



**Arts and Culture Commission
of Contra Costa County**

SUPPORTING ALL THE ARTS

Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County 1025 Escobar Street, 4th Floor, Martinez, CA 94553
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Monday June 7, 2021 DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
5:30PM-7:30PM (US and Canada) ZOOM Invitation

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma
Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio
Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell
Commissioners:

District 2: Beverly Kumar
District 3: Grant Taylor
District 4: Elizabeth Wood
District 5: OPEN

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji
At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

***Alternate:** OPEN

**Alternates assist with the achievement of quorum. The alternate may sit and vote for any absent member or a vacant seat.*

Commissioners Present: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, District 3: Grant Taylor, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, and At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji (joined at 5:44 PM)

Youth Advisor Present:

Public Present: Naina Shastri (left at 6:10 PM), Elaine Schroth (left at 7:10 PM)

Commissioners Absent: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

Staff Present:

Contra Costa County Arts & Culture Commission Managing Director: Jenny Balisle
Senior Management Analyst, County Administrative Office: Monica Carlisle

Monday June 7, 2021 MEETING AGENDA 5:30-7:30PM (US and Canada) ZOOM Invitation

1. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/TIMEKEEPER: (3 minutes)

Meeting called to order and roll call by Chair Ledezma. Commissioner volunteers to be Timekeeper.

SUMMARY: Chair District 1 Silvia Ledezma calls meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: (2 minutes)

Individuals who would like to address the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County on relevant matters not listed on the agenda may do so under Public Comment. Public comments cannot result in discussion/action at this meeting.

SUMMARY: Naina Shastri (Alternate applicant) and Elaine Schroth (Visit Concord) make introductions to the Commission.

3. ACTION ITEM: APPROVE May 3, 2021 MINUTES: (3 minutes)

Chair Ledezma leads discussion with Managing Director Jenny Balisle.

Action: Approve May 3, 2021 Minutes

Public Comment: None

Documents: May 3, 2021 Minutes

MOTION MADE: District 2: Beverly Kumar makes motion to approve May 3, 2021 Minutes with Agenda #11 edit.

MOTION SECONDED: Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio seconds motion.

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, District 3: Grant Taylor, and Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, and Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell

NOES:

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims and At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji

ABSTAIN:

SUMMARY: Motion passes.

DISCUSSION:

District 2: Beverly Kumar makes recommendation under May 2021 Minutes Agenda #11 to remove: "District 2: Beverly Kumar will be labeled as the individual that leads the item for current and future meetings." District 2: Beverly Kumar is not leading the discussion.

4. FY21-22 WORK PLAN (11 minutes)

Discussion led by Managing Director Jenny Balisle with Senior Management Analyst Monica Carlisle highlighting current budget priorities and service capabilities.

Public Comment: None

Documents: FY21-22 Work Plan and Bay Area Charts

SUMMARY:

The FY20-21 Budget was \$133,637: \$66,550 CCC match (which includes one time \$25,000 Venture Cap) and \$67,087 State. The FY21-22 Budget has similar numbers due to the \$25,000 Venture Cap being rebudgeted. In addition, we're waiting on three CAC grant decisions between June-July. The CCC match for FY21-22 is estimated at \$31,000.

The County Administrator's Office approved *FY21-22 Work Plan* includes the *Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County* (Funded by a County Venture Capital Rebudget), *Impact Projects* (California Arts Council pending grant), *Jump StArts* (California Arts Council pending grant), *ABOUTFACE* (Veterans in the Arts), *Poetry Out Loud*, *Youth Advisor*, *Art Recognition Awards*, *Art Cafes*, and *Art Passages*.

FY21-22 Work Plan Executive Summary:

- The *FY21-22 Work Plan* features the timelines and budget of the Commission's signature programs.
- Budget estimate based on Managing Director's current program knowledge and data access.
- The California Arts Council (CAC) makes final grant awarding decisions in June-July 2021 and announces program timelines late summer or fall of 2021.
- The *Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County* will be top FY21-22 priority in potentially securing Measure X funds.
- Current funding sources include California Arts Council, Contra Costa County, and Friends of AC5.
- The pandemic and funding will determine the final form or outcome of grants, programs, and initiatives.

