

**IDAHO COMMISSION ON THE ARTS
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

November 29, 2022

The Owyhee, Suite 220, 1109 W Main St, Boise, Idaho and by Videoconference

Commissioners Present

Steve Allred, Chair
Diana Livingston Friedley, Vice Chair
Marsha Bjornn
Sandra Fery
Marshall Garrett
Sheila Hennessey
Julia Oxarango-Ingram
Adrian San Miguel
Blair Williams

At-Large Members Present

Alison Brush
Miyai Abe Griggs
Derek Dean
Jared Johnson

Commissioner Absent

Kate Fornarotto

Staff Present

Michael Faison, Executive Director
Stuart Weiser, Deputy Director
Jadee Carson, Grants Manager
Alison Espindola, Community Development
Director
Steven Hatcher, Folk & Traditional Arts
Director
John McMahon, Artist Services Director
Jocelyn Robertson, PIO/Literature Director

Staff In-Office

Renae Heinsohn, Fiscal Specialist

Staff Absent

Laura Roghaar, Arts Learning Services Director

Member of the Public Present

Lara Herway

At 8:30 a.m. MT on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, the group was led on a tour of the Idaho Statehouse by Capitol Commission Chair Andy Erstad. Upon completion of the tour, the group reconvened at the Owyhee for the remainder of the meeting.

Chair Steve Allred called the business portion of the meeting to order at 10:35 p.m. MT. Chair Allred welcomed the group. Executive Director Michael Faison took attendance.

Chair Allred requested a motion to approve the Agenda.

Commissioner Marsha Bjornn made a motion to approve the Agenda. Vice Chair Diana Livingston Friedley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Allred requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Marshall Garrett made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Blair Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The group discussed the Governor's Awards in the Arts, conducted the previous afternoon at the Idaho State Museum. Discussion included the importance of getting the word out early for the 2024 award nominations; and the possibility of future commission action to add two additional, solicited Award categories: Innovation in the Arts and Accessibility in the Arts.

There was no public comment.

Executive Director Faison discussed the advisory grant panelist selection process for annual grants. There was consensus that it is unnecessary to request prior approval of annual grant, advisory review panelists, which is not required in rule or by previous commission action. Panelist bios still will be included with funding recommendations to the commission.

Chair Allred and Executive Director Faison led a legislative update. There was discussion regarding being able to tell the agency's story while staying within strict protocols regarding legislative communications.

Executive Director Faison led the group in discussion on progress in the strategic plan (see the addendum below for discussion notes.)

Executive Director Faison provided his director's report. The next commission meeting will be held in winter 2023, likely in conjunction with budget testimony before the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee of the Idaho Legislature in the 2023 legislative session. The spring 2023 meeting will be held in Rexburg, Idaho, on Thursday and Friday, May 4-5, 2023.

Chair Allred asked if there was a need for an executive session. There was none.

Chair Allred adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m. MT.

ADDENDUM: DISCUSSION, PROGRESS IN THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal One: Expand Resources for Idaho Artists and Arts Organizations

Objective 1.1: Streamline Grant Programs of the Agency

- Correlate final reporting with grant and organizational size. PPA light?
- Small grants = small reports; large grants = large reports.
- Maintain accountability—it matters.
- Grant reporting are means of reflection on activity.
- What is a minimum amount of information we need to achieve our needs?
- How do we encourage arts managers but still meet our reporting needs?
- Training for arts managers?

Objective 1.2: Facilitate Funding Opportunities

- It's more about building arts organizations' capacity than finding money sources for them.
- There are new creative placemaking funding opportunities coming down the pike.
- Be tied to others (i.e., Idaho Dept. of Commerce; Idaho Rural Partnership, others.) Be aligned. Intersect with their priorities.

Objective 1.3: Increase Resiliency of Arts Organizations and Artists

- Ramp up the Change Leader program.
- Continue to offer Gear Maker Gatherings that meet the needs of the gear makers.
- Continue to offer professional business training for artists (e.g., the My Artrepreneur Program.)

Goal Two: Expand the Role of Arts-in-Education

All three objectives were delayed due to staffing shortage. Now that our Arts Learning Services Director is in place, all three objectives now are proceeding.

Objective 2.1: Prepare Teaching Artists

- Be flexible in our means.

Objective 2.2: Deliver Training for Teachers

- Is there a possible role for our state writer in residence in teacher training?
- The Gizmo nonprofit organization in CdA provides a good example of hands-on learning as a maker space for teachers.

Objective 2.3: Offer Arts Learning Grants

- This new arts-in-education residency grant program is in development.

Goal Three: Enhance Vitality of Communities Through Public Access to the Arts

Comments merged these two objectives together.

Objective 3.1: Facilitate Community Cultural Planning

and Objective 3.2: Expand Arts Opportunities in Underserved Communities

- Urban vitalization of rural towns
- “Urban renewal districts” in rural towns.
- Let stakeholders know what is possible through professional associations and conference.
- The Smithsonian exhibit is providing six examples of strong downtown and neighborhood renewal and creative placemaking.
- Beautification of rural communities keeps them economically viable and desirable places for people to live, work, and play.
- Grants for creative place-makers? Be willing to work with the right collaborators.

Objective 3.3: Promote Creative Arts in Health and Wellness

- Helen Williams of Helena, MT (Blair Williams’ sister-in-law.) She runs a program that reaches veterans with home health. A good model.
- If we wish to communicate with the Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature, do so only in coordination with Idaho Division of Veterans Services.
- Coordinate with medical providers for future opportunities.
- Albertson Foundation may begin to shift focus to support health-related initiatives.
- Since the launch of the Plan, the agency now has defined the two stands of work here: creative aging and creative arts therapies.
- Creative aging is in place in three Idaho Veterans Homes. We will initiate it in the fourth Home (Post Falls.) We have committed to funding the residencies for FY 2024.
- Boise VA now has a creative arts therapist on staff.