

**Regional Arts Commission
Executive Committee Minutes
January 12, 2023, 8 a.m. via ZOOM**

Committee Members

Andrea Purnell, Rosalind Johnson, Jerry Gennaria, John Russell, Tino Ochoa, Cheryl Walker

Invited Attendee

Mont Levy

Staff Attendees:

Vanessa Cooksey, Lea Sutherlin

Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Purnell called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Purnell then called for the approval of the minutes from the December 8, 2022, Executive Committee meeting.

Motion made by Russell seconded by Walker and unanimously carried to approve the December 8, 2022, minutes.

Purnell shared the following:

Chair Update

Purnell thanked Levy for attending as a special guest, and thanked members of this committee for agreeing to serve.

Annual Theme – Purnell shared her theme as the 2023 chair, “Unleashing the Artist Within.”

Professional Development Recommendations – Purnell asked for emailed recommendations from this committee for possible 2023 Board professional development opportunities.

A&E Update

Purnell noted that A&E had requested a January meeting with her, Walker and Cooksey, to discuss a possible merger with RAC, and that documents sent by A&E resulting from

that meeting were sent for review by this committee. At Purnell's request, Walker shared some historical points that occurred during her term as chair.

Purnell reviewed the proposal sent by A&E.

Open discussion held regarding (1) A&E's request for a possible merger with RAC, (2) A&E's financial challenges; (3) impact on arts organization; and (4) A&E's decision to sunset.

Purnell called for a vote to approve or decline the proposal.

A motion to decline a RAC merger with A&E was made by Gennaria, seconded by Russell, and unanimously approved.

Additional discussion held on communicating decision to A&E and direction for staff to develop talking points.

2023 Work Plan Review (VOTE)

Purnell asked members of this committee to review closely, the 2023 Work Plan, and to send "yay" or "nay" votes via email.

(Note: Executive Committee member votes via email were as follows: Purnell – yay, Johnson – yay, Gennaria – yay, Russell – yay, Ochoa – yay, Walker – yay to approve the RAC 2023 Work Plan.)

ARPA Contract Update

Cooksey provided update on the ARPA contract and shared that with no objections/major red flags, the CDA and RAC meeting would include ARPA contract signing (during the afternoon of January 12).

Purnell thanked Cooksey and team for their hard work.

Facilities Recommendation

Purnell noted that this agenda item should have been titled "Facilities Recommendation Discussion" and shared context regarding the former Ad Hoc Facilities Committee which was active from May 2021 – January 2022. She noted that while she is in support of additional discussion, and it is important to hear from Vanessa and staff, it is her opinion that RAC should remain in the current building through calendar year 2023. Purnell then encouraged committee members to review the background info relative to this agenda item.

Purnell then suggested a Full Commission meeting be held during January to review how the A&E sunset might affect the arts and culture sector.

Purnell called for motion to adjourn the January 12 Executive Committee meeting at 9:01 a.m. Motion made by Walker, seconded by Johnson, and unanimously approved.

Submitted by

L. Sutherlin, Exec. Asst. & Commission Administrator