

MARIN COUNTY CULTURAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Marin Center, San Rafael, California

Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday, October 24, 2018

ROLE CALL

PRESENT: Commissioners Marge Bartolini, Helen Willms, Ann Dickson, Ernie Bergman, Lauren Howard. Director Gabriella C. Calicchio, Deputy Director Marion Boyd, Fair Manager Charlie Barboni, Marketing Manager Libby Garrison, Administrative Assistant Elisa Seppa

ABSENT: Chair Nicole Klock, Commissioners Al Boro, Donna Seager Liberatore, Scott Rowitz, Madeline Nieto Hope

CALL TO ORDER

The Cultural Services Commissioners convened at the Marin Center at 9:32 am.

REVIEW AGENDA

The agenda was approved with no additions or changes.

AYES: ALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 8 and September 26, 2018 Commission Meetings were approved.

AYES: ALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment as no public was present.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Vice Chair Marge Bartolini reported the November Commission meeting would be cancelled.
- Commissioner Al Boro will be honored on December 13 for 50 years of service on the Cultural Services Commission.
- A celebration for the Suzie Pollak, the 2018 Cultural Treasure awardee will be held on December 21 preceding the Windham Hill event.

DIRECTORS REPORT

MARIN CENTER PROCESSING FEE:

- On July 10 processing fees of \$6 for shows in the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium and \$3 for shows in the Showcase Theater were implemented for in person ticket sales, the same as is charged for online and phone ticket sales.
- 58% of ticket sales are sold online for events at Marin Center.
- Marin Center's processing fees are comparable to similar facilities in the area. Director has met with many event producers regarding possibly shifting from a flat fee to a percentage of ticket price and has had positive feedback.

2019 FAIR UPDATE:

FAIR CREATIVE – LIBBY GARRISON:

- 2019 Marin County Fair theme is *Over the Moon!* in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the moon landing.

- Marin County artist Debbie Patrick, who was the 2017 Marin County Fair artist of the year, was commissioned to create original themed artwork for the fair poster. Graphic artist Mark Shepherd will aide in the digital components of the poster creative.

FAIR SPONSORSHIPS – CHARLIE BARBONI:

- Fair Manager asked Commissioners who have previously provided sponsorships to the Fair to renew their donations and encouraged them to find new sponsors.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT UPDATE – LIBBY GARRISON:

- Tour programming for the Civic Center building has continued to grow and is very successful. All Commissioners were welcomed to attend a tour. Educational tours and core curriculum programming for third through fifth graders in the fields of science, engineering, and English language arts have continued to increase in interest and content.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CULTURAL TREASURES:

- 2018 Cultural Treasure recipient Suzie Pollak will be honored at Windham Hill concert on December 21.
- Committee is exploring different possibilities for future cultural treasure programming to increase fundraising / community involvement, revamp the selection process, and broaden the pool of potential recipients.
- The perpetual plaques for the Cultural Treasure awardees are being revamped so there will be one located in the Marin Veterans’ Auditorium and one in the Exhibit Hall building at the Marin Center.
- Possibility of commissioning a Marin County artist to create small sculptures to present to Cultural Treasure recipients.

COUNTYWIDE ART & CULTURE PLAN:

- Over 22 discussion groups from different sectors of the communities in Marin County were conducted, including artists, students, parents, multi-faceted program managers, etc. Forums within each of the 5 supervisorial districts drew 30 – 70 participants at each.
- Great turnout and feedback overall, with a standout across all being the need for an arts council.

EXHIBITS REPORT:

- The Bartolini Gallery will host an exhibit of the Marin Photography Club beginning in November. Marty Knapp will be showcased in the Friends of Marin Center Conference Room gallery. An exhibition titled ‘Inside Insights’ will share artworks from San Quentin inmates and instructors. Upcoming 2019 shows to include Rising Stars high school artists, showcases of work by Cara Brown, Millicent Tomkins, Kay Russell, Latin artists of Marin County, Peter Jablonski, Marin Society of Watercolors, Marin City artists, and more.

OTHER:

- Director reported hiring a new assistant as well as a Rental Client Coordinator. Both are MCA employees.
- Interviews for an Administrative Services Manager are underway.
- The new CEO of the Marin Farmer’s Markets and the new manager of the San Rafael Embassy Suites will both be invited to speak to the Cultural Services Commission regarding future changes and collaboration opportunities.

- Possible opportunities to partner with the Novato Space Station Museum for the 2019 Marin County Fair.
- Fair Manager and Staff are working on 2018 Western Fairs Association awards.
- The Marin Center will host a Holiday Boutique November 27 – December 7 featuring past and new Marin based artists and artisans.
- The Western Fairs Conference will be held in Reno, NV in January 2019. All Commissioners invited to attend.
- New Marin Cultural Commission members to be appointed at the end of January 2019.
- New benches for the Bartolini Gallery have been installed.
- Two events will be held for Veterans’ Day on November 11, including 100th anniversary of Armistice Day.

IDENTIFY ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

- Presentation by Farmers Market Executive Director
- Fair VIP Tent
- Veterans’ Day event Report

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am.

The next Commission meeting will take place on January 9, 2019 in the Friends of Marin Center Conference Room at the Marin Center, beginning at 9:30 am.



Gabriella C. Calicchio, Director