



MINUTES for Monday, November 4, 2019, 5:36 PM – 7:10 PM

Location: Concord Police Department Community Room

Located at 1350 Galindo Street, Concord, CA

Commissioners Present: Silvia Ledezma, District I; Beverly Kumar, District II Elizabeth Wood, District IV; Teresa Snook O’Riva, District V; LaMar Anderson, At-Large; Joan D’Onofrio, At-Large; Lanita Mims, At-Large

Commissioners Absent: Y’Anad Burrell, At-Large; District II; PJ Shelton, District III; Pearl Parmelee Cabrera, Alternate

Staff Present: Roger Renn, AC5 Managing Director

Guests/Visitors Present: Brennan DeFrisco, CA Poets in the Schools Contra Costa County Coordinator.

Call to Order:

Vice-Chairperson Ledezma called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM.

Public Comment:

Brennan DeFrisco, CA Poets in the Schools Contra Costa County Coordinator, spoke about California Poets in the Schools desire to have a Youth Poet Laureate in Contra Costa County. He would like to work with the Commission to obtain funding and bring the program to Contra Costa County.

Approval of the October 7th, 2019 Minutes

Minutes for the October 7th Commission meeting were approved with the addition that Robin Moore spoke about the Poetry Out Loud program for the 2019-2020 school year.

- MOTION MADE: Commissioner Wood moved that the October 7th, 2019 Commission meeting minutes be approved.
MOTION SECONDED: Commissioner Kumar
ABSTAINED: none
IN FAVOR: All
- ✓ MOTION PASSED

Arts Recognition Awards Reception

Commissioner Wood reported that the presentation before the Board of Supervisors went well. A certificate of recognition by the Board of Supervisors was given at the October 22 BOS meeting to all of recipients of the 2019 Arts Recognition Awards. Supervisors made positive remarks about the recipients in their districts. Afterwards a small reception was held in a conference room where past recipients returned to congratulate this year’s awardees. A thank you to Commissioner Wood for the donation of refreshments.

Commissioner Snook O’Riva confirmed that Friends of AC5 would be responsible for the larger reception/fundraiser set for January 19th. More information would be given at the January 6th Commission meeting.

Communication Committee Report

Commissioner Kumar reported that she had been using Facebook to advance the work of AC5. She reported that Facebook is good for three reasons: 1.) to promote events, 2.) for awareness that re-directs the user back to the AC5 website, 3.) and to give support by aliening with art groups. By taking text and images right off the AC5 website she was able to create current postings.

Culture Planning Committee Report

There was no report from the Culture Planning Committee, however, the Managing Director encouraged all Commissioners to read the prospectus. Ideas were solicited from Commissioners as to how to move from the prospectus to development of the Cultural plan. One idea was to review cultural plans written by cities inside and outside the County.

Art Cafés

No work schedule was presented. Vice-Chairperson Ledezma tabled the discussion until Commissioner Cabrera is in attendance.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Burrell: submitted a written reported that in September she met with Supervisor John Gioia's office to discuss appointing a AC5 Liaison to the County. She researched cultural plans throughout California, attend Healthy Richmond meeting for continued conversation about an art exhibit/show in West County Health Center, attended the Mental Health Services Act Team Committee meeting about an art exhibit/show in West County Health Center, attended the Art of Living Black info session at the Richmond Art Center and attended the Spirit & Soul Festival – Richmond Main Street.

Commissioner Anderson: Reported that he attended Concord City Council meeting, the District Attorney Clinic and the Hall of Fame event in October.

Commissioner Snook O'Riva: Reported that she attended the Hallo-wine event and Food Truck at Four Fools winery where there was live music and art. Commissioner Snook O'Riva supported marketing and logistics for Art of Health and Healing (AHH) teenage art in health program, targeting good health and reducing teen suicide. On her vacation trip to South Korea she took dozens of pictures of public art in South Korea and Taiwan. Picture will be posted on Facebook. She also helped with marketing for Side by Side by Sondheim the last weekend in September in Kensington and is currently working on outreach for Tim Wise Anti-Racism lecture and social justice symposiums in Kensington. Commissioner Snook O'Riva is also supporting the outreach efforts for AHH Tree of Balance event Saturday, November 9th, from 5:30-8:30 pm at the Brushstrokes Art Studio in Berkeley. She will see the Youth Holiday concert December 8th and the Sing Along Messiah (by Handel) on December 22 at 5 pm.

