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MARIN COUNTY CULTURAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Via Zoom, Marin Center, San Rafael, California
Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday, May 27, 2020

ROLE CALL

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

ABSENT: Commissioners Al Boro, Lauren Howard, Madeline Nieto Hope

CALL TO ORDER

The Cultural Services Commission convened via Zoom Videoconference at 9:36 am.

REVIEW AGENDA

The agenda was approved with no additions or changes.

AYES: ALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 22, 2020 Commission Meetings were approved.

AYES: ALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public.

CHAIR'S REPORT

No Chair Report.

DIRECTORS REPORT

MARIN COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE

- Director Calicchio reported there are currently 134 cases of COVID-19 in Marin, increasing daily. By counties in California, Marin is currently 16th in number of COVID-19 cases and 14th in number of COVID-19 related deaths. Director Calicchio stressed the importance of continuing to wear masks and socially distance.
- Operations at Marin Center remain focused on the POT (testing site). Testing across Marin County averaging over 200 per day. Increased availability of testing has contributed to the increased number of positive cases. Expanding testing helps to determine where case are coming from (lately grocery stores, etc). The loosening of restrictions could also be contributing to the spike in cases. Testing is free; anyone who has contact with the pubic is encouraged to be tested.
- The Additional Care Site staged in the Exhibit Hall of the Marin Center is fully prepared but not currently activated.
- Marin Center is coordinating with various local public schools in the County to hold drive through graduations at Marin Center campus. SRPD and other community participants offering support and collaboration to create a positive experience for the graduating students.

MARINRECOVERS.COM

- Marinrecovers.com site has been created in conjunction with public health to offer current information and assistance to businesses affected by the COVID-19 crisis.

1 Marinrecovers.com offers site specific plans for businesses reopening / mandated
2 reopening parameters and information to post at their locations. The initial overarching
3 ‘phasing’ plans for reopening are being listened / handled on a case by case basis.

- Director Calicchio is leading the site’s hotel and hospitality section, which is expanding to include short term rentals and RV/campgrounds. Director Calicchio and Marketing Manager Garrison are co-leading the Arts sector.

4 **2020 VIRTUAL FAIR – LIBBY GARRISON**

- Marketing Manager Garrison is coordinating the digital Marin County Fair with the assistance of intern Andie Davis. The community response and engagement has been very positive. Currently in week 4, weekly contests have included decorated masks, decorated cakes/cookies, haiku/poetry, family dance/funny family photos. Some schools have been utilizing contests as assignments for students. ‘Farm Animal Fridays’ showcasing previous Fair participants, winners, etc with mini videos and demos. Fair entertainers such as the stilt walkers are also providing short video clips. IJ Lobby Lounge performer videos and other community musicians / performers to be showcased.

9 **FAIR FUNDING**

- **AB 1499 FUNDS**

10 The \$165k payment of AB1499 Funds was received for 2020 Marin County Fair.

- **2020 FAIR BUDGET**

11 General State Allocation Funds for the Marin County Fair FY 19/20 of approximately
12 \$37k requires Commission approval of the 2020 Fair budget. 2020 Fair Budget was
13 estimated from 2019 actuals which shows a \$30k surplus. The fair funds for 2021
14 would be at approximately whole with the addition of the General State Allocation
15 Funds. The Commission voted to approve the 2020 Marin County Fair Budget.

AYES: ALL

- **CA FAIR ALLIANCE CALL TO ACTION – CHARLIE BARBONI**

15 State budget cuts could be a huge impact on Fair funding going forward. Fair Manager
16 Barboni reported on the California Fairs Alliance whose members are working to
reach out to all who participate and benefit from the Fair and Fairgrounds asking them
to reach out to Congress on the Fair’s behalf.

17 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

18 **ART IN THE PARKS:**

- Marin County Parks, Marin MOCA, and Marin Center are working on a collaboration with artist Jeff Downing. The artist is planning a sculptural installation in the Marin Center Lagoon focusing on global warming. The project is planned for later in the summer.

20 **ART EXHIBITS / FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT UPDATE – LIBBY GARRISON:**

- The majority of the exhibits at the Marin Center / Marin Civic Center have been deinstalled and coordination of release of artworks is in process. All upcoming exhibits are on hold until there is confirmation of the Marin Center facilities reopening.
- The Frank Lloyd Wright docent led tours of the Civic Center have been postponed through at minimum July / pending lifts on restrictions of nonessential travel/gatherings.

24 **VETERANS’ AFFAIRS REPORT – ERNIE BERGMAN:**

- Regular Marin County Veteran’s meetings and events have been cancelled or changed to digital when available due to the shelter in place mandates.
- Memorial Day celebration was held digitally.

- Veterans' Day celebration will likely be held digitally in November.

POET LAUREATE:

- Poet Laureate Terry Lucas has resigned. Fair Manager Barboni to forward Lucas' resignation letter on to the Commission so they can pass along their thanks and regards.

OTHER:

- Commissioner Wexler working with Marin artists to create virtual art studios.
- Discussion on how Commission can assist / provide resources for musicians and music venues. Director Calicchio noted there is an art & cultural recovery fund being developed. MCA website lists avenues for assistance for artists as well.
- Virtual Marin Open Studios will occur this month as scheduled.
- Discussion regarding creating an information sheet for distribution explaining what the Commission does and can offer people. Chair Seager Liberatore to draft.

IDENTIFY ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

- There will be no June meeting as it is typically during setup for the Marin County Fair.
- Next Commission meeting scheduled for July. Items for July meeting to be determined closer to the date.

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

The next Commission meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 22 (TBD via digital platform or in person), beginning at 9:30 am.



Gabriella C. Calicchio, Director