

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON ARTS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

August 8, 2002
Kansas Museum of History

Members Present

Representative Jo Ann Pottorff, Vice Chairperson
Senator Les Donovan, Sr.
Senator Paul Feleciano, Jr.
Representative Ruby Gilbert
Representative Lana Gordon
Representative Deena Horst
Representative Candy Ruff

Members Absent

Senator Jean Schordorf, Chairperson
Senator Chris Steineger
Senator Sandy Praeger

Staff Present

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Becky Krahl, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office
Nikki Feuerborn, Committee Secretary

Conferees

Dave Wilson, Executive Director, Kansas Arts Commission
Julie Mulvihill, Director of Programs, Kansas Humanities Council
Marion Cott, Executive Director, Kansas Humanities Council
Jeff Mercer, Director, Division of Kansas Travel and Tourism
Mary Allman, Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society
Dick Pankratz, Heritage Trust Fund, Kansas State Historical Society
Michaelis, Archives Division, Kansas State Historical Society

Marie Brockway, Assistant Director of Historic Sites, Kansas State Historical Society
Jennie Chinn, Director of Education Outreach and Research, Kansas State Historical Society
Bob Keckheisen, Director of Kansas Historical Tours, Kansas State Historical Society

Morning Session

The Vice Chairperson opened the meeting and called on Dave Wilson, Executive Director, Kansas Arts Commission (KAC). Mr. Wilson addressed current budget problems and other related concerns (Attachment 1). He noted that:

- The agency's base budget will reflect the 10 percent cut with the anticipation of another 5 percent cut;
- KAC budget reductions were made by the Governor with input from the Board members;
- Increased funding of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) may provide relief to agency arts programs;
- Kansas Congressman Jerry Moran supports NEA funding due to positive effects the arts have on youth, the economy, and communities;
- Some cities provide municipal dollars to support local arts programs;
- For each state dollar invested, there is a return of \$19 plus additional sales taxes; and
- KAC plans to partner with the University of Kansas or Wichita State University to conduct an arts impact study.

Vice Chairperson Pottorff next called on Julie Mulvihill, Director of Programs, Kansas Humanities Council (KHC). Ms. Mulvihill discussed the importance of the traveling Smithsonian exhibits, "Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future" (Attachments 2 and 3). She also furnished the Committee with information on the exhibit "Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front, 1941-1945." "Produce for Victory" is a traveling Smithsonian exhibit touring six Kansas communities in 2003-2004. It was noted that KHC pays for booking and shipping costs.

Marion Cott, Executive Director, KHC, discussed the Great Plains Chautauqua held in Stockton on July 5-9, 2002. She noted that over 3,000 persons, representing 52 Kansas communities and five different counties, attended the event (Attachment 4). Ms. Cott also reviewed the Solomon Valley Highway 24 Heritage Alliance, a grassroots organization that meets monthly to discuss plans for a heritage preservation program (Attachment 5). As to future events, Ms. Cott said a Kansas Chautauqua "Bleeding Kansas" is being planned for

2004 (Attachment 6). It is anticipated that Elderhostels will be in each community where the Chautauqua is scheduled. Ms. Cott thanked the Legislature for the additional funding of \$50,000 for the project.

Ms. Cott also reviewed that part of the KHC budget which receives funds from the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) (Attachment 7). She indicated that 10 percent reductions are being taken off the original budgeting amount. Ms. Cott also furnished data that showed that 59 percent of financial support for the Humanities comes from donations, user fees, and in-kind services; 35 percent from the National Endowment for the Humanities; and 6 percent from the state.

The next conferee was Jeff Mercer, Director, Division of Travel and Tourism (Attachment 8). Mr. Mercer discussed changes in staff, various film and television events attended by staff, and the agency's budget cuts. He informed the Committee that the Division's FY 2003 Economic Development Initiative Fund appropriation is approximately 9 percent below that of FY 2002. He also said that the Division has applied for a block grant for the first time. The grant allows the agency to shift money from one program to another, as needed. He added that even though the budget has been reduced by 9 percent, internal cuts can be made to maintain the same level of service. He indicated that final touches are being made to the Tourism website which will cover the tourism events, festivals, and specials throughout the state.

The final conferees were from KSHS. Vice Chairperson Pottorff called on Mary Allman, the new Executive Director of KSHS. Ms. Allman explained that, in response to budget reductions, KSHS was pulling money out of fee funds to avoid cutting services (Attachment 9). She also informed the Committee that KSHS is considering:

- Reducing the open hours of historical sites;
- Eliminating telephone response service and increasing user fees at sites;
- Reducing outreach services;
- Reducing or eliminating the Kansas Archeological Training Program;
- Reducing funding to Native American burial grounds; and
- Using community volunteers and other local resources.

Dick Pankratz, Heritage Trust Fund, KSHS, explained that the Fund provides assistance to individuals and organizations responsible for the preservation of historic properties in Kansas (Attachment 10). He explained that to be eligible for funds, properties must be on the *Register of Historic Kansas Places* or the *National Register of Historic Places*. Mr. Pankratz informed the Committee the Heritage Trust Fund is only able to fund 25-30 percent of the applications received. He said some county courthouses do their renovation in segments and, as a result, are requesting their third grants.

Pat Michaelis, Archives Division, KSHS, stressed the on-line repository of resources to meet Kansas history standards for Kansas classrooms (Attachment 11). She said this information will be available to teachers through the Educational Outreach Division, which offers training sessions on the use of newly developed material. Ms. Michaelis noted that the sessions should be on line by the summer of 2003 and will include verbal-audio enactment, music, and impersonations, as well as photographs of artifacts from the Kansas Museum.

The next conferee was Marie Brockway, Assistant Director of Historical Sites, KSHS. Ms. Brockway reviewed the value of Friends groups and partnerships to communities in developing and maintaining historical sites. She distributed information about the Shawnee Indian Mission project in Johnson County (Attachment 12). According to the information, KSHS, the Kansas State Historical Society, Inc., and the Friends of the Shawnee Indian Mission have begun a four-year \$1.1 million rehabilitation and reinterpretation project for the Shawnee Indian Mission. It was noted that federal and state moneys totaling \$597,335 have been awarded.

Jennie Chinn, Director of Education Outreach and Research, KSHS, was the final presenter. Ms. Chinn said she worked with other agencies in seeking funding, as well as outlets for their eight proposed educational projects. One project, the "Read It!" cards, cost 32 cents each to produce. On a related issue, Ms. Chinn said classroom teachers have informed her they have no materials to teach Kansas history. She also addressed issues relating to the newly acquired William Allen White home in Emporia (Attachment 13). Ms. Chinn said existing law prohibits KSHS from receiving State General Fund money, but that the agency has received a \$700,000 federal grant to renovate the structure.

Bob Keckheisen, Director of Kansas Historical Tours, KSHS, then invited the Committee to visit the new exhibit in the museum, "Everybody Needs a Hobby—Collectors and Collections." The exhibit was recently opened and contains an array of hobby collections.

Following the tour of the exhibit, the Committee adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14 and 15 in Wichita and Hutchinson.

Prepared by Nikki Feuerborn
Edited by Hank Avila and Becky Krahl

Approved by Committee on:

November 15, 2002