

STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
General Board Committee Meeting*
250 South Hotel Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Physical Meeting Location: Multipurpose Resource Room, First Floor
Remote Meeting Location: Video Conference or Telephone

Monday, November 03, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Members Present

Konrad Ng, Chairperson, Janet Sato, Maui, Susana Browne, At-Large; Randall Fujiki, At-Large; Michael Marshall, At-Large; Marcia Roberts-Deutsch, At-Large; Randall Francisco, Kauai.

Member Absent

Sean Connelly, At-Large.

SFCA Staff Present

Karen Ewald, Executive Director; Melly Wilson, Administrative Services Assistant, Rhiannon Keene, Administrative Assistant, Mamiko Carroll, information specialist.

Others Present

Ian Roberston, Deputy Attorney General and Cassie Ordonio.

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Konrad Ng called the meeting to order at 11:01 A.M.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Chairperson Konrad Ng called the determination of quorum for the Executive Director to lead. All Commissioners were present, Sean Connelly at 11:07 A.M.

3. Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Susana Browne and seconded by Marcia Roberts-Deutsch. The motion to approve the agenda was approved unanimously at 11:12 A.M.

4. Public Testimony on Agendized Items

Chairperson Konrad Ng called for any public testimony. There were none at 11:15 A.M.

5. Items for Discussion and Consideration

5.a. Discussion on Draft Strategic Plan for 2025-2029

Konrad Ng reminded the full board of the importance of the meeting which was for the commissioners feedback and input prior to the general meeting on November 21, 2025. It was reiterated that GUILD consulting did much of the work with SFCA staff through community listening sessions and surveys. There was a request to have in the document a more accurate list of how many groups and individuals were contacted and interviewed.

Karen Ewald read through the format of the draft plan which included the Director and Chair messages.

Commissioner Fujiki discussed the importance of stating the impact of percent for art funding from CIP projects and the works of art commissioned and acquired from that program.

Commissioner Marshall spoke of the diversity of the arts and culture community in Hawaii and the need to state that the SFCA serves all cultures in the state, honoring diversity. He requested to have that language included in the plan, possibly the Why the Arts Matter section. There was discussion on what was presented as Land Acknowledgement and if it was necessary, as it had not been in former strategic plans. It was concluded that this would be necessary for the plan, however the need for more consultation and editing of verbiage was necessary. Commissioner Francisco suggested to have staff look into wording such as “Sense of Place” as the words “Land Acknowledgement” are not used as often in plans. Commissioner Roberts-Deutsch discussed some options of organizations to refer to and offered to help in this effort. Commissioner Browne emphasized the need to include performing arts support in this plan. She also asked to ensure that all written comments to staff on the plan, prior to the meeting were taken in. Karen Ewald confirmed that they were. Commissioner Kuramoto asked about the use of the words Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia, and had concerns on the use of those specific words. There was discussion on rather than that, to use the words “Pacific Community” or something similar. Commissioner Francisco emphasized the need to include not only public school partnerships but also partnerships with the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools. Commissioner Browne described the Arts First Partnership and their communication and collaboration with the HAIS. There was discussion on the use of Artificial Intelligence being inserted into the plan, as this would be an important subject. Chair Ng encouraged an Artificial Intelligence working group and good strategic planning of an objective than a strategy.

There was discussion on staff implementation after the approval of the plan.

8. Announcements

Karen Ewald announced the next General Board meeting to be held on November 21, 2025 at 12:29 P.M.

9. Adjournment

Chairperson Konrad Ng called for a motion to close the meeting. A motion was made by Randall Fransico and seconded by Janet Sato. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:32 P.M.