

LOUISIANA STATE ARTS COUNCIL

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

Quarterly Meeting Minutes Welcome Center, Baton Rouge, LA Friday, October 26, 2012

Council Members present: Gerri Hobdy, Marguerite Anderson, Barbara Motley, Karen Sharp, Michael Echols, Robert Fisher, Michael Robinson, and Pam Breaux.

Council Members absent: Dwayne Carruth, Angela King, Gena Gore, Rex Alexander, Gene Thompson, George Marks, Representative Stephen Carter, Pamela Bryan, and Karen Courtman.

LDOA Staff present: Dana La Fonta, Kelly Pepper, Bethany France, Pearlie J Johnson, and Gaye Hamilton.

Guests: Jim Davis, Office of the State Library; Christie Weeks, Chair of the Louisiana Partnership for the Arts and Louisiana Citizens for the Arts.

I. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 10:13 am by Chairman Hobdy.

Jim Davis was introduced and gave the Council an update of the activities planned for the Louisiana Book Festival this year. Approximately 150 authors will attend the book festival, and Mr. Davis presented highlights of the event, including background on the Louisiana Writer's Award. The council was invited to participate in the weekend's events.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the July 27, 2012 meeting were presented to the Council. There was a motion to approve the minutes as presented by Michael Robinson and seconded by Ms. Barbara Motley. Vote: unanimous for acceptance of the minutes as presented.

Chairman Hobdy exercised Chairman's privilege to acknowledge the passing of Council member Derek Gordon. She also recognized the attendance of council member Robert Fisher, who has been displaced from his home due to hurricane Isaac.

Assistant Secretary Pam Breaux gave an update from the Office of Cultural Development (OCD). The budget request for FY 2014 from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and DCRT was \$4 million for the Arts budget, including a \$2 million request for the Decentralized Arts Funding Program, and \$2 million for Statewide Arts Grants.

Breaux further reported that Culture Connection is scheduled for April 23, 2013. OCD is beginning work on the schedule for the day and an evening awards event. The State Arts Council has been invited to participate in the selection process and the presentation of the arts awards for the event. Next year's arts awards will be a component of Culture

Gerri Hobdy, Chair
Baton Rouge

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

Michael Echols
Monroe

Robert Fisher
La Place

Lagena Gore
Dry Prong

Angela King
New Orleans

George Marks
Arnaudville

Barbara Motley
New Orleans

Michael D. Robinson
Baton Rouge

Karen Dean Sharp
Sterlington

Larry Eugene Thompson
Winnsboro



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

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Connection. Chairman Hobdy reiterated that advocacy has to happen all year long, and how important it will be for the upcoming fiscal year.

III. Committee Reports

a. Advocacy – In the absence of Mr. Marks, the advocacy portion of the agenda was moved to the LPA|LCA agenda item, which will be led by Christie Weeks.

IV. Director's Report

Ms. La Fonta acknowledged Ann Russo's retirement after 28 years, and updated the Council on additional staff changes at the Division. Bethany France has resigned from the Division to take a position as Director of Louisiana A+ Schools with the George Rodrigue Foundation. Ms. La Fonta announced that South Arts, our regional arts service organization, is hiring a new Executive Director who will be announced in November; in addition, Chairman Geri Hobdy has been invited to join the South Arts Board.

Pam Breaux reported to the Council that OCD is launching an initiative on behalf of the Lt. Governor's Office to further the mission of creation and support of Louisiana's creative communities. Ten communities will have the opportunity to receive community coaching through the National Consortium for Creative Placemaking. The model was piloted by Rutgers University and will be replicated in Louisiana. OCD will work in partnership with the Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation to offer this opportunity.

V. LDOA Staff Reports

Ms. Pepper gave an update on the Artist Career Advancement grants program. There were over 200 applicants to the program this round. The applications are currently being reviewed by 18 panelists. In addition to the grants, we are currently developing a Louisiana Musicians roster for promotion during the Lt. Governor's Year of Music initiative (2013). The roster will be online for two years starting in January via www.louisianasoundtrack.com.

Ms. Pepper also gave a report on the ArtsReady project. ArtsReady is a disaster management and business continuity online planning tool developed by South Arts. Ms. Pepper is providing informational sessions throughout the state to provide information about the tool and encourage participation in the project.

Ms. France gave an update on Arts in Education. The ICI arts integration program received a Learning in the Arts Grant from the NEA. Related trainings took place in Breaux Bridge, LA over two days, providing instruction on co-teaching during the arts integration residencies with the eight pilot schools.

Ms. LaFonta gave an overview of the progress on the strategic plan and shared the staff implementation plan and timeline for completion. (The plan was distributed to the Council.)

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VI. NASAA Report

Assistant Secretary Breaux Distributed the NASAA August 2012 *Report to Councils* and briefed the Council on NASAA's role collectively representing state arts agencies nationally, with the NEA and in other sectors. NASAA has created a new advisory group designed to insure deeper and more meaningful partnerships with national leaders and authorizers, including federal executive branch and congressional sectors. The Council was encouraged to connect to NASAA online via the website at www.nasaa-arts.org. If any Council members are having difficulty accessing the site, they should contact Ms. La Fonta, and she will assist.

VII. LPA/LCA Report

Christie Weeks gave a report on the LPA/LCA work since the last Council meeting. The first meetings of the LPA and LCA this fall were held on October 10, 2012. Several members of the board attended the Americans for the Arts (AFTA) annual conference in June, in San Antonio. There was statewide representation from Louisiana at the conference. AFTA unveiled the results of the recent nationwide economic impact study, Arts & Economic Prosperity 4. That information has been posted and can be accessed at the AFTA website at www.artsusa.org.

Ms. Weeks announced that Gerd Wuesteman and Tommy Usrey will co-chair advocacy this year; further, LCA leadership met with Kevin Hayes earlier this month to plan the advocacy strategy for the upcoming fiscal year and legislative session.

VIII. New Business

a. Council Meeting Calendar for 2013

Council reviewed the meeting calendar with proposed dates for 2013. There was discussion around coordinating the April meeting with Culture Connection, which is scheduled for April 23. Council agreed to meet on April 23rd, time and location to be announced. Mr. Robinson requested that we meet at other sites for the LSAC meetings. Staff will look for other locations and consult with the chair. An updated LSAC calendar will be sent out via email.

IX. Public Comment

(None)

X. Adjournment

Motioned to adjourn by Michael Robinson, seconded by Robert Fisher. Meeting adjourned at 12:07pm.