

**FILM AND DIGITAL MEDIA COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022, 10:00 AM
ATTENDED VIRTUALLY**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Film and Digital Media Commission was called to order by Chair Gay Dillingham, on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 10:03 am and was attended virtually.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Gay Dillingham, Chair
Commissioner James Lujan
Commissioner Milton Reiss
Commissioner James Wysong
Commissioner Frank Ragano
Commissioner Harvey Kahn
Commissioner David Aubrey
Commissioner Elias Gallegos
Commissioner Pamela Pierce
Commissioner Robert Dennis
Alternate Commissioner Steve Graham
Alternate Commissioner Anna Darrah
(3 Vacancies)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Chris Jonas, Excused
Commissioner Jilann Spitzmiller

OTHERS PRESENT

Janice Krish, Commission Liaison, Economic Development
Jennifer LaBar-Tapia, Santa Fe Film Commission
Lara Dale, Safe Sets Founder
Alessandra Dobrin Khalsa
Rosey Hayett, Director, Film Prize Jr.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Ragano, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows:

Chair Dillingham, yes; Commissioner Reiss, yes; Commissioner Wysong, yes; Commissioner Ragano, yes; Commissioner Dennis, yes; Commissioner Kahn, yes; Commissioner Aubrey, yes; Commissioner Gallegos, yes; Commissioner Lujan, yes; Commissioner Pearce, yes; Alternate Commissioner Graham, yes; Alternate Commissioner Darrah, yes.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
FEBRUARY 1, 2022**

Chair Dillingham said on page 6 it should say March meeting and on page 10 it should say 2 appointments.

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Reiss, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, to approve the minutes as amended.

VOTE The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows:

Chair Dillingham, yes; Commissioner Reiss, yes; Commissioner Wysong, yes; Commissioner Ragano, yes; Commissioner Dennis, yes; Commissioner Kahn, yes; Commissioner Aubrey, yes; Commissioner Gallegos, yes; Commissioner Lujan, yes; Commissioner Pearce, yes; Alternate Commissioner Graham, yes; Alternate Commissioner Darrah, yes.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. SET SAFETY

Ms. Dale gave a Power Point presentation on Safe Sets.

Commissioner Reiss thanked Ms. Dale and said her work is very inspiring and the presentation educational. He loves the idea of satellite phone training.

Ms. Dale said she works with a lot of communities outside the country. The problem here is having to deal with New Mexico politics. We are trying to find ways to work within the existing infrastructure so it will not be taken away in the next election. We would like to partner with Commissioner Reiss on training classes. Most of the issues occur with independent productions who don't know or follow the rules.

Commissioner Reiss said we are working with OSHA on a regular basis. The film industry is under the microscope with OSHA.

Alternate Commissioner Darrah said New Mexico is in alignment in a lot of ways.

Some things in the presentation are really sticky such as requiring training in order to receive the incentives. When you are looking at that also look at the time constraints of the system.

Ms. Dale said the idea is that the production will check off what issues they have in the production such as nudity, elders, guns etc. Partnerships will be needed for the provision of training and funds for training for productions who cannot afford it. We will go through the dangers before the productions.

Commissioner Ragano said Star Link is not as simple as it sounds. It does not work everywhere.

Ms. Dale said set medics use satellite phones. People on set can report issues through the medics phone.

Commissioner Wysong said there is an alternative to the satellite phone service by using a satellite uplink that you can text on. Many people use that. Cost should not be a factor when sending out an SOS.

Chair Dillingham asked if Safe Sets is the partner organization for the State for this work.

Ms. Dale said we are in dialogue with some politicians. The idea of partnering with the State is what we are talking about. We are trying to build as many partners as we can outside the State and Country on this and finding the best templates. This Country is way behind.

Chair Dillingham asked if it would be appropriate to be linked to Safe Sets on the SF Film Office site.

Ms. LaBar-Tapia said she and Ms. Dale spoke at length a month ago. We want to educate film makers in any way we can. Mostly the offenders are small productions who are not from here and think it is the wild, wild west. We do play by the rules and need to educate productions as to the requirements and what we will not tolerate. She embraces what Ms. Dale says.

Ms. Krish asked if Ms. Dale had any specific asks for the Commission to help further this initiative.

Ms. Dale said what we need more than anything is "lean in" from the State and municipalities as to what this will cost. An example would be that gun safety could be taught by the police departments. We could start there with the budget and logistics needed.

Chair Dillingham said this is a big subject. It would be nice, since we became

global with the story about the *Rust* production, that we be the ones to create a Safety Sets program. She would like to invite Ms. Dale to come back.

Ms. LaBar-Tapia said one of our goals is to rewrite the Film Ordinance. It was written in 2010 and is very old. We could incorporate some of this at a local level. If the group wants to talk to the police department get the Risk Department involved with a seat at the table regarding liability and legal issues. Also include the City and County.

6. REPORTS

Ms. LaBar-Tapia reported that the Santa Fe Film Office is very busy with seven productions in pre-production. The productions include four films, a pilot, a TV series and commercials. The pilot is for a major show in the fall that will hopefully become a series. We are waiting to hear if *Roswell* has been picