

Indiana Arts Commission
Special Budget Approval Session
Indiana Government Center, Conference Room 2
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
July 20 2009, 11:00 a.m. EDT

Jeanne Mirro, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Jeanne Mirro, Irene Smith-King, Earl Williams, Ron Stratten, Judy Hess, Richard Stifel, Gilberto Cárdenas, Kelly Schreckengast, Pam Hicks, Steve Tuchman

Members via teleconference (non-voting): Karen Ellerbrook

Members absent: Sandra Clark, Suzy Rentschler, Bill Hopper

IAC Staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Bobbie Garver, Rex Van Zant, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Laura Frank, Lydia Zacharias (intern), Dennis Hardin

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Ms. Mirro called the meeting to order at 11:17 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
2. **Consent Agenda.** Mr. Williams moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Hess seconded. Motion passed.
3. **Revised FY2010 Budget including 20% cut and 5% State Budget Agency Reserve.** Ms. Mirro asked Mr. Ricci to elaborate on three budget scenarios crafted by IAC staff based on a 20% reduction in the IAC budget and an additional 5% “holdback” mandated by the State Budget Agency. Mr. Ricci presented handouts of the three scenarios (attached). He informed the commission that these scenarios are based upon the highest budget cut of 15% previously approved at the June 2009 quarterly meeting. He explained that scenario 1 included a decrease in organizational support for the Major Arts Organization Program and Community Arts Program, in order to offer more technical assistance services; scenario 2 also included a decrease in organizational support for the Major Arts Organization Program and Community Arts Program, along with less funding for technical assistance services, while pushing more funding to the state through the Regional Block Grant program. Scenario 3 included a reduction for technical assistance services, while keeping Community Arts Program funding at the level approved in the June commission meeting, and less money for Regional Block Grants while making more money available for the Major Arts Organization Program. Mr. Ricci stated that the total budget cut of 24% (including holdback) will have significant ramifications state-wide regardless of which scenario is approved. He also informed the commission that the budget to be approved is for one year only. A full discussion by the commission followed. John Cain, Executive Director of South Shore Arts, Inc, the Regional Arts Partner in Region 1, was recognized by the chair to speak on behalf of the Regional Arts Partners, and related their joint support for Scenario 1. Mr. Tuchman asked about specific grants which have been eliminated as

a result of the budget reductions; Mr. Ricci replied that the Presenter Touring grants have been eliminated as well as the American Masterpieces grants. Ms. Hess expressed concern over the increased workload on IAC staff resulting from position vacancies in the agency. Mr. Tuchman expressed concern over the probable failure of some arts organizations in the state. Ms. Hicks spoke to the impact that major arts organizations have in terms of reaching wide and varied audiences. Mr. Cárdenas moved to approve scenario 1 as the IAC budget for FY2010. Ms. Hess seconded. Further discussion included supporting remarks for the Regional Arts Partnership, which would feel the least economic impact from scenario 1. Mr. Stratten called the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mirro declared a break in the meeting at 12:35 p.m. The meeting re-convened at 12:45 p.m. Ms. Mirro opened the floor for public comment. Rob Hanrahan from Bloomington Area Arts Council spoke briefly about encouraging arts organizations to broaden their bases of financial support for the Regional Arts Partnership.

4. Old Business. Regions 8 and 12 partnership status changes update.

A. Mr. Ricci reported that the Bloomington Area Arts Council (Region 8) was suspended as a Regional Arts Partner by a vote of the Executive Committee, which had been empowered to do so by the full commission at the June 2009 quarterly business meeting. The Arts Council of Southern Indiana (Region 12) had been previously suspended as well. Each will receive an organizational assistance grant for FY2010, but IAC will centrally administer grants and services previously awarded by the two Partner organizations.

B. Ms. Garver reported that Young Audiences of Indiana, approved for a grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, has requested a modification in their grant application, specifically a revision of the job description for the position being supported by the grant. Ms. Hess moved to approve the modification; Ms. Schreckengast seconded. Motion passed.

5. New Business.

A. Mr. Ricci asked the commission to grant authority to IAC staff to assign grant award amounts for the Region 8 and 12 grants which will be administered by IAC for FY2010. Ms. Hicks moved to grant such authority; Mr. Stratten seconded. Motion passed.

B. Mr. Ricci announced that IAC has been selected as the sole nation-wide recipient of a \$30,000 National Accessibility Leadership Award. IAC staff member Kristina Davis wrote the grant application and will be the point person as this money is distributed in individual project grants for artists with disabilities. The commission congratulated Ms. Davis for her work in securing this prestigious award from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Assembly of State Arts Organizations.

C. Ms. Mirro announced that late word from the Governor's office is that he has appointed two new Arts Commissioners, but their names have not been released pending their acceptance of the appointments.

6. Adjourn. Ms. Hess moved to adjourn. Mr. Cárdenas seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.