



CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
**FUNDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 11, 2012
CITY HALL, Hearing Room 2
(One Frank Ogawa Plaza, 1st Floor)

1. Call to Order / Determination of Quorum

A meeting of the Funding Advisory Committee (FAC) was held in City Hall, Hearing Room 2, located at One Frank Ogawa Plaza, 1st Floor, Oakland, CA 94612. The meeting convened at 5:41pm. A quorum was not established. Co-chair Marc Vogl chaired the meeting.

Present: Anyka Barber, Suki O’Kane, Marc Vogl
Absent: Ted Russell, Khan Wong, Lori Zook
Staff: Denise Pate (Interim Cultural Funding Program Coordinator), Steven Huss (Cultural Arts Manager)

2. Open Forum *(total time available: 15 minutes)*

There were no speakers during Open Forum.

3. Welcome and Introduction of New FAC member-Anyka Barber

4. Action Item- Approval of December 15, 2011 minutes.

Minutes could not be approved as there was no quorum present.

5. Discussion Item – Staff Report

Denise Pate: Reported that applicant response to the funding recommendations made in the December 15, 2011 FAC meeting was generally favorable. Most applicants calling the CFP office have expressing their appreciation for the FAC’s funding allocations.

Steven Huss: Answered questions about the recent court decision that dissolves redevelopment agencies across the state, and its impact on the Cultural Arts & Marketing Division. Oakland has relied heavily upon redevelopment funding to support general staffing, special projects, 17 police officers, and some Cultural Arts & Marketing staff. Many Public Art projects are also funded through Redevelopment. Loss of this funding stream will put an increased strain on the City’s General Purpose Fund and the Cultural Funding grants allocation may be at risk. Current-year grant recommendations are pending;

however, the Budget Office may propose a reduction to the General Fund allocation. Transient Occupancy Tax receipts for the CFP grants are close to the projected goal of \$200K for the year. Life Enrichment Committee review of the grant recommendations is tentatively scheduled for February 14, with City Council approval tentatively scheduled for February 21.

6. **Discussion/Informational Item** –**Proposed formation of FAC subcommittee to assess options for contracting out Cultural Funding Program panel review and grant disbursement process vs. prospects of continuing administration by staff.** Steve shared his research involving investigating the cost and efficiency of contracting out CFP panel review and grant disbursement. He explained that it is a bifurcated process that involves the review of applications grants and approval of recommendations, and the contracting and distribution of funds. Since the City would continue to be responsible for oversight of the process, there is more expense than originally anticipated. Steve informed the committee that he will recommend that the City resumes funding one staff position, since it will cost more to contract the process out. There was further discussion regarding the overall grants process. Staff will seek approval to distribute grant funds through direct payment, rather than require grantees to go through the City’s cumbersome contracting process. Member Marc Vogl suggested that FAC design a survey that will poll applicants/grantees from the past two years regarding changes in the amount of eligible funding for their organization, to the effect of: *How would you respond to the following options changes in the level of funding from OCF: (1) Allocation as a flat fee based on budget size? Or (2) Determine the category allocation based on the size of the pool?* Member Suki O’Kane volunteered to help with this grantee survey, and will draft questions. She will send a draft to the committee by the end of January. Member Anyka Barber inquired how FAC interfaces or does advocacy as it relates to City Council. Suki said that FAC’s job is to align with/support staff, and some FAC members have spoken on behalf of the Cultural Funding Program to City Council.
7. **Discussion Item** – Review/evaluation of December 15, 2011 Allocation meeting.
8. **Discussion Item** – Fill current FAC vacancy; discussion of possible candidates. Denise reported that Nicole Kyauk of the East Bay Community Foundation had been contacted as a possible nominee for the next FAC vacancy. The committee also noted that several current FAC members will be terming out within the next few months. Several additional names were brought forward. It was suggested that staff ask FAC member Khan Wong and former FAC members to suggest possible nominees. Marc suggested Sally Garbarini from Pixar, who was interim executive director at Killing My Lobster and worked with New Langton Arts. The FAC members present agreed that it would be favorable if candidates have experience as working artists or grant makers, or knowledge of grant making.
9. **Announcements**- Next FAC meeting- April 11, 2012.
10. **Adjourn** – Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.