcomed them and invited them to share a bit about themselves. Each commissioner present did so.
- d. Roll Call.** IAC Administrative Assistant Austin Hendricks called the roll. All were present as listed above.

- 2. Approval of Agenda.** Mr. Haist called for a motion to approve the agenda as listed. Commissioner Chad Bolser motioned, and Commissioner Jake Oakman seconded. **By roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.**

- 3. Consent Agenda.** Mr. Haist then called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. *Consent agenda items are listed below.* Commissioner Oakman motioned, and Commissioner Scott Wylie seconded. **By roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.**

a. Items Submitted for Commission Approval

- i. September 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- ii. FY26 Year-to-Date Financials

b. Reports for Review:

- i. Arts Trust Report
- ii. Communications Report
- iii. Staff Activity Report
- iv. External Partnerships Report
- v. FY27 Arts Organization Support Year 2
- vi. FY26 Creative Convergence Round 1 Participants
- vii. Work In Progress (WIP) Grantees

4. Committee Reports

a. Committee on the Future

- i. **Strategic Framework Update & Proposed KPI Metrics.** IAC Director of Programs Eric Ashby and IAC Data and Grants Systems Manager Britt Fechtman presented this agenda item. Mr. Ashby began by noting that the IAC's Strategic Plan goes from 2024-2028 and there are five Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The last Quarterly Business Meeting (QBM) had some KPI updates, that were focused on the end of the Fiscal Year. Mr. Ashby noted that the metrics presented at this meeting are proposed impact areas, and he encouraged discussion after Ms. Fechtman concluded. *Please see the attached memo for a breakdown of these metrics and proposed metrics.*

Ms. Fechtman then went through the proposed new metrics. In Impact 1, **In Every Indiana county, people and communities have access to arts experiences**, there is an accessibility focused project metric, which has been updated to the following:

- **Tracking number of organizations moving from Every County Funded (ECF) or Creative Convergence (CC) into Arts Project Support (APS) and Arts Organization Support (AOS).**

Ms. Fechtman noted that this metric was not previously tracked, but the IAC is aware that it's happening, as the number of counties in ECF continues to decrease.

In Impact 4, **Indiana's arts providers have expanded opportunities to enhance the quality of life in their communities**, the Universal Health Survey Metric will be replaced with two service delivery-focused metrics. She noted that this is following a change with the Regional Arts Partners (RAP) and how they work in their regions to be more service delivery focused. The changes are as follows:

- **Number of attendees of service presentations and webinars.**
- **Number of service delivery presentations and webinars by IAC staff and RAPs.**

Mr. Ashby noted that the Universal Health Survey was a completion metric and is now done. He then called for questions about the updates. None were spoken.

Mr. Ashby then began the discussion element that the agency is looking for commissioner input on. He highlighted that the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is sunsetting certain demographic questions that have been in the IAC's final grant reports. He highlighted that the agency is interested in tracking similar data, but is seeking commissioner input on what, if anything, replaces them.

The two questions that are being removed are participants in arts experiences by age, and participants by distinct groups (such as individuals with disabilities, below the poverty line, military veterans, etc.). He noted that these questions were poorly worded

and difficult to report, however all the states and territories in the USA were asking these same questions, which was a boon for data comparison. Mr. Ashby highlighted that replacement questions should be lasting and comparable to other states. He then opened up the floor for discussion, with the following two questions to be the topics of discussion:

- *What kind of data should the IAC track to better understand who is served by grant investments?*
- *Is there data not currently captured in the KPI's that the IAC should consider collecting?*

Commissioner Greg Hull asked if the IAC is still tracking the urban/rural divide in programming.

Mr. Ashby responded yes, the agency is.

Mr. Wylie shared that from his perspective, the state's rural areas are losing population, and the urban centers are growing. He then asked if it's possible to track the county of residence of patrons who attend IAC funded programming.

Mr. Ashby responded that tracking county of residence and how big the reach of certain programming is may provide good insight.

Commissioner Kelsey Peaper added that it might be interesting to track how many attendees are first-time patrons, vs. a regular arts patron, to track the breadth of arts impact rather than the depth.

Ms. Michaelsen called on Jim Rawlinson, Vice President of Regional Development at the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), to share his perspective as to what relevant information that could be provided to IEDC and READI.

