

HAWAI'I STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
Communications Committee Meeting
250 South Hotel Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Multipurpose Room, First Floor
Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherman Warner, Committee Chairperson
Joel Guy, Vice-Chair
Eva Rose Washburn-Repollo, Oahu Commissioner
Noelle Kahanu, Oahu Commissioner, at-Large
Karen Tiller-Polivka, Oahu Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT: Jane Clement, Hawai'i Commissioner
Patricia Hamamoto, Oahu Commissioner, at-Large
Michael Moore, Maui Commisisoner
Dean Sakamoto, Oahu Commissioner, at-Large

HSFCA STAFF
PRESENT: Jonathan Johnson, Executive Director
Karen Ewald, APP Manager
James Gonser, Information Specialist
Henny Saraswati, Secretary

- 1. Call to order**
The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by committee Chairperson Warner.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda**
Commissioner Warner move to amend the agenda by adding updates from the executive director before the statements from the public.

Commissioner Karen Tiller-Polivka moved to approve the agenda as amended, followed by a second from Commissioner Guy. The agenda for the meeting was carried unanimously.

Executive Director Jonathan Johnson update the following updates:

Legislation Updates: SB2766 relating to Military in the Arts: He noted the purpose is to encourage relevant programming and partnerships between arts organizations and military bases in the State, military organizations, and veterans' assistance agencies to provide greater access to the arts for active duty military members, veterans, and their families, and to make a significant contribution to the quality of life of the State's military community.

Mr. Johnson announced that there will be a dedication ceremony for “Illumination Mundi Naturalis”, a cast concrete and glass mosaic sculpture by Artist Karen Lucas at Ewa Makai Middle School in Ewa Beach, February 17 at 2-3 p.m.

He announced to the committee that the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) Chairman Jane Chu was scheduled to attend the SFCA reception on February 18, 2016. US Senate Mazi Hirono is scheduled to attend as well.

Mr. Johnson stated that Jane Chu will visit Pōmaika‘i Elementary School and Maui Art & Cultural Center (MACC) in Maui. Commissioner Moore will be there representing the SFCA. On Saturday, February 20 Chairman Chu will be doing a site visit with Kapa artist Dalani Tanahy, Chairman Chu will give remarks at the 53rd Annual Hawaii Regional Scholastic Arts Awards Exhibition at the Hawaii State Art Museum. Prior to the ceremony, Chairman Chu will see the exhibition of student art work in the Diamond Head Turnaround Gallery. On February 21, Chairman Chu will give remarks at the Poetry Out Loud Hawaii State Finals. On Monday Chairman will visit Turnaround Arts School Kalihi Kai Elementary.

3. Statements from the Public

There were no statements from the public

4. Approval of Minutes from January 20, 2016

5. Goal: communications and advocacy strategies to enhance SFCA’s support of artists, arts group, cultural groups and cultural practitioners

The committee discussed the SFCA website and Facebook page.

Commissioner Warner said we did a good job promoting activities and programs in HiSAM, but how do we communicate with legislators, support organization with NASAA, WESTAF and other state agencies? How do we provide the public with the informative tool, with studies, with sample letters, sample articles, etc. to enable them to become better advocates for the arts?

Commissioner Kahanu expressed enthusiasm for such as a partnership as this will bring a great opportunity for SFCA and for arts advocate.

Mr. Johnson suggested to the committee having a breakfast prior the next Board meeting. He noted that the “art chat” purpose would be to convene arts leaders to share successes and challenges with the goal to collaborate, engage and build a strong arts community.

Commissioner Kahanu agreed. She encouraged having a gathering once a month on regular day. The idea is to talk among the people in the community. We want broader collaboration for arts impact.

Commissioner Tiller-Polivka agreed. We need to talk about specific topics with smaller organizations. She indicated that the relationship with SFCA is important.

Commissioner Kahanu spoke on her experience at Arts Marks Garage with Hawaii Opera Theatre partnership presenting the Lofts events at Chinatown Artist-Lofts. The construction zones is more momentum such as their performances, screenings and the workshops – an assortment of visual arts and creative groups who host events. Local programming, and projects.

Commissioner Guy agreed we should gathering people in the community once a month.

Commissioner Tiller-Polivka suggested having a conversation about the arts on the SFCA website to build connection with the community.

Commissioner Hamamoto discussed the possibility gathering for convening. She would like to find out more about identifying advocacy issues that are consistent with the SFCA strategic plan. How are we doing with the Chinatown group? We need to strengthen the arts community in Chinatown and find out from them.

Commissioner Warner agreed. He said it could be a model for similar collaborations. Commissioner Tiller-Polivka thinks it will be useful for people to see us in action and to have a conversation about their concerns.

Commissioner Warner suggested collaborating within cultural groups to create an annual one-line marketing and advocacy theme for the arts.

