

INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING
MARCH 14, 2008
9:00 A.M.
ART MUSEUM OF GREATER LAFAYETTE
LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

RICHARD STIFEL, CHAIR

Members Present: Richard Stifel, Kelly Schreckengast, Sandra Clark, William Hopper, Earl Williams, Jeanne Mirro, Irene Smith-King, Ronald Stratten, Pam Hicks, Karen Ellerbrook, Leonard Pas

Members Absent: Judy Hess, Sheri Trine

IAC Staff Present: Lewis Ricci, Bobbie Garver, Michelle Anderson, Rex Van Zant, April Blevins, Sarah Heying, Dennis Hardin, Kristina Davis

Guests: Jim Bodenmiller (former commissioner), Jeff Kuehl (Regional Arts Partners), Tetia Lee (Regional Arts Partners), John Cain (Regional Arts Partners)

Kendall Smith, Executive Director of the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette, welcomed everyone and gave brief remarks.

1. Welcome and Introductions. Mr. Stifel called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. He extended thanks to Kendall Smith for hosting the meeting at the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette. He also extended thanks to Kelly Schreckengast, commissioner from Lafayette, for making arrangements for the meeting and the social gathering of the preceding evening, and to the Haan family for hosting the social gathering in their home. He then asked everyone to introduce themselves.
2. Mr. Stifel asked for a motion to accept the consent agenda. Mr. Hopper so moved and Mr. Stratten seconded. Motion passed.
3. Chair and Executive Reports
 - a. Chair's Report.
 1. Introduction and Welcome of New Commissioners. Mr. Stifel welcomed new commissioners Earl Williams from Muncie and Pam Hicks from Greenwood. New commissioner Sheri Trine from Angola was not present.
 2. Nominations, the Governor's Office and Current Status. Mr. Stifel reported that communications with Mr. Vanator and Ms. Valentine of the Governor's office to fill current and future vacancies are on-going.
 3. Request for New Commissioner suggestions. Mr. Stifel urged all current commissioners to submit names of prospective new commissioners to him by April 1st. He emphasized the importance of geographic and ethnic diversity on the commission.

4. September Quarterly Meeting Date. Mr. Stifel announced the dates of the remaining Quarterly Business Meetings in 2008. They will be June 13th in Fort Wayne, September 26th in Indianapolis, and December 12th in Indianapolis. He also expressed his gratitude to Mr. Hopper, Mr. Stratten and Mr. Pas who will be retiring from the commission after the June meeting.

b. Executive Committee Report

1. Possible New Grant Categories. Mr. Ricci reported that new IAC grant categories under consideration are for a Presenters Program, Education, and Public Art.
2. Utilizing interest from the Cultural Trust. Mr. Ricci reported that about \$80,000 is available for use from the IAC Cultural Trust, this amount being interest accrued in 2007 and 2008. Possible uses for the funds include matching grants for Regional Arts Partners and grants for Public Art.
3. Advocacy Focus for 2008-2009 Legislative Session. Mr. Ricci reported that Representative Eric Koch will be willing to introduce legislation during the upcoming session upon the recommendation of the IAC. Possible focal points will include program funding for public art, arts education, artist development, and cultural districts. He also discussed a recent report from Music For All regarding art education statistics in the public schools. He also expressed gratitude for the efforts of Senator Teresa Lubbers and Representative Sheila Klinker during the current session.
4. Private Fundraising and Feasibility Study. Mr. Ricci reported on the recent meeting of the Ad Hoc Fund Development Study committee, and the possibility of a state-wide fund-raising campaign.
5. Public Relations Campaign. Discussion deferred to item 8.

4. Executive Director's Report

- a. Staffing update. Mr. Ricci introduced new staff members Sarah Heying (Operations Assistant) and April Blevins (Communications Manager). He also introduced Kristina Davis who will join the staff on March 24th as Community Development Manager.
- b. Year-to-Date Financial Activity. Mr. Ricci presented a hand-out showing the YTD information, remarking that all IAC activities are under budget for FY08.. He thanked Deputy Director Michelle Anderson and Financial Manager Emelita Tolentino for their efforts in this area. Mr. Stratten and Ms. Mirro added their appreciation.
- c. Cultural Districts Legislation. Mr. Ricci reported that House Bill 1017 was passed in the current legislative session, giving IAC the power to designate cultural districts throughout

Indiana. He briefly explained the concept of cultural districts and referred to a hand-out on this topic. He then asked for a motion from the commission to accept this responsibility by the IAC. Mr. Stratten so moved, Ms. Ellerbrook seconded. Motion passed.

- d. Call for Proposals, 2009 Governor's Arts Awards. Mr. Ricci explained the process being considered for the 2009 Governor's Arts Awards, to have potential host cities present bids for the event over the coming months. Mr. Stifel commented about the level of commitment needed from a city to host such an event and remarked about the great contributions made by the city of Bloomington and Indiana University during the 2007 event. Ms. Schreckengast commented that perhaps the GAA should be taken out of Indianapolis only every-other time, on alternating biennials. Ms. Smith-King remarked that she thought it had already been decided by the commission to permanently move the event out of Indianapolis. Mr. Ricci concurred, noting that it would take a very long time for the event to get to every potential host city if indeed it were still held in Indianapolis on an alternating basis. Mr. Hopper also concurred, saying that he was on the former GAA committee which decided that the event should be held outside of Indianapolis permanently, and adding that the key factor remains that the host city be fully engaged and committed to the event. Mr. Ricci remarked that proposals could be reviewed for viability and that Indianapolis could remain a fall-back location if no other city could provide the necessary resources. Mr. Stifel commented that the criteria will be critical and that establishing such criteria should be a function of a standing committee. Mr. Stratten moved that the Advocacy and Awareness Committee be tasked with establishing such criteria. Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- e. Lincoln bicentennial Initiative Partnership Update. Mr. Ricci reported that Bobbie Garver of the IAC staff has been working with the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission on the process of selecting an artist who will create a work of public art to be installed in Lincoln State Park in Spencer County. Four finalists have been named for the project: Ken Ryder of Yorktown, Stanley Blevins of Greenfield, Tuck Languard of Granger, and Will Clark of Fort Wayne. The finalists will present their proposals to the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission who will make the final selection. Mr. Stifel thanked Ms. Garver for her work on this project.
- f. OCRA/Tourism/Agriculture Partnership Update. Michelle Anderson gave a brief recap of the report presented by Eric Freeman to the standing committees. The Artisan Development Project will have as its goals to create sales centers, establish artisan trails to visit, provide entrepreneurial training to artisans, and to establish market places.
- g. Regional Arts Partners Retreat and Funding Formulas. Mr. Ricci explained the process being used to revise the RAP funding formula, which has undergone two different calculations and is now into a third calculation. He presented a visual aid showing the variety of weighting factors. Mr. Ricci then asked for comments from John Cain and Tetia Lee representing the Regional Arts Partners. The final RAP funding formula will be presented at the June quarterly business meeting. Mr. Ricci explained the desire to move Morgan County out of Region 7 and into Region 8, with comments from Mr. Pas and Ms. Clark in favor of such action. Mr. Pas made the motion that Morgan County

become a part of Region 8. Ms. Clark seconded. Comments were entertained from the public. Mr. Hopper called the question. The motion passed.

- h. Poet Laureate Selection. Mr. Ricci reported that the two finalists for the post of Indiana Poet Laureate are Don Platt of West Lafayette and Norbert Krapf of Indianapolis.
- i. Poetry Out Loud Update. Mr. Ricci reported on the recent state-wide competition hosted by IAC in Indianapolis and presented photos of the winners.
- j. National Advocacy Day. Mr. Ricci reported that a delegation of 11 advocates from Indiana will attend the events of National Arts Advocacy Day in Washington D.C. on March 31st – April 1st, including appointments with several members of the Indiana Congressional delegation.
- k. Three year NEA Grant cycle. Mr. Ricci and Ms. Garver briefly reported on the upcoming renewal of the National Endowment for the Arts grant cycle.

Mr. Stifel declared a brief break in the meeting. After the break he announced that the meeting would proceed to item 7.

- 7. Grantee Presentation. Mr. Len Mozzi of Young Audiences was introduced to give a brief presentation on the Institute for Artful Teaching summer program, and its aim to integrate arts into learning, and leveraging literacy through the arts.

Mr. Stifel then returned to agenda item 5.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Committee on the Future. Chair Mr. Hopper reported on the February 26th meeting of the Committee. The minutes were presented as a hand-out. He stated his opinion of the great future of IAC thanks to the work of the current staff and commission members.
- b. Program Evaluation Committee. Chair Ms. Clark had no further remarks beyond the printed report prepared by Ms. Garver. Ms. Garver was asked to explain the changes in the NEA American Masterpieces Grant. Ms. Garver explained that the funding for the American Masterpieces grant administered by IAC will be folded into the overall NEA funding during the next funding cycle, rather than being a separate grant application process.
- c. Advocacy and Awareness Committee. Chair Mr. Stratten reported that the regular meeting of this committee was cancelled so that members could attend Arts Advocacy Day at the Statehouse. He reminded the commission of the importance of continuous contacts with legislators.

d. Cultural Trust Administrative Board. Ms. Mirro reported on the current Trust balance and recounted the discussion of possible uses for the accrued interest from the fund. The Executive Committee will bring its recommendation to the next full commission meeting.

6. Regional Arts Partners. Jeff Kuehl, chairman of the Regional Arts Partners, reported on the March 13th RAP meeting in Indianapolis.

8. Public Relations Campaign Presentation. Mr. Ricci began the discussion by reading a parody letter which referred to a suspected "plot" by "artsy" Hoosiers to gain positions of importance in Indiana. Following was a humorous presentation by actor Dan Henkel which introduced the idea of a publicity campaign for the arts in Indiana. Discussion followed from Mr. Stratten, Ms. Hicks, Ms. Clark, Mr. Hopper and Mr. Ricci on the subject of such a campaign. Mr. Stifel asked for further thought and discussion to be scheduled on the subject. No action taken at this time.

9. Discussion items. None.

10. Old business. None

11. New business. Mr. Stifel encouraged all commissioners to take the newly-mandated Ethics Training Course offered on-line by the Office of the Inspector General.

12. Closing Comments. Mr. Stifel reminded members to submit names of potential new commissioners to him by April 1st. The next meeting will be on June 13th in Fort Wayne. He asked members to think about new legislative initiatives. He again thanked Kendall Smith, Kelly Schreckengast and the Haan family for the success of the meeting. He once again welcomed new commissioners Williams and Hicks.

13. Mr. Hopper moved for adjournment. Ms. Hicks seconded. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.