Commissioner Wood: Reported the following activities for October; Assisted Christine Swarmer with her son's, Mario, premiere showing of his documentary and her book "Raising Mario Twice". Helped Ms. Swarmer contact CCCVT and other contacts to promote the Premiere. Approximately 150 attended. Attended an Art shows at aRts Cottage in Concord and distributed her business cards.

Finished tabulating the Arts Recognition Award Judges Rating Forms. Finished notifying all nominators via email, and followed-up with personal letters. Completed the Press release and sent it to the Managing Director for review, editing and posting. Wrote the Resolutions for the BOS and sent them to Julia Taylor for review, editing and processing. Confirmed the room for the small reception. Answered several phone calls and emails regarding the Presentation and information on parking, etc.

Sent emails to Senator Steve Glazer, Assemblypersons Jim Frazier (Easy County) Tim Grayson (Central County) and Rebecca Bauer- Kahan (San Ramon) advising them of the 2019 Recipients. These emails included the recipient's names, and a short bio of each. Senator Glazer and Assemblyperson Grayson prepared joint certificates that were given to the recipients at the reception. Assemblyperson Bauer-Kahan sent Town Hall Theatre a Certificate. Purchased refreshments for the reception at 651 Pine Street. Commissioner Wood gave a HUGE thank you to Commissioners Joan D'Onorio and LaMar Anderson for your help with the set-up of the reception. Attended Town Hall Theatre's 75th Anniversary Gala and re-presented them with their Special Commission Award. Distributed her business cards to a few who were interested in learning more about AC5.

Commissioner Beverly Kumar reported: The San Ramon Valley Unified School District Art Open house I'm organizing for Assembly member Rebecca Baurer-Kahan (AD16) will be held on December 3rd at 5pm in her San Ramon office. The objective of this student show:

- Shine a positive light on the arts in SRVUSD
- Combines student work with an important arts advocacy opportunity
- Provides an opportunity for students to share their work
- Shows an appreciation and commitment to valuing the arts in SRVUSD
- Recognition to student artists and their teachers
- Provides an opportunity for students, families, teachers and the community to connect with their Assemblymember.

It is my hope that we will be able to use this framework to showcase the arts in other school districts in this same fashion.

The Facebook page has been active. I still don't have the other logo that other commissioners were speaking of at the last commission meeting. The Arts Youth Commissioner document received no feedback but from our Chair.

August 27/ attending an Arts Convening for Education at West Contra Costa Unified along with Roger Renn. We learned about the new frame work for the arts in education and integration of the arts in daily lesson plans/subjects that are not affiliated with the arts (like math, for instance). I was excited to speak to others in the county and some art educators in my local district.

- West Contra Costa Unified School District, as of August 18, 2019, became an "Arts Equity" district as adopted by their Board of Trustees.
- As AC5 members, how can we help be a champion for the arts in county school districts?

August 28/participated in the Fall Preview of California Arts Ed Data Release webinar by Create California.

- Create CA is a coalition of dedicated and innovative leaders who understand that together we have the power to create lasting change for every California student. Our mission is to ensure ALL students are able to reach their full potential by advancing an education model that promotes creativity and the arts for the workforce of tomorrow.
- Campaign: "Creativity is not optional!"
- Data released September 19 from schools across the state on a dashboard revealing the percent of students enrolled in the arts.
- "At this rate, it will take 45 years for even half of our students to participate in the arts." –Create California

Commissioner Ledezma: Reported that she participated in the Day of the Dead at the Oakland Museum and has for the past three years. The event has been held for 25 years. The event was held on October 19, and 20th. The Altars and paper-mache decorations are displayed throughout the Museum walkways and in the garden spaces. Every year Richmond High School students and their Principal participant. Ledezma reported that she recited the four directions to open up the Main Altar celebration. Day of the dead has a spiritual meaning and brings together the Community. She received a thank-you card from the Oakland Museum.

There is also an Art Exhibit on the Chicano Movement in one of their galleries.

Request for Agenda items for October meeting

- Cultural Planning
- Brown Act & Commissioner role
- Attendance of Commission Meeting
- Youth Commissioner DRAFT Document
- Program & budget review of the year

Meeting Adjournment

Vice-Chair Ledezma adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.