Commissioner Kahanu spoke on her experience when she attended the WESTAF seminar in Denver. In that seminar, the arts organizations shared their successes and challenges with all participants. She thinks a similar local discussion would be valuable.

Commissioner Warner spoke of his experience when he and Chair Hamamoto talked to Cinda Holt of the Montana Art Council; her role these is to aid Montana arts organizations developing business plans and assisting with strategic planning. Commissioner Hamamoto said that we can maximize our service to the arts by having more relationships and partnerships.

Commissioner Tiller-Polivka noted there is a State Arts Action Network within Americans for the Arts that continually looks forward, involving other strategic partners and alliances. In their strategic plan, they identify the need for statewide advocacy organizations and a statewide service organization in every state. She said we would have to manage it.

6. Discussion: how SFCA can empower and inform artists, arts groups, the public, and elected officials to become more effective advocates for the arts

Commissioner Warner said that the sample tool kits of issues such as: art in the school and culture would help our advocacy work. He noted that this legislative session would focus on ‘homelessness.’ We should look at ways the arts can be part of the solution.

Commissioner Kahanu said we can share NEA's new grants announcement with arts organizations and the art community. There are people who interested in what SFCA id doing to promote opportunities for artists to show. Commissioner Warner said on the SFCA website there are quick links web pages about Opportunities for Artists such as CAFÉ Call for Entry, Art in Public Places Collection, Public Art Archive etc., but how can we encourage other organization in their newsletters to including a link to our site so that people can sign up to be on the SFCA mailing list. Mr. Johnson said that we published e-news and upcoming events on our Facebook page as well.

7. Discussion: strategies to enhance communication and outreach to the business community

Commissioner Warner stated that the broader goal is to encourage support of the arts. Commissioner Tiller-Polivka added that the other goals to encourage support with the community, business leader and Arts Community Services. She indicated that within 10 years the industry is going to be different. There is a whole conversation to be had with the business leaders.

Commissioner Warner suggested convening business people, like Duncan MacNaughton, who might be willing to meet to talk about the relationship of business and the arts in Hawaii.

Commissioner Tiller-Polivka gave another sample: Hawaiian Airlines talked about what the Hawaiian Islands will look like in 10 years.

Commissioner Kahanu noted that there are also small businesses that have arts interest and might open their spaces to gallery installations. We could convene those business to discuss such a plan.

Commissioner Karen Tiller-Polivka thinks there is an opportunity for a pop-up image gallery as part of presentations at conventions. Commissioner Kahanu said that at big conferences such as those organized by Hawaii Tourist Authority, SFCA would try to get on those agendas.

Commissioner Kahanu asked how we can begin to put together our goals in the community and how we move forward. She said we agree that we are an advocacy organization. Mr. Johnson said advocacy is a strategic priority.

Commissioner Washburn-Repollo asked if there is any list of organization in SFCA. Mr. Johnson commented that we have list of organization that we fund such as for federal grantee list.

Commissioner Tiller-Polivka commented that tomorrow, the event with the Director of the National Endowment for the Arts is the beginning point in convening and engaging business partners, and other community partners.

Commissioner Tiller-Polivka indicated that part of the convening and engaging is hearing from the community what they need. Commissioner Hamamoto noted that there is a lot of support for the arts in the business community.

8. Discussion: advocacy strategies to support arts in education

Commissioner Warner said that we need more arts in the school, a priority that we can support by assembling supporting information and putting advocacy resource materials online.

Commissioner Kahanu asked how do we distinguish between relations and our conversation? How does the commission proceed toward a goal? Mr. Johnson commented that prior to the last 4 years this has been occurred during the strategic planning. He noted it happens every 3-4 years that the community convenes this kind of issue.

Commissioner Washburn-Repollo spoke on her experience with the UH library that turned very positive by continuing partnership, training, coffee chat, getting more people to come, starting a big show such as Philippine Opera Theatre. They bring guests and more people so they can see the collection. Commissioner Warner noted that convening is important, not just representing the voices.

9. Discussion: SFCA as a convener of arts and cultural groups to develop and advocate for a common agenda

Commissioner Kahanu expressed thoughts about rebuilding the arts community and collaborating what we want to accomplish.

10. Action: Establish Goals and Near Term Action

Commissioner Warner indicated short list: (1) convening and engaging our arts organization; (2) Long-range planning – legislative platform in business community, (3) advocate arts in the school, (4) arts and cultures, (5) empowering people in the public to support the arts, (6) giving tools to people.

The committee agreed to forward report to the full commission for approval. The motion was carried unanimously.

11. Announcements – Next Communication Meeting: follow up after March 16, 2016 after breakfast.

Discussion:

The committee discussed having breakfast –prior the Board commission meeting in March.

The next breakfast meeting would be the Wednesday of April 13, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

12. Adjournment

Commissioner Kahanu moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Washburn-Repollo. The motion was carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Henny Saraswati
Secretary