

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON ARTS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

August 9, 2004

Room 519-S—Statehouse

Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site

Members Present

Senator Jean Schodorf, Chairperson
Senator Les Donovan
Senator Chris Steineger
Representative Lana Gordon
Representative Deena Horst
Representative Candy Ruff

Members Absent

Senator Jay Emler
Senator Henry Helgeson
Representative Ruby Gilbert
Representative Jo Ann Pottorff

Staff Present

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michele Alishahi, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office

Morning Session

Chairperson Schodorf called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., in Room 519-S, Statehouse. Chairperson Schodorf informed the Committee about the status of the primary race between Representative Gilbert and her opponent. She also indicated that the Committee should wait until after the General Election to visit tour sites. After discussion of future meeting dates, it was tentatively decided to meet again on November 18 and 19.

Chairperson Schodorf called on Dave Wilson, Executive Director, Kansas Arts Commission (KAC). Mr. Wilson appeared before the Committee to respond to a Senate Ways and Means Subcommittee concern that the same recipients received the same KAC grants year after year (Attachment 1). The Subcommittee urged the KAC to try to find new grantees. It also directed the agency to review its award process to ensure fair and equitable grant distribution.

In response to the question that the same recipients receive the same grants year after year, Mr. Wilson noted the following (Attachment 2):

- □ The KAC Long Range Plan, 2001-2006, is developed with community input and urges on-going support for Kansas artists and arts organizations;
- □ As part of the appropriation bill language, the KAC is charged with making expenditures (grants) “in a manner to benefit the maximum number of Kansas communities in the development of Kansas talent and art”;
- □ Similar dollars awarded to some grantees are due to the capping or limiting of grants to achieve the dual goals of maximum benefit while awarding a significant amount to accomplish a project;
- □ Applicants must go through an annual competitive application and review process and no applicant is guaranteed funding;
- □ Grants require a private match to stimulate private fund-raising;
- □ The economic impact of the arts makes it imperative to distribute the grants widely and fairly; and
- □ KAC grants are often the sole source for basic operating expenditures such as insurance, utilities, telephone, and other similar expenses.

With regard to the Subcommittee’s concern that the agency find new grantees, Mr. Wilson said that the KAC works with the Association of Community Arts Agencies of Kansas (ACAAK) and with local arts organizations to find new grantees. It also finds new grantees through workshops and makes use of the internet to make programs accessible to all communities.

Mr. Wilson next discussed the KAC grant review process (Attachment 3, 4, and 5). He said that:

- The KAC regularly reviews its grant programs and annually undertakes a comprehensive review of one or more of its grant programs;
- The National Endowment for the Arts reviews the KAC’s programs and grants;
- New or changed KAC programs are reviewed and approved by the KAC Commissioners, and are shared with the Joint Committee on Arts and Cultural Resources;
- Evaluation sessions are conducted at all grant panel sessions;
- The KAC Commissioners are appointed to represent the people of Kansas and serve to monitor the fairness of the agency’s grant programs;
- Legislative Post Audit recently completed a review of the KAC and concluded that, “The Commission’s procedures for overseeing how local organizations spent grants received from the Commission generally were well designed and operating effectively”; and
- The KAC Long Range Plan, 2001-2006, receives extensive public input.

Mr. Wilson introduced Ellen Morgan, Association of Community Arts Agencies of Kansas, to provide examples of how ACAAK helps local communities develop and strengthen arts programs. Ms. Morgan provided outreach examples of ACAAK participation for potential new grantees. Among the local communities ACAAK has helped are Wilson, Lucas, and Nortonville, Kansas. Ms. Morgan also stated that ACAAK has helped in non-arts functions, such as the Rural Leadership program sponsored by the Kansas Sampler Foundation, Inman, Kansas. It has also helped individuals wishing to start an arts organization.

The next item Mr. Wilson discussed was the Arts in Early Education Programs (AEEP) ([Attachment 6](#)). According to Mr. Wilson, the KAC's long-range plan encourages the development of innovative Arts-in-Education programs (AIE). As a result, in 2002-2003, a new grant category was created for early childhood. The category was created as a pilot to address national interest in early childhood education regarding the importance of enriched literacy experiences for children birth to five. It also served as a pilot to implement program evaluation by all AIE programs for the KAC.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the three outcomes of the program, which were:

1. Artistic Learning;
2. Social Change; and
3. Behavioral Change.

According to Mr. Wilson, the AIE program yielded strong correlative data linking positive changes in artistic, social, and behavioral learning to the arts-based activities.