The Bay Area has 9 counties and Managing Director Jenny Balisle reached out to each one inquiring about secure funding, employee numbers, and budgets. Overall, Contra Costa County has the third highest population with the lowest budget, no secure funds and 1 independent contractor. Every other county has at least 2 employees and secure annual funds. In order to provide equity cultural services, the arts must receive secure investment. The average California State-Local-Partnership budget for commissions/councils is \$519,449 with 2.94 Full-time employees, 2.93 part-time employees, and 6.92 contractors.

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma stresses that Contra Costa County advocate for an SLP average of \$500,000.

District 2: Beverly Kumar highlights that the current budget does not serve Contra Costa County and the value is reflected in wages.

5. YBCA ARTIST POWER CONVENINGS GRANT PRESENTATION (17 minutes)

Discussion led by Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Director of Public Life Sarah Cathers.

Public Comment: None

Documents: YBCA APC

SUMMARY:

Managing Director Jenny Balisle indicates Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Director of Public Life Sarah Cathers has rescheduled the presentation for the July meeting. As a result, she shares a summary including that the Hewlett Foundation granted YBCA \$400,000 for Bay Area County artists and art organizations.

Last fall, the Managing Director Jenny Balisle had a meeting with Lily Kharrazi (Director of Special Initiatives of the Hewlett Foundation) in which she shared our LACOG (Local Arts & Cultural Organizations Grant) grantees and applicants. The Arts Commission of Contra Costa County will be working with YBCA to identify applicants and outreach for the "Artist Power Convenings" grants. This will be a perfect opportunity to also identify cultural stakeholders for our *Arts and Culture Prospectus* fall workshops!

Artist Power Convenings grants summary: "In the last year of isolation, artists have persisted in finding new ways to gather amidst the ongoing struggles of living in a pandemic and the financial precarity many artists face everyday. But this exhaustive resiliency shouldn't be a requirement for creating connection. Connections built by coming together strengthen networks and build power-power through action, dialogue, critique, and joy. By addressing the economic roadblocks that stifle the impact of artistic convenings, we can nurture gatherings as the spaces where real change is catalyzed.

YBCA is investing in these moments of growth for our local region. Beginning in mid-July, artists and artist-led organizations in 10 Bay Area counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma) can apply for support through Artist Power Convenings, an investment program at YBCA for those backyard conversations, online presentations, workshop series, and wherever artists create connections with their community. These convenings can be opportunities for resource-sharing, professional development, mutual aid, social justice, and so much more.

We leave the definition of a convening open, trusting that artists know what their communities need and how investment can fuel their work. In the same trust, we are investing in proposals based on a peer-review selection process for awards ranging from \$1000-5000. Each artist will help choose which convenings are funded for their unique Bay Area county. Equity is built into each step of the program and priority will be given to Black and African American; American Indian or Alaska Native; Latinx; Asian and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, disabled, and LGBTQIA+ artists.

As an organization building the capacity of artists working in service of their communities YBCA can also offer indoor and outdoor meeting spaces on our campus in San Francisco or access to a Zoom Pro account with audio transcription and subtitling for up to 500 attendees, plus a tutorial on usage. At the end of the year, YBCA will host a convening for the awarded artists to connect and share feedback on the program's process. Artist Power Convenings are one of YBCA's investment initiatives that builds the capacity of artists to foster their impact on the health and well-being of their communities. Sharings from the convenings including photo and video documentation will be available at the Artist Power Center on YBCA.org."

Round 1 Open Call for Contra Costa County and Santa Clara starts mid-July to mid-August.

6. ARTS & CULTURE PROSPECTUS SUBCOMMITTEE: (9 minutes)

Managing Director Jenny Balisle with Chair Ledezma leads discussion with Commissioner Miyaji and Commissioner Burrell: 5/18 BOS presentation, *ACPCCC RFQ*, *ACPCCC CAP*, and 7/28 Measure X Presentation.

Public Comment: None

Documents: ACPCCC RFQ and ACPCCC CAP

SUMMARY:

At the May 18th Board of Supervisors meeting, the *Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County* presentation/video was aired. Supervisors were very positive at the presentation. Supervisor John Gioia requested that the ACPCCC be posted on the agenda presentation item on the CCC website.