Mr. Rawlinson noted that there is no one size that fits all regional definitions. He shared he's excited about the partnership between the IAC and IEDC, and that that agency tracks regional and local economic development. He also highlighted that the commerce vertical is trying to align itself to have all agencies within it to have one main map of Indiana regions.

Ms. Michaelsen said that tracking arts patrons and the regions they come from will be helpful data to collect.

Mr. Rawlinson added that tracking non-funded programs may be a good idea.

Commissioner Réna Bradley shared that she would like to see a more detailed breakdown of youth participation, specifically in the categories of primary, middle, and high school ages. She added she would like to see where arts programs serve youth, and more nuance in the age collection.

Commissioner Jeanne Campbell noted that it is very hard to track these demographics and asked if the Commission is aware of the recent changes to the higher education curriculum, and due to said changes, some of this data may be harder to track.

Commissioner Dawn Conwell asked if there is a way to track demographics such as the criminal population's access to arts. She added that there are a lot of great artists in this population and tracking it might be beneficial from a "pro-social" perspective.

Mr. Ashby shared that the IAC worked with the Prison Arts Initiative with Indiana University before and believes that working with that population is a great idea.

Commissioner Walter Knabe asked if there is a way to track the professional artists across all categories. He also added that there are a number of people who are professional artists who have to also work a full-time job in addition to being professional artists.

Mr. Ashby shared that there is a tracker of how many artists are benefiting from the program but that it could go more in depth in terms of what discipline is most benefitting.

Mr. Haist shared that this has been very good input and clarified that this is not an action item.

Mr. Ashby shared that this item will be re-presented in March where there will be an action associated with it.

Ms. Campbell asked if there is any way to look at how other agencies track this data successfully.

Mr. Ashby shared that he had a conversation with the Oklahoma and New York Arts Commissions about how they are addressing these questions. He shared that New York is removing the questions and not replacing them. He stated that the IAC seems to be ahead of the curve of these sunseting questions, but this is still a challenging task to track all this data accurately.

Mr. Haist thanked Mr. Ashby and Ms. Fechtman for their presentation.

- ii. **CY25 Agency Goals Review and CY26 Agency Goals.** IAC Deputy Director and Chief of Staff André Zhang Sonera presented this agenda item. He shared some background by noting that in 2022-2023 the IAC created a strategic advisory committee, who created the Strategic Framework for the period 2024-2028. Each year the IAC creates goals which are aligned with the Framework. He then went over the four goals for CY2025

- **Goal 1: Strengthen Strategic Partnerships to Drive Community and Economic Development**
- **Goal 2: Expand Services and Resources to Strengthen the Arts Workforce**
- **Goal 3: Amplify the impact of programs through data-driven storytelling**
- **Goal 4: Deepen community engagement through Arts-base connections**

Mr. Zhang Sonera then went through how the IAC achieved each of these goals which included partnerships with other state agencies, launching four new Artist Services

programs, presentations at statewide and national conferences, and a record number of grant applications. *Please see the attached memo for additional information about the agency's CY25 goals.*

Mr. Zhang Sonera then opened the floor for discussion about any CY26 Goals and called for questions about CY25 Goals. The following questions were submitted for discussion:

- *What gaps or needs did you notice during CY25?*
- *Outside of our existing programs and services, what should be the agency's top priorities for CY26?*

Mr. Haist congratulated the staff for getting the goals and related actions accomplished.

Ms. Michaelsen added that this discussion is additive to the core work of the agency, and the conversation should highlight items the IAC should be paying attention to in CY26. She also added that the agency goals are filtered down to staff and departmental work plans for CY26.

Mr. Bolser suggested considering what has changed fiscally for organizations and what the impact and practical application of the goals are. He encouraged the agency to evaluate where the IAC sees the impact to how the change in funding from the state has affected the IAC's goals and measurements.

Ms. Bradley added she would encourage the IAC to look at tracking how the loss of funding affects organizations in different budget tiers. With that, she added that the IAC should highlight and strengthen its technical support and training, with specific focus on how not-for-profits can gain alternate revenue streams. She concluded by noting that she'd like to see how quality of life programs are affected if organizations focus funding primary operations.

Mr. Zhang Sonera responded that the Arts Organization Support (AOS) program tracks budget size.

Mr. Ashby added that that is also tracked for Arts Project Support (APS) and can be analyzed year over year.

Ms. Michaelsen shared that in the committee meetings, some commissioners were interested in focusing on underserved audiences and arts education.

