

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION  
ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS COMMITTEE**

February 25, 2010, 10:00 a.m.  
IAC Offices, 100 N. Senate Avenue Rm N505  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Karen Ellerbrook, Chairperson

Minutes

Members present: Karen Ellerbrook, Linda Levell, John DePrez, Donna Catalano, Jeanne Mirro (ex-officio)

Members present via teleconference: Pam Hicks, Irene Smith-King, Dick Stifel, Judy Hess, Terry Whitt Bailey, Jon Ford

IAC Staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Rex Van Zant, Laura Frank, Dennis Hardin

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Ms. Ellerbrook convened the meeting and 10:08 a.m. and welcomed everyone, and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
2. **Consent Agenda.** Mr. DePrez moved to adopt the consent agenda. Mr. Stifel seconded the motion. The motion passed.
3. **IAC Advocacy Update.** Mr. Ricci reported that state senator Vi Simpson had introduced a bill in the current session of the legislature which would have provided certain tax incentives for organizations which have received “cultural district” status from the IAC. Although the bill was not forwarded out of committee, the groundwork has been laid for introduction in the next session, which will be the funding session. The legislature did pass a resolution, sponsored by Representative Eric Koch, recognizing the Indiana Artisan as “the state’s official program to identify, support and promote high quality, handmade items from Indiana” (copy attached). Mr. Ricci also reported that there is no news yet about the size of the IAC portion of the National Endowment for the Arts budget, but he expects to know soon.
4. **State Arts Advocates Update.** Terry Whitt Bailey, president of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts (INCA) reviewed Arts Day at the Statehouse which was held on January 26. A total of 42 legislators attended the event. She thanked IAC chairperson Jeanne Mirro for reading the Advocacy Day proclamation during the ceremonies. INCA presented four Community Arts Leadership (CALA) awards to: Joy Bailey (Arts Advocate), Eric Rogers (Arts Administrator), Miriam Robeson (Arts Volunteer) and Judy Ward (Arts Educator). Ms. Bailey also reported that there was no INCA meeting in February due to inclement weather.
5. **IAC Strategic Planning.** Mr. Ricci reported that the new Strategic Planning process is under way, and the steering committee held its first meeting on February 24. Former IAC chairperson Ron Stratten is facilitator for the new plan process. IAC conducted an on-line survey of persons on IAC and INCA mailing lists, gathering data in a number of areas of awareness of the IAC and

its functions. Mr. Ricci also reported that the Regional Arts Partner system is under review due to the severity of cuts in the state budget, and that the IAC staff has proposed changes which were reviewed by the Committee on the Future at its latest meeting. Lastly he mentioned two workshops which are planned for the spring of 2010 in Indianapolis, to provide organizational tools and funding guidance for small and mid-size arts organizations in the state. Mr. DePrez suggested that community foundations be included in the list of invitees for these workshops.

6. **New Business.** Mr. Van Zant reported on current IAC marketing and communications planning (copy attached) and the report he is preparing for presentation to the Office of Management and Budget.

7. **Old Business.** Ms. Ellerbrook thanked Mr. Van Zant for providing legislative directories for commissioners, and urged everyone to keep in touch with their legislators on a regular basis. Mr. Ricci reminded members of the committee that the determination of the site of the 2011 Governor's Arts Awards has been re-opened since this committee voted at its last meeting to name Indianapolis as the site, due to expected cuts in funding. The full commission, however, decided to allow expressions of interest from possible host towns by contacts from commissioners in their respective regions. The issue will be addressed again at the next quarterly business meeting on March 12. Mr. Van Zant also presented his latest Marketing and Communications update (attached) showing the most recent information from the 2009 Governor's Arts Awards, the IAC Website, IAC newsletters, and other news. He also mentioned that the design of the Arts Trust license plate will be modified slightly for 2011 to conform to BMV standards. Mr. Ricci pointed out the framed award for Accessibility Leadership which was given to IAC by the National Endowment for the Arts at ceremonies in New York City in January.

8. **Adjourn.** Ms. Ellerbrook reviewed the committee charge, encouraging everyone to remain active in advocacy efforts. Mr. Ricci reminded the committee of proposed changes in the Regional Arts Partner system which will be discussed at the next quarterly business meeting. Ms. Hess moved to adjourn. Ms. Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.