

LOUISIANA STATE ARTS COUNCIL

POST OFFICE BOX 44247 BATON ROUGE, LA 70804 (225) 342-8180 PHONE (225) 342-8173 FAX

Quarterly Meeting Minutes Louisiana State Library, Baton Rouge, LA Friday, July 19, 2013

Michael Echols, Chair
Monroe

Rex Alexander
Lake Charles

Marguerite Anderson
West Monroe

Pamela Breaux
Lake Charles

Pamela Bryan
New Orleans

Dwayne Carruth
Baton Rouge

Stephen Carter
Baton Rouge

Karen Courtman
Shreveport

Robert Fisher
La Place

Lagena Gore
Dry Prong

Gerri Hobdy
Baton Rouge

George Marks
Arnaudville

Barbara Motley
New Orleans

Michael D. Robinson
Baton Rouge

Karen Dean Sharp
Sterlington

Larry Eugene Thompson
Winnsboro

Council Members present: Michael Echols, Marguerite Anderson, Pamela Breaux, Dwayne Carruth, Gena Gore, Gerri Hobdy, George Marks, Michael D. Robinson, Larry “Gene” Thompson

Council Members not present: Rex Alexander, Pamela Bryan, Stephen Cater, Karen Courtman, Robert Fisher, Barbara Motley, Karen Sharp

LDOA Staff present: Cathy Hernandez, Dana La Fonta, Kelly Pepper, Gaye Hamilton, Danny Belanger, and Maida Owens

Guests present: Matthew Day

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Chairman Echols called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Michael Robinson, which was seconded by Dwayne Carruth, the minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Echols thanked Gerri Hobdy for her service a chair and presented her with a sculpture by Aaron Hussey. Echols introduced Cathy Hernandez as the new LDOA Director. Hernandez shared her professional background and her work teaching arts administration with Drexel University.

IV. LDOA’s Director’s Report

Cathy Hernandez provided a written report that includes a Legislative Update and an update on the LDOA strategic plan. Hernandez noted that LDOA income and expenses are almost the same as last year. She said that she was working with the staff to incorporate fresh ideas into the strategic plan and will send the revised plan to Council members in August. Hernandez said that she participated in the Louisiana Partnership for the Arts strategic plan meeting. They will be streamlining programs and LDOA staff may take on some projects, including the Presenters Network, which will focus on small presenters who are more likely to present Louisiana artists. Michael Echols agreed that a focus on economic development is appropriate.



State of Louisiana
Office of the
Lieutenant Governor
Department of Culture,
Recreation, Tourism
Office of
Cultural Development

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VI. LDOA Staff Reports

Grant Making—Kelly Pepper reported on the statewide arts grant program and reviewed panel recommendations for the Stabilization Program. She also provided reports on the Decentralized Arts Funding program funding and funding for the Regional Development Agency Performance Plans.

Cultural Districts—Gaye Hamilton reported on the 4 new and 5 expanded cultural districts. She is now reaching out to these new districts and receiving queries about new applicants. The program now has 67 Cultural Districts in 40 towns and 27 parishes. She reported on the 10 Creative Placemaking communities and the coaches working with the communities. Echols recommended branding the program and suggested offering an idea section on the arts website. Hamilton offered an example of successful branding with the Breaux Bridge art project on display in the Welcome Center.

Folklife—Maida Owens referred to her written report and pointed out that work continues on redesigning the Folklife In Louisiana website. NEA Folk Arts Partnership funds will support a workshop in Shreveport for immigrant communities and the beginning of the Baton Rouge Folklife Survey. The New Populations traveling exhibit is in progress with the title, *A Better Life for All: Traditional Arts of Louisiana's Immigrant Communities*.

Percent for Art—Dana LaFonta shared a powerpoint on percent for art projects that include both commissions and direct purchases at Pennington Biomedical Center, LSU Business Education Center, McNeese University Fieldhouse, and LSU Eunice Community Education Center. She referred to her written report on four works in progress. Michael Robinson commended Dana for the way that she handles the panel process. LaFonta thanked Dwayne Carruth for being the LSAC representative on the panels.

Arts in Education—Danny Belanger provided a written report and pointed out the ICI teacher institute which focused on theatre arts and included a folklife session. He also reported on the LA A+ institute by the George Rodrigue Foundation. He explained that both are arts integration, but the LA A+ strategy uses a whole schools model where 85% of the school staff participate.

VII. NASAA Report to Councils, May 2013

Pam Breaux referred to the NASAA report and her written report. She reported that NASAA staff is finalizing plans for NASAA to be in New Orleans in 2014. She pointed out that the Creative Communities Initiative was featured in the NASAA NOTES in July and thanked Gaye and Leon Steele for serving as coaches.

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VIII. LPA/LCA Report

Cathy Hernandez reported that LPA had a strategic planning session in June. They are exploring partnerships with LDOA. Those conversations will be reflected in the LDOA strategic plan.

IX. New Business

Approval of Grants – Chairman

Cathy Hernandez referred Council members to the funding recommendations for the Stabilization Program and requested approval. Gerri Hobby moved and Dwayne Carruth second. The motion passed unanimously. Gene Thompson abstained. Pam Breaux clarified that this is two year funding and distribution of the funds is being decentralized. Gena Gore asked whether applicants receive technical assistance regarding their applications and Kelly Pepper said that it is given upon request. Michael Robinson noted that most Stabilization funding goes to organizations in New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Pam Breaux said that is a fair question. The large organizations eligible for this program tend to be in the larger cities where the population is. George Marks asked how the Stabilization program will be paneled in two years. Pam Breaux said that this is a two-year strategy and strategies for the next round have not been determined. This will free LDOA staff to focus on other aspects of the strategic plan.

X. Public Comment

(None)

XI. Adjournment

Chairman Echols adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.