At the July 28th MXCAB meeting, Managing Director Jenny Balisle will be presenting a compelling case to support Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County secure funding. Each panelist has up to 10 minutes to present with questions/discussion with MXCAB and the public. MXCAB presentation template: introduction, data, trends, racial equity, gaps, prevention, intersectional, transformational ideas, and success. MXCAB Vice Chair Brenda Williams is an advocate for the arts.

The *Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County Request for Qualifications* was released on May 19th with a June 19th 5pm due date. Applicants must submit through BidSync. Managing Director Jenny Balisle has

personally outreached the *ACPCCC RFQ* to over 70 individuals/organizations. This is the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County's opportunity to secure funding, establish a public art program, and provide equity in signature programs.

Managing Director created an *Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County Commissioner Action Plan*. The goal is for Commissioner's to build relationships with their District Supervisors. In addition, for Commissioners to provide 5 cultural stakeholders by the first of each month. Cultural stakeholders must equally represent all Districts throughout CCC.

District 1 Supervisor: John M. Gioia:

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma volunteers to Supervisor arts advocate.

District 2 Supervisor: Candance Andersen:

District 2: Beverly Kumar volunteers to Supervisor arts advocate.

District 3 Supervisor: Diane Burgis:

District 3: Grant Taylor volunteers to Supervisor arts advocate.

District 4 Supervisor: Karen Mitchoff:

District 4: Elizabeth Wood volunteers to Supervisor arts advocate.

District 5 Supervisor: Federal D. Glover:

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji volunteers to Supervisor arts advocate.

On a quarterly basis, District 4: Elizabeth Wood Woods sends District 4 Supervisor: Karen Mitchoff's staff emails to spread arts information. In addition, she stays in constant contact and that has been highly beneficial.

Appointed by District 2 Supervisor: Candance Andersen, District 2: Beverly Kumar advocates to her Supervisor to ensure that the value of the arts are presented including Youth Advisor, program familiarity, and its importance.

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma keeps in contact with District 1 Supervisor: John M. Gioia by participating in dialogues to build connections including with his Chief of Staff.

7. BY-LAWS AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEE: (8 minutes)

Discussion led by Managing Director Jenny Balisle.

Public Comment: None

Documents: 6/2/21 Proposed By-Laws

SUMMARY: In May, Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, and At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji worked on updating the By-Laws to reflect current needs. Managing Director Jenny Balisle shared proposed edits (yellow highlights) in June Agenda Packet. The final proposed edit version will be sent to Senior Management Analyst Monica Carlisle then to CCC Legal for review.

District 4: Elizabeth Wood discusses the last paragraph of "**5. TERMS OF COMMISSIONERS**" and the importance of the Commission to be aware of a resignation. In addition, the Arts Recognition Awards Committee was removed due to not being a standing committee.

District 3: Grant Taylor prefers that excused absences include hospitalizations, accidents, and personal matters. In addition, to identify "unusual or specific circumstances" in the By-laws for attendance rules and whether the conditions supersede resignation. Proposed new By-Laws reference: "Commissioner must contact the Managing Director and/or the Chair within three (3) days before or after a missed meeting; or the meeting will be considered unexcused."

District 4: Elizabeth Wood indicates the removal of Senior Commissioner from Officers and that the position is part of the Executive Committee. Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell confirms Senior Commissioner history.

8. ARTS PASSAGES: (5 minutes)

Discussion led by Chair Ledezma with Managing Director Jenny Balisle shares current exhibition and upcoming proposed schedule: *Art from Marsh Creek, AOTAD, and César Chávez*.

Public Comment: None

Documents: None

SUMMARY: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma and Managing Director Jenny Balisle share proposed Arts Passages exhibition schedule:

1. *ABOUTFACE* till August 19, 2021.
2. *Marsh Creek* exhibit September 3, 2021 - December 3, 2021.
3. *Art of the African Diaspora* December 14, 2021 - February 28, 2022.
4. *César Chávez* exhibit March 14, 2022 - June 13, 2022.

Stephen Bruce and Marva Reed (*Art of the African Diaspora* curators and artists) and Eren Mendez (Contra Costa County Elections Outreach Coordinator) contacted Managing Director Jenny Balisle for the new County Administration Building exhibition.

District 4: Elizabeth Wood inquires if there's a process for art groups in Contra Costa County to display artwork for example the Concord Watercolor Organization and what is the approval process.

