MARIN COUNTY CULTURAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Via Webex, Marin Center, San Rafael, California Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday, April 22, 2020

ROLE CALL

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PRESENT: Chair Donna Seager Liberatore, Commissioners Marge Bartolini, Helen Willms, Ann Dickson, Ernie Bergman, Jennifer Wexler, Al Boro. Director Gabriella C. Calicchio, Fair Manager Charlie Barboni, Marketing Manager Libby Garrison, Admin Assistant Elisa Seppa

ABSENT: Commissioners Lauren Howard, Madeline Nieto Hope, Chris Owen

CALL TO ORDER

The Cultural Services Commission convened via Webex at 9:34 am.

REVIEW AGENDA

The agenda was approved with no additions or changes.

AYES: ALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 26, 2020 Commission Meetings were approved.

AYES: ALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Chair Seager Liberatore expressed appreciation to Marin Center and Marin County Fair Staff for their efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Director Calicchio read synopsis of documents pertaining to AB 1499 funds (New Fair Funds). Under Governor Newsom's executive order N-40-20, distribution of AB 1499 funds may be distributed to fairs for this year / during the COVID-19 crisis. The distribution of this State funding requires Commission approval of the following documents –

AB 1499 FUNDS (ATTACHMENT A):

 Resolution and terms regarding manner and work conditions to determine eligibility of Marin County Fair to receive sales & use tax allocation funds for 2020.
 AYES: ALL

GENERAL SUPPORT ALLOCATION / BOARD APPROVED POLICIES:

O Terms and conditions of the grant for general support by which the Commission / Marin County Fair agree to comply. Funds are distributed based on class (size) of fair. Marin County Fair is a Class 4 Fair. This would entail \$165,600 to cover direct losses/expenses, payroll, utility, loan operations, etc as specified.

AYES: ALL

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN CDFA AND COUNTY OF MARIN (ATTACHMENT B):

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Terms and conditions of the grant for general support by which the CDFA and Marin County Fair agree to comply. All relevant documents / stipulations to be agreed upon by both parties were reviewed for approval.

AYES: ALL

DIRECTORS REPORT

FAIR CANCELLATION

- Director Calicchio reported she has been working with Doctor Matt Willis and Doctor Lisa Santora, Director and Deputy Director in the Marin County Public Health Department. The ban on mass gatherings will not be lifted in the foreseeable future.
- Deputy Director of Public Health, Dr. Santora sent a letter to Director Calicchio declaring the Marin Center and fairgrounds a vital resource for use as an emergency facility during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. This directive included cancellation of all events at the Marin Center campus through July 31, 2020, including the Marin County Fair.
- EOC Director Supervisor Judy Arnold followed with an official order adopted by the Marin County Board of Supervisors on April 21, 2020.
- All Marin County employees in nonessential roles have been deployed as disaster service workers (DSW) since March 11 / ongoing.
- In preparation, Director Calicchio halted fair contracts as of the beginning of March. The only large contract that had been executed was Wilson Events booking the headline entertainment. The letter from Doctor Santora and the ratified order from the Marin County Board of Supervisors activated the force majeure clauses in the entertainment contracts.
- Communication was prepared and sent out immediately to all fair partners including vendors, sponsors, staff, grounds entertainment etc. Responses have been very supportive and understanding, albeit disappointed.
- Major loss of revenue for the Fair and loss of work for extra hire Staff who depend on the Fair for a large part of their income.
- Director Calicchio announced Fair Manager Barboni will be retiring as of July 31, 2020.
- Fair sponsors are being offered the option of still donating funds for 2020, transferring funds to 2021 fair, or a full refund.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ART IN THE PARKS:

• Nothing to report.

<u>ART EXHIBITS / FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT UPDATE – LIBBY GARRISON:</u>

- The Frank Lloyd Wright docent led tours of the Civic Center have been postponed for the
 foreseeable future. A Frank Lloyd Wright Doghouse handout has been designed for
 students who take school tours. This is an addition to the curriculum and lesson plans
 available on the website.
- Exhibits at the Marin Center / Marin Civic Center have been deinstalled and are being held until lift of the shelter in place mandate and it is safe to coordinate release of artworks.

<u>VETERANS' AFFAIRS REPORT – ERNIE BERGMAN</u>:

• Regular Marin County Veteran's meetings and events have been cancelled or changed to digital when available due to the shelter in place mandates.

1 2 3 4 5	 OTHER: Marketing Manager Garrison, deployed as DSW response team for the Covid-19 hotline, reported community concern, disappointment, support upon announcement of 2020 Marin County Fair cancellation. Positive response to our marketing and efforts to reach out to community. Possibility of 'virtual fair' contests. Fair Manager Barboni reported all 2020 fair exhibitors, entertainers, etc have been very supportive and understanding of cancellation. Many have expressed how meaningful the annual fair is to them. All Commissioners expressed support, appreciation of Fair Manager Barboni for all he has done during his time leading the Marin County Fair.
7 8 9	 Marin Center campus / public information updates 2020 Marin County Fair – Digital Competitions Marin Center Meetings structure going forward (Request this item be held for the next inperson meeting. Ayes: All)
10	ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 am.
11	The next Commission meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 27 via digital platform, beginning at 9:30 am.
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18	Gabriella C. Calicchio, Director
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