Ms. Bradley added that there will be school systems where the arts may be deprioritized in the coming year and if there is a way for the IAC to track arts programming, with a specific eye to underserved youth or youth who may lose arts access.

Ms. Michaelsen added that the agency could look at a goal about understanding the arts education space more thoroughly. She added that the reach of the IAC to impact specific school districts is very weak, if almost non-existent, this area is worth exploring to see what the IAC can do.

Commissioner Renee Thomas asked if the funding rubrics can prioritize quality of life or K-12 funding.

Mr. Ashby responded that yes, and that some of that request is baked into APS eligibility, such as for colleges and universities who apply. He also noted that there can still room for improvement on the rubrics and he and his team are working with the Indiana Department of Education to help those education-based applicants.

Mr. Zhang Sonera thanked the commission for their feedback, and the goals for CY26 will be presented at the March Quarterly Business Meeting (QBM).

Mr. Haist thanked Mr. Zhang Sonera for the presentation and encouraged the Commission to continue sending goal ideas.

b. Programs, Grants, and Services

i. Arts Project Support Program (APS)

1. **FY26 APS Fall Grantee Recommendations.** Mr. Ashby presented this agenda item. He shared that this was the first year this program has been offered twice. He then shared some metrics for this cycle's applications. In the program there were 166 eligible applicants in this cycle, compared to 266 in the Spring Cycle, with a total of 383 individual applicant organizations, across the whole program. This is a 20% increase compared to 322 applicants in FY25. 115 applicants had not applied in the spring and 51 were first time applicants to the IAC. Another 51 reapplied after not being funded in Spring APS while 12 applicants were not funded from the AOS program. 3 applicants were colleges and universities.

The top three applications categories were Concerts/Performing/Reading, Arts Instruction, and Creation of a Work of Art. Mr. Ashby then shared that in this program all applications were reviewed by 3-4 reviewers, and they left 700+ pages of comments. In the Spring cycle of this program there was no threshold score for eligibility, and the IAC funded the highest scoring eligible application in each county until the money ran out. 114 projects were funded this way with a total of about \$430,000.

In the Fall, the agency kept the same funding approach, funding the highest scoring eligible application in each county until the money ran out. With this approach, 53 counties applied and 53 were awarded. \$205,964 was awarded, with an average of \$3886.11 per award. Mr. Ashby noted that this round was extremely competitive compared to prior application periods in this program. He then shared each applicant and awarded applicant with the commission. *Please see the attached memo for the list of organizations recommended for funding.*

Mr. Ashby then called for questions. None were spoken.

Ms. Michaelsen added that in prior fiscal years 70-75% of applicants were funded, and this year has been 30-40%. She noted that this is partly due to a higher applicant pool, but also the 33% reduction in the agency's budget.

Mr. Haist called for a motion to approve the funding recommendations. Ms. Peaper motioned, and Mr. Bolser seconded. **By roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.**

At this time the meeting took a brief break. The meeting resumed at 10:35 AM.

2. **FY27 APS Spring & Fall Cycle Framework.** Mr. Ashby continued with this presentation. He stated that there are a lot of similarities to prior years. This program includes the following for eligible organizations:

- **Nonprofit arts organizations in any discipline**
- **501(c)(3) and 501(c)(6) non-arts nonprofits, including libraries, chambers of commerce, tourism organizations, and social service organizations**
- **Public and private schools, Pre-K through high school, and colleges and universities**

Mr. Ashby added that an added clarification was made for public and private schools: these projects must be public facing in some way, such as a public performance or an artist residency. He added that colleges and universities must provide a community arts learning experience for K-12 or arts experiences in high priority geographic service areas. Mr. Ashby noted that the goal of this program is to provide Indiana's people and communities with access to arts experiences. He then shared that the Spring Cycle from January – March 2026, and the Fall Cycle: July – September 2026. Mr. Ashby shared that Spring cycle runs on the state fiscal year, and Fall cycle runs on the calendar year. Awards in this program are up to \$4,000, and the Evaluation priorities based on the following:

- **Project Quality and Planning**
- **Community Benefit**
- **Project Management**

Selection priorities include geographic access, level of access to arts opportunities, project discipline, first time vs. returning applicants, and budget size. Mr. Ashby noted that these priorities are made because the IAC is expecting a high volume of applicants, and that not all of them will be funded in the coming cycles.

