

Indiana Arts Commission  
Executive Committee Meeting  
IAC Conference Room  
April 16, 2008  
10:00 a.m.

Members present via teleconference: Richard Stifel (chair), Jeanne Mirro, Sandra Clark, Ronald Stratten, William Hopper

IAC Staff Present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Dennis Hardin

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stifel at 10:00 a.m.

1. Review of Possible Commissioner List. Mr. Stifel began the open discussion of potential commissioners, a list compiled by Mr. Ricci and Mr. Stifel containing recommendations from current and former commission members. A copy of the list is attached to the minutes. There is currently one vacancy on the Commission, referred to as the "Terre Haute" vacancy. However, three current commissioners will reach the end of their terms in June 2008. Mr. Ricci emphasized that the Commission should forward recommendations to the Governor's office without regard to political affiliation of the nominee, but rather based upon the qualifications and demonstrated non-profit participation of the nominee. It was also noted that the Governor may or may not take heed of the recommendations of the Arts Commission with regard to new appointments. The discussion also reflected the feeling of the Commission that the membership should ideally be gender-balanced and ethnically diverse. The following names were agreed upon as best choices: Gilberto Cardenas, Lory Efroymsen-Aguilerra, Lynn Jakobowski, Peter Alexander, Wayne Schuetter, Judy Schad and Carol White. Selected members of the Executive Committee will contact these individuals in the near future to confirm their interest and gather more information to assist the Governor and his staff in the decision.

2. Regional Arts Partners Block Grant. Mr. Ricci presented an extensive spreadsheet prepared by him and Michelle Anderson, which demonstrated several scenarios of awarding IAC block-grant monies to the Regions; weighted factors included the number of counties served by each region, population of the region, per-capita spending, and other public funds awarded to the region. Other variations showed push-pull percentages of 2%, 5% and 10%. Mr. Ricci's recommendation to the Commission is that the push-pull percentage of 5% should be approved. Also shown in the spread sheet is the effect of different phase-in periods for the new funding formula, whether it be all at once for FY 2010, or a certain percentage over a period of a few fiscal years. Mr. Ricci's recommendation is that there be no change for FY09, primarily because the IAC operates on a 2-year funding cycle, the current cycle being FY 08-09. Mr. Ricci will summarize his recommendations for the full Commission meeting in June.

3. Priorities for new money in 2008-2009. Mr. Ricci reported that the National Endowment for the Humanities grant to IAC for FY09 will include an additional \$98,000. Mr. Ricci's opinion is that this additional money should be used entirely for arts programming and not for administrative costs. He also reiterated that spendable money from the Cultural Trust will be around \$100,000 for FY 2009, and that money from the now-defunct Indiana Endowment for the Arts will be around \$8,000. Mr. Ricci presented several ideas for expenditure of these monies: 1) organize and host an educational congress focused on arts education in Indiana schools; 2) funding of presenter programs that would travel to schools; 3) funding of needed research on the state of arts education in Indiana; 4) matching pre-existing endowments in the Regions. This last idea will not be ready to inaugurate by FY 09.

Due to the number of pressing matters before the Commission at this time, it was recommended that the Executive Committee meet again in early May to maintain progress in all areas.

Ms. Clark and Ms. Mirro excused themselves from the meeting at 11:25.

4. New Commissioner Orientations. Dennis Hardin has organized orientations for three of the four new commissioners, all to be completed prior to the June quarterly business meeting.

5. There was no old business.

6. There was no new business.

7. Mr. Stratten moved to adjourn. Mr. Hopper seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.