On another subject, Mr. Wilson informed the Committee that the KAC is seeking nominations for the selection of the position of Poet Laureate of Kansas ([Attachment 7](#)). This person will serve a two-year term from July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2007. The Poet Laureate will be announced by the Governor's Office and will be officially recognized during the Governor's Arts Awards ceremony in the spring of 2005. The ceremony will also honor the actor Dennis Hopper, who was born in Dodge City, Kansas.

Mr. Wilson concluded his testimony by informing the Committee that at the November meeting he would propose new sources of revenue for KAC grant programs such as a tax of video rentals.

The next conferee was Peter Jasso, Manager, Kansas Film Commission ([Attachment 8](#)). Mr. Jasso described the Commission's role in the Business Development Division of the Department of Commerce. He said that since its creation in 1982, the Film Commission has worked to increase film revenue in Kansas by promoting the state as an attractive film site, and by elevating national awareness of the state's talent. He added that the Commission assists filmmakers by providing free resources to aid their efforts to produce films. With regard to the film industry's economic contribution to Kansas, Mr. Jasso said that:

- Over the last 18 years, over \$225 million has been spent in communities by both in-state and out-of-state production companies;
- Since last year, film-related revenue has doubled;
- Film companies spend between 25 to 50 percent of their budgets on location and more than 38 percent of their budgets on sales taxable items;

- Competition for film production is fierce;
- Over the past several years, “runaway production” (relocation of U.S. film companies to foreign venues) has cost the U.S. economy more than \$10 billion a year; and
- Runaway production has led New Mexico to invest millions in major film projects shot within its borders and, as a result, revenue in this state has substantially increased.

Mr. Jasso also said that the Film Commission is working with Kansas, Inc. on a proposal to build film studios in the Kansas City area. The findings of the study will be completed in September.

Mr. Jasso concluded by noting that competitors pose a major threat to the state industry that must be addressed. He noted that the Kansas Film Commission is considering various incentive programs across the country to determine what might work in Kansas.

The final conferee of the morning session was Terry Marmet, Interim Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS). Mr. Marmet informed the Committee that the Society is conducting a regional search for a new Executive Director and that three names have been submitted to the Governor. The three candidates include: Jennie Chinn, James Sherow, and Mack Harris. On other items, Mr. Marmet said that:

- A tornado hit Pawnee Indian Village resulting in \$100,000 damages, and as a result, a supplemental will be needed from the Governor;
- In last year’s budget there was a \$195,000 reduction in salaries and wages and a reduction of under \$30,000 for BEST savings;
- The agency has left 27 of 137 positions open, many of which are key positions;
- The KSHS is the lead agency for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration;
- The KSHS will be involved in the promotion of *Beyond Lewis and Clark—the Next 70 Years*;
- A marketing study to identify the KSHS’s audience will be completed before the 2005 Legislative Session and the results of the study will be used to expand programs;
- The William Allen White project is being refurbished with \$700,000 from the federal government; and
- The Shawnee Indian Mission is being renovated this year.

Mr. Marmet also informed the Committee of a study to identify other sources of revenue to assist the agency’s capital improvement renovations of sites.

Following Mr. Marmet's presentation, Chairperson Schodorf indicated that the November meeting will include:

- discussion of possible revenue streams for the KAC grant programs and the Kansas State Historical Society's capital improvements of state sites;
- report of filmmaking in Kansas;
- marketing study of the Kansas State Historical Society;
- discussion of the KAC budget and the budgets of other agencies; and
- items to be considered for the Committee report.

Following Mr. Marmet's presentation, the Chairperson informed the Committee that it would meet at 1:30 p.m., at the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site. The Committee then adjourned for lunch.

Afternoon Session Tour of the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site

The Committee met at the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site at 1:30 p.m., where it was welcomed by a National Park Service guide. The guide explained the background of the Supreme Court case indicating that there were over 150 plaintiffs in the case. The Committee then proceeded to the auditorium where it viewed a documentary entitled, *Race and the American Creed*. Other exhibitions the Committee viewed included: Gallery A—"Education and Justice"; Gallery B—"The Legacy of Brown on Education"; and "Expressions and Reflections Room."

After the tour of the Brown site, the Committee adjourned.

The next Committee tour and meeting will be tentatively held on November 18 and 19, 2004.

Prepared by Hank Avila
Edited by Michele Alishahi

Approved by Committee on:

November 18, 2004
(date)