Notable changes are the eligibility for public or private Pre-K through high schools, making sure that funding priorities respond to the availability of FY27 APS funds, and that the IAC now reserves the right to make payments in two installments as needed for this program. Mr. Ashby noted this final change is because Fall APS grantees can apply and earn a Spring APS grant. Mr. Ashby called for questions. None were spoken.

- ii. **Arts & Health Update.** Mr. Ashby gave a brief update on Arts and Health. He noted that the IAC received some support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to do arts and health programming. The IAC applied for competitive funding and was awarded it. Mr. Ashby noted that the IAC's arts and health work is focused on older adults through a program called Lifelong Arts. The IAC will be offering a free statewide summit on March 23, 2026, on how to create a Lifelong Arts modeled program in more local areas. Mr. Ashby shared that there will also be a Creative Aging Summit, that has a target audience of State and Local agencies that work with older adults, aging service

providers, healthcare systems, trained artists, and arts organizations. In addition to the summit, there will be further grants in Lifelong Arts program, which will be discussed and voted on in the March QBM. The Lifelong Arts toolkit will be shared in January 2026 and will be distributed at the Summit. Mr. Ashby also highlighted that there has also been an application for the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) for additional financial support, with the funding coming in January.

iii. **Community Services Programs**

1. **FY26 Every County Funded Program Framework** IAC Communities Services Manager Anne Johansson presented this agenda item. She noted that for this framework this program is funding counties that are not funded by AOS and APS. The seven counties eligible are as follows:

- **Blackford**
- **Lawrence**
- **Newton**
- **Parke**
- **Rush**
- **Washington**
- **White**

Ms. Johansson noted that this list is down from 15 the prior program cycle. She added that Washington County has been added to the list since the last presentation at Programs, Grants, and Services Committee. Ms. Johansson noted that this program's long-term outcomes of counties moving to AOS and APS from this program is on track, as this list of counties is smaller than previous years. The program will open on December 17, 2025, and run through February 20, 2026. The award amounts are up to \$10,000 per county but the goal is to fund two projects at \$5,000 each. A notable change in this program is that the budget has adjusted from \$100,000 to \$70,000 with the \$30,000 difference moving to APS. *Please see the attached memo for more information about this program's framework.* Ms. Johansson then called for questions.

Ms. Michaelsen shared that the IAC has a goal of direct investment in all 92 counties, and this exists to ensure that goal is met.

2. **Creative Convergence Round 2 Framework.** Ms. Johansson continued with this agenda item. She began by noting that this program is team based and has a 2-day workshop element. The teams are made up of 3-4 people from local government, arts and civic leaders, and local artists. This program has an award of a \$5,000 early action grant and is a partner program with Ball State University's Indiana Communities Institute (ICI). Ms. Johansson noted that this year there has been an optional partnership with CreatING places and Patronicity. Ms. Johansson then shared that eligibility and the evaluation and priorities are the same as the previous framework. She then shared the goals and the outcomes of this program, which include the following:

- **Build cross-sector collaboration.**
- **Advance arts as infrastructure for community vitality.**
- **Equip teams to sustain momentum and deepen impact.**

- **In every Indiana county, people and communities have access to arts experiences.**
- **Indiana’s arts providers have expanded opportunities to enhance the quality of life in their communities.**
- **There is broad recognition of arts and creativity’s value for Indiana.**

The application is open from January 14 through February 20, 2026, and the grant period is from May 15, 2026, through May 30, 2027. Ms. Johansson called for questions.

Ms. Conwell shared that she is participating in this program, as Marion, IN (*her home area of the state*) is one of the current communities within the program. She was very thrilled with the outcomes of the program and appreciates its cross-sector applications.

Mr. Haist thanked Ms. Conwell for her comment, and Ms. Johansson for her presentation.

iv. Artist Services Programs.