Managing Director Jenny Balise indicates that we only have one exhibition space with a budget of only 3-4 exhibits a year. As part of the *ABOUTFACE* CAC grant, an exhibition was part of the application. *Marsh Creek* was part of a grant program, collaboration, and commitment. *Art of the African Diaspora* and *César Chávez* exhibit has been institutional Art Passages partners for years. The retreat will be a wonderful opportunity to clarify the process and opportunity within our budget.

9. ARTS EDUCATION ADVOCACY: (6 minutes)

Commissioner Kumar, Commissioner Miyaji, and Commissioner Grant provide update with Managing Director.

Public Comment: None

Documents: ARTSED

SUMMARY: On Tuesday June 1st, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 3: Grant Taylor, and Managing Director Jenny Balisle met as an Arts Education Advocacy ad-hoc subcommittee. Topics discussed include the personal importance of Arts Education, Youth Advisory branch possibility, Commission advocacy, connecting with allies, School District information, and hosting an Arts Education Advocacy Panel part of Arts Cafe. District 2: Beverly Kumar created an impressive agenda identifying three categories: Connection (Develop a CCC network.), Advocacy (Asks at the county level and state), and Platform (Arts Commission hosts an Arts Education panel).

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji highlights the importance of advocating for arts education to be back in school along with its critical thinking advantages.

District 2: Beverly Kumar supports a panel for arts education advocates. The formation of the ad-hoc subcommittee to complete the work of the Commission and make conversations happen/reality.

District 4: Elizabeth Wood indicates that Contra Costa County cities are not consistently supporting the arts with councils/commission. Any assistance that would get her contacts with school boards is helpful.

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma commends Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio for her work as an arts advocate such as writing emails, local volunteerism, and international work. She may be able to contact the West Contra Costa Unified School District or Richmond School District if they have plans for projects.

10. ARTS RECOGNITION AWARDS: (5 minutes)

Commissioner Wood shares update on next steps and timeline.

Public Comment: None

Documents: None

SUMMARY: District 4: Elizabeth Wood shares the latest update and tasks that need to be completed.

District 4: Elizabeth Wood is reorganizing the project plan and will have it completed within the next week. The current list involved two adult judges from each district. District 4: Elizabeth Wood chose previous recipients and would like the Commission to decide who to approve. In regards to the Youth Awards, she prefers to not have individuals that work with children to remove an increased bias. In addition, she would like to schedule a zoom meeting next week or the week after to finalize judges and judging criteria.

11. ACTION ITEM: NOMINATION COMMITTEE (15 minutes)

Managing Director Jenny Balisle leads discussion with Commissioner Wood and Commissioner D'Onofrio. Commissioners discuss and vote on Chair, Vice-Chair, and Senior Commissioner.

Action: Select Chair, Vice-Chair, and Senior Commissioner.

Public Comment: None

Documents: None

DISCUSSION: At the June 7th Arts Commission meeting, there will be an election of Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Senior Commissioner. There are three candidates for Chair: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, District 2: Beverly Kumar, and At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji.

The Nomination Committee of Commissioner Wood and Commissioner D'Onofrio with County Administrator's Office and Managing Director guidance, created the below process:

Nomination process:

1. Each Chairperson candidate will be allotted **2-3 minutes** to discuss qualifications, strengths and ideas to help the Arts Commission achieve its goals during the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year.
2. At the end of those presentations Commissioners vote for their preferred candidate.
3. If a tie, the top 2 candidates will have a second chance to make an additional **2-3 minute** presentation to the Commissioners to further discuss their goal achieving plans for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year.
4. Following those 2 presentations, Commissioners will vote again.
5. Hopefully a Chair will be elected by that vote. If not, another vote will be conducted until a new Chair is selected.
6. Once a Chair has been selected, the Commission will conduct nominations for Vice-Chair. If there is more than one candidate, Commissioners will conduct a vote.
7. Per the By-Laws, the Senior Commissioner with the most service time on the Commission, excluding the Chair and Vice-Chair, is the Senior Commissioner. If the Commissioner with the most service time is not interested in the Senior Commissioner position, the next person with the most service time is eligible for the Senior Commissioner position. If the next person is interested, a motion can be made to accept that person and then a vote.

COMMITTEE CHAIR ROLL CALL VOTE:

VOTE: Elect one of the three candidates for Committee Chair.

LEDEZMA: Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio

KUMAR: Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar

MIYAJI: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, and District 3: Grant Taylor

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

SUMMARY: At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji is elected to be Committee Chair.

VICE CHAIR ROLL CALL VOTE:

VOTE: Elect Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma to be Vice Chair.

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, and District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES:

ABSTAIN: Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, and District 4: Elizabeth Wood

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

SUMMARY: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma is elected to be Vice Chair.

SENIOR COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL VOTE:

VOTE: Elect District 4: Elizabeth Wood as Senior Commissioner

AYES: Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, and District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES:

ABSTAIN: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

SUMMARY: District 4: Elizabeth Wood is elected to be Senior Commissioner

DISCUSSION:

Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell declines position and District 4: Elizabeth Wood accepts.

MOTION MADE: District 4: Elizabeth Wood motions to approve At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji as Committee Chair, Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma as Vice Chair, and District 4: Elizabeth Wood as Senior Commissioner.

MOTION SECONDED: District 3: Grant Taylor seconds the motion.

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES:

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

ABSTAIN:

SUMMARY: Motion passes.

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji:

Ben Miyaji is an ardent supporter and patron of the arts. He retired from Siemens, where he worked on computer control systems for electric and gas utilities. Through this work, he traveled extensively around the United States and the world. Ben is currently a member of the Arts and Culture Commission and is very excited for this opportunity. He is the current chair of the Palo Alto Public Art Commission and has served on that commission for 8 years. Ben also served on the San Jose Arts Commission from 1992 to 2014 and was chair for three consecutive years. Since his retirement, he has been a part-time wedding officiant and has performed over 6,000 wedding ceremonies.

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji highlights how artists are second responders. Funds need to be secured to grow the arts in each District since being last in the Bay Area. Detailed research of economic impact is needed. Also, a part-time worker is insufficient to bring art groups together. The arts are vital to the County! He has over 30 years of experience with knowledge as an arts leader.

District 2: Beverly Kumar:

Appointed by Supervisor Candace Anderson, Beverly joins the AC5 after just completing a 4 year term as an Art Commissioner for the Town of Danville. With a background in the performing arts, education and a degree in communication, the arts didn't just give Beverly an education, it saved her education. This is one of the many reasons Beverly considers herself an advocate for arts education and champion of young artists. Prior to California, Beverly taught dance for 16 years in Chicagoland and lived in Minnesota where she had a photography business. Beverly enjoys writing and feels passionate about equity in public schools. She is proud to serve on the San Ramon Valley School District's Climate and Culture Committee.

District 2: Beverly Kumar shares the importance of your voice as a tool to amplify others. Her background in arts includes education and social justice. She's effective at building a strong network for both people and ideas for collaboration. As a Danville Arts Commissioner, she updated the 10 year Strategic Plan. District 2: Beverly Kumar has attended many workshops for leadership classes and the arts. She championed for a Youth Advisor role! As a creative, researcher, and advocate, District 2: Beverly Kumar believes in the Collective versus the individual role.

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma:

Silvia Ledezma is an internationally known artist, photographer, and activist who was born in San Francisco, California, lived and traveled throughout Mexico. She is bilingual in English and Spanish and holds an M.A. in Design / Visual Studies from the University of California at Berkeley. She attended the California College of the Arts in Oakland California and received a B.F.A. in Interdisciplinary Fine Arts. For years, she served on the Richmond Arts and Culture Commission. She also became a Journeyman Carpenter and Scaffold builder. She's the Chair of the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County and is a champion of the Art Passages, ABOUTFACE, Arts and Culture Prospectus of CCC, and By-Laws.

12. ACTION ITEM: AT-LARGE-3 COMMISSIONER D'ONOFRIO REAPPOINTMENT AND ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION (8 minutes)

Discussion led by Managing Director Jenny Balisle with Chair Ledezma and Commissioner Miyaji. On May 19th, Chair Ledezma and Commissioner Miyaji interviewed Commissioner D'Onofrio for reappointment. On May 27th, Chair Ledezma and Commissioner Miyaji interviewed Naina Shastri for Alternate. On April 20th, Supervisor John Gioia reappointed Chair Ledezma.

At-Large Seats & Alternate Seat process: Individuals are interviewed and nominated by the Arts & Culture Commission. After the Commission makes a recommendation, the item goes to the Family and Human

Services Committee along with all applications that were received/reviewed by the Commission. This committee then nominates an applicant and the item goes to the full Board of Supervisors for approval.

District Specific Seats: Are recommended by the applicable District Supervisor and then approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Action: Approve Commissioner D’Onofrio Reappointment and Naina Shastri Alternate Recommendation.

Public Comment: None

Documents: Commissioner D’Onofrio At-Large 3 Application, Naina Shastri Alternate Application, and BOS Ledezma Reappointment

DISCUSSION:

On May 19th, Chair Ledezma and Commissioner Miyaji along with Managing Director Jenny Balisle facilitated a reappointment interview for Commissioner Joan D’Onofrio. Her experience with art has been an integral part since the beginning! Currently, she’s the founder of the Michelangelo D’Onofrio Arts Foundation, and currently employed by H&R Block. She’s an entrepreneur with the experience of opening 4 Curves exercise clubs. She retired from EMC Publishing and Oceana Publications/Oxford Press where she was responsible for all aspects of legal and educational publications. She managed editorial, art, production, and marketing departments, developed budgets, founded and implemented student internship programs, produced NY University Law School’s Annual Review, and organized conventions in London, Rome, and Beijing. Currently, she is the editor of *The Valley Sunrise’s* award-winning newsletter for the Rotary Club of Clayton Valley/Concord. As part of a civil grand jury, she met Chair Ledezma. In addition, she’s the author of the book *Short Circuit Stories*.

On May 19th, Chair Ledezma and Commissioner Miyaji along with Managing Director Jenny Balisle facilitated an Alternate interview for Naina Shastri. She is the Artistic Director of Ushanjali School of Dance, Director and Founder of Namaha Foundation for the Arts, and member of the San Ramon Arts Advisory Committee. She has participated and performed at various prestigious events and dance festivals in India and the Bay Area.

Naina has been involved in promoting varied art forms and social causes in the community. For example, She is a member of the San Ramon Social Justice Collective (organization created in response to systematic racism). As a practitioner, performer, and educator of Indian Classical Dance and an active member of the Indian Diaspora.

Her vision is to bring all artists, groups, and organizations under the Arts Commission of Contra Costa County. She would like to see more representation in the Arts Directory along with grants to grassroots organizations. In addition, a campaign to engage corporations to contribute to Contra Costa County arts. There needs to be safe spaces to create arts, open artistic dialogues on race/equity, and an openness to accept new ideas. For example free classes at different art studios for seniors to talk through artistic movement.

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma

Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D’Onofrio

Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y’Anad Burrell

Commissioners:

District 2: Beverly Kumar

District 3: Grant Taylor

District 4: Elizabeth Wood

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji

At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

MOTION MADE: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma makes motion to reappoint Vice-Chair:

At-Large-3: Joan D’Onofrio and the recommendation for the Alternate commissioner to be Naina Shastri.

MOTION SECONDED: At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji seconds motion.

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D’Onofrio, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y’Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES:

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

ABSTAIN:

SUMMARY: Motion passes.

District 4: Elizabeth Wood shared that Naina Shastri can represent her District and the entire County as an Alternate.

District 2: Beverly Kumar highlights Naina Shastri's work ethic along with passion for the arts and social justice.

13. ACTION ITEM: MEETING DAY & TIME (8 minutes)

Managing Director Jenny Balisle leads discussion and shares majority consensus is 2nd and 3rd Mondays 6:30pm.

Action: Select 2nd or 3rd Monday 6:30pm for new meeting day/time.

Public Comment: None

Documents: None

DISCUSSION: Managing Director Jenny Balisle contacted each Commissioner in regards to meeting day and time preference. The overall consensus was the 2nd or 3rd Monday at 6:30pm for the new meeting day/time.

Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma

Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio

Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell

Commissioners:

District 2: Beverly Kumar

District 3: Grant Taylor

District 4: Elizabeth Wood

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji

At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

MEETINGS ON 1ST MONDAYS ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES:

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

SUMMARY: No votes opposed the 1st Monday.

MEETINGS ON 2ND MONDAYS ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES: Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

SUMMARY: 1 vote opposed the 2nd Monday.

MEETINGS ON 3RD MONDAYS ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood,

NOES: Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, District 3: Grant Taylor

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

SUMMARY: 4 votes opposed the 3rd Monday.

6:00PM OR 6:30PM MEETING TIME ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES:

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

SUMMARY: 6:00PM is the preferred meeting time.

MOTION MADE: At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji makes motion to approve meetings at 6:00PM on the 2nd Monday of the month.

MOTION SECONDED: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma seconds motion.

AYES: Committee Chair: District 1: Silvia Ledezma, Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, Senior Commissioner: At-Large-1: Y'Anad Burrell, District 2: Beverly Kumar, District 4: Elizabeth Wood, At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji, and District 3: Grant Taylor

NOES:

ABSENT: At-Large-4: Lanita Mims

ABSTAIN:

SUMMARY: Motion passes.

District 2: Beverly Kumar expressed concerns on hybrid versus in-person meetings and later meeting times. She suggests a 6-month plan for upcoming meetings rather than keeping a consistent schedule.

Senior Management Analyst, County Administrative Office: Monica Carlisle indicated to wait for the Board of Supervisors to make a decision on whether to keep meetings online or in-person.

Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio prefers first Mondays at 5:30 PM.

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji can be flexible on the day and time but prefers the first Monday. He advocates for a set consensus date and time to avoid schedule conflicts/absences.

District 4: Elizabeth Wood prefers meetings to be at 6:30PM or 6:00PM.

14. JULY/AUGUST RETREAT: (5 minutes)

Discussion led by Managing Director Jenny Balisle with Senior Management Analyst Monica Carlisle and Chair Ledezma on format ideas, options, and dates.

Public Comment: None

Documents: None

SUMMARY: Senior Deputy County Administrator, County Administrative Office Dennis Bozanich recommended that the Arts Commission have a July or August Retreat. The goal is to connect, discuss goals, and clarify processes. Managing Director Jenny Balisle suggests that the Commission pick a Saturday morning in August (no regular Commission meeting) and format (zoom, in-person, and/or hybrid).

At-Large-2: Ben Miyaji inquires about the timeframe and format.

District 3: Grant Taylor indicates that it's unlikely he can participate in-person soon due to medical reasons.

District 4: Elizabeth Wood is in similar situation as District 3: Grant Taylor and unable to do in-person

Managing Director Jenny Balisle indicates that the overall consensus is that it will most likely be on Zoom.

Senior Management Analyst, County Administrative Office: Monica Carlisle inquires about retreat format and Managing Director Jenny Balisle states that no current format/template exists in office files. District 4: Elizabeth Wood will share retreat documents. Managing Director Jenny suggests since no regular Arts Commission meeting in August, possible dates include: Monday August 9th (send Monday) or a Saturday morning for 3 or 4 hours.

15. COMMISSIONER REPORTS: (8 minutes)

Chair Ledezma leads discussion with Managing Director Jenny Balisle. Commissioners discuss Arts Commission Activity Report (ACAR) form to report activities such as community events, outreach, and advocacy. Forms due 7 days before scheduled commission meetings. Forms will be put into a report for inclusion in the commission agenda. Since this is a commissioner activity, a commissioner will be asked to collate activity reports.

Public Comment: None

Action: Approve written report process and form.

Documents: Kumar, D'Onofrio, and Taylor Commissioner Reports

SUMMARY: Managing Director Jenny Balisle received reports from Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio, District 2: Beverly Kumar, and District 3: Grant Taylor! They have been included in the June Agenda Packet.

Vice-Chair: At-Large-3: Joan D'Onofrio indicates that her report highlights art student awards.

District 2: Beverly Kumar states that Commissioners can read her report in agenda packet.

16. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS: (2 minutes)

Chair Ledezma leads discussion.

Public Comment: None

Documents: None

SUMMARY: District 3: Grant Taylor requests a Housekeeping Agenda item to discuss consistent presentations, naming ourselves, and echoing. In addition, backgrounds, muting, slide presentation, and professionalism.

17. ANNOUNCEMENTS: (3 minutes)

Commissioners share District art announcements, opportunities, or events.

Public Comment: None

Documents: None

SUMMARY: District 2: Beverly Kumar highlights the *SHRUMEN LUMEN* public art in Danville that changes colors and size from 7PM to 11PM until Labor Day!

18. ADJOURN:

Chair Ledezma calls time when the 7:49 PM meeting is adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: Monday July 12, 2021