1. On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneurial Accelerator

a. **Evaluation Findings.** IAC Artist Services Program Manager Jordan Adams presented this agenda item. She noted that the Artist Needs Assessment was created in 2023, which helped to create six different programs. One of those six is On-Ramp. On-Ramp has been on pause for evaluation, which was done by Measurement Resources. This was an analysis and survey of the alumni of the program and internal participant evaluations. 43% of those surveyed responded, which Ms. Adams noted is less than half, but high when considered that the IAC does not maintain contact with former participants. Ms. Adams also shared that the data from this survey was presented at the Creative Economy summit earlier this year. The findings focused in three areas:

- **Program satisfaction**
- **Individual outcomes**
- **Outcomes within individual communities**

Within Program Satisfaction, 92% of alumni surveyed said they found the program valuable. In Individual Outcomes, participants maintained their knowledge after the conclusion of their time, and within Individual Communities, 50% of artists collaborated with other artists, and 53% grew their networks outside their arts. *Please see the corresponding memos for additional findings from the survey.*

Ms. Adams then shared that going forward, the data will be shared in a press release and with the Commerce Vertical, and the program will return to a decentralized model with Expressions of Interest (EOI) requests released to the public. Ms. Adams called for questions on the findings.

Mr. Wylie thanked her for her presentation.

Mr. Hull congratulated her on her presentation at the Creative Economy summit.

- b. **Central Cohort Program Framework.** Ms. Adams presented this framework. She began by reviewing the program's overview. The eligible applicants are early-career or emerging artists over the age of eighteen. She then shared that the goals of the program are to empower creatives to pursue a feasible portfolio career, and to provide funds for a year-long fellowship. The outcomes include meeting artists' assessed needs of connections, marketing, and financial education. The application period is from January 14 through February 18, 2026, with a grant period from September 1, 2026, through September 1, 2027. The workshop will be in May of 2026. The award amounts are \$2,000. Notable changes include: potential local hosts observing the 3-day workshop, decreasing the cohort size from 30 to 20, and the ongoing cohort engagement during the fellowship period. *Please see the attached memo for additional information about this framework.* Ms. Adams called for questions about the framework. None were spoken.
- c. **WIP Micro Support Grant Fall selections.** Ms. Adams presented this agenda item. She shared that there were no applications from the southern region for this program, but all other regions did have applications. She shared that the program is sunsetting after it closes and the best practices of the program will be taken forward onto future programs. Ms. Adams called for questions, and none were spoken.

She then reminded the Commission that the Vision and Venture program is open and the deadline for applications is January 8, 2026, and the EOI for On-Ramp is currently out.

- v. **Program Frameworks Approval.** Mr. Haist then called for a motion to approve the FY27 APS Spring and Fall Cycle Framework, the FY26 Every County Funded Framework, the Creative Convergence Round 2 Framework, and the On-Ramp Central Cohort Framework. Commissioner Oakman motioned, and Commissioner Bolser seconded. **By roll call vote, all were in favor and the frameworks were approved.**
5. **Regional Arts Partnership Consortium Report.** Regional Arts Partners Kayla Myers and Sherri Wright and Mr. Ashby presented this agenda item. Ms. Wright began by overviewsing the Regional Arts Partnership (RAP) for the new commissioners. She highlighted that all the partners will be presenting their regional service delivery plans in January 2026. She also added that the RAPs are in a position to provide technical assistance to their regions in all stages of grants making that the IAC can't get as granular on.

Ms. Myers noted that the partners met yesterday December 11, 2026, and that there are new partners in Regions 1, 7, 8, 10, and 12, and that all the partners are getting ready for the FY27 APS cycles. She also added that the RAPs are promoting both the IAC's programs in their regions and local events in their regions.

Mr. Ashby added that in Regions 8 and 12 the Indiana University Arts and Humanities Council will be serving the two regions, and there will be one staff member dedicated to each region. He added that in Region 10, ARTSWIN is no longer the RAP, and a more formal update regarding Region 10 will be coming in March 2026.

- 6. READI LEI Arts and Culture Initiative.** Ms. Michaelsen presented this agenda item with the Vice President of Regional Development at the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), Jim Rawlinson. Ms. Michaelsen began by reviewing that the IAC has been working with IEDC on the READI program and that READI stands for Regional Economic Acceleration Development Initiative.

Mr. Rawlinson shared that IEDC works with 15 regions statewide and that the READI team is 4 people at IEDC, including Mr. Rawlinson. He noted that this is a \$1.2 million initiative. He then shared a timeline of events leading to READI—noting that this version is the second edition of READI. Ten years ago, there was a Regional Cities initiative, began by then-Governor Pence. The IEDC identified population loss is the #1 limiting factor to economic development. As a result of this, the IEDC formulated 9 core principles that indicate success in economic development, which then lead to three cities being funded by the Regional Cities initiative. This initiative then morphed into the READI 1 program. This program began under the Holcomb administration, and 17 regions of the state applied to the program. Mr. Rawlinson added that READI 1 has a sunset date of 2026.

IEDC's regional entities contract directly with IEDC for this grant program. Right now, READI 1 has a \$9.2 billion investment, of which \$8.2 is private and \$1 billion is locally funded. At the time of this presentation, \$393 million has been disbursed. Mr. Rawlinson then shared that there is currently an economic impact analysis being done by Purdue and Indiana University's Public Policy Institute about READI 1. The impact match dollars are at about 1.85 (for every 1 dollar investment, about 1.85 dollars are gained).

Mr. Rawlinson then shared that READI 2.0 was given about \$500 million by the State Legislature and that this version is largely the same as READI 1.0. Mr. Rawlinson highlighted that READI 2.0 does include Key Performance Indicators, and there are 15 regions who applied. The maximum award in READI 2.0 is \$50 million. Mr. Rawlinson then shared that currently 355 projects are submitted, 219 are preapproved, 79 are through full compliance, and 62 are currently being reviewed. \$334.36 million has been preapproved with \$21.8 million disbursed, and \$124 million officially obligated.

Mr. Rawlinson then shared that the Lilly Endowment gave \$250 million to READI for both blight reduction, redevelopment, and for an arts and culture program. \$65 million of that investment is allocated to arts and culture. There are 15 regions who have submitted an arts and culture plan to be considered for funding. Mr. Rawlinson noted that the regions were asked to bring in other arts stakeholders, and asked not just focus on economic development. By the end of the year, there will be 15 strategic plans from each region. Mr. Rawlinson thinks that these plans will help develop better projects and proposals from each of the regions.

Mr. Rawlinson highlighted some arts and culture projects that were funded in READI 1. The majority of the \$65 million from the Lilly Endowment will go to project funding and some will go to capacity building. He then added that the funding recommendations will come out in Q2 of next year (April/May).

Mr. Rawlinson noted that the projects will be submitted through the IAC's grants portal Foundant, and that projects that are selected will then go to the READI portal.

Mr. Rawlinson called for questions.

Mr. Haist asked if there was a sense for how many projects may be submitted and if any submissions would not be tied to the larger regional plans.

Mr. Rawlinson shared that this process is trying to be as accessible as possible and not all of the applications will come directly from the regions who are developing the Arts and Culture plans.

Commissioner Renee Thomas asked what specific dollar amount is coming from READI to support arts and culture. She also thanked Mr. Rawlinson for the IEDC leaning on the IAC's expertise with arts.

Mr. Rawlinson stated that \$65 million is the total investment for READI arts and culture. He also added that this is one of the single largest investments in arts and culture in the state.

Ms. Michaelsen added that the commissioners will be able to see the 15 regional arts plans that are being developed, then the 15 regions will meet with IEDC to understand how the process has been received, followed by an analysis of the program. Ms. Michaelsen shared she will bring what the IAC learned as a result of this partnership to the commission.

Mr. Rawlinson shared that the website indianareadi.com will have an interactive map of the state for the public to see all the investment plans.

Mr. Haist thanked Mr. Rawlinson and is excited about the partnership with the IAC and IEDC.

7. **Consent Agenda Items Moved to Full Agenda.** No items were moved, so this agenda item was skipped.
8. **Old Business and New Business.**
 - a. **Thank you to Commissioner Emeriti Laurie Burns McRobbie and Anne Penny Valentine.** Mr. Haist thanked Emeriti Commissioners Laurie Burns McRobbie and Anne Penny Valentine for their service to the Commission. Ms. Michaelsen agreed and thanked them for their service.
 - b. **Next Quarterly Business Meeting: Evansville.** Mr. Wylie presented this item. He shared that the next Quarterly Business Meeting will be held in Evansville. He noted that his region and Evansville are excited to host, and that it has been roughly ten years since the IAC has been down there for a meeting. He shared that he is working with the most immediate prior commissioners who are in Evansville to plan this event.
 - c. **Additional items.** Mr. Haist shared that if the commissioners haven't done the evaluation of Ms. Michaelsen there is still time to do so. Ms. Michaelsen thanked the Commission and staff for their flexibility with the changes that have happened this CY26.
9. **Adjournment of Quarterly Meeting.** Mr. Haist called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Oakman motioned, and Commissioner Peaper seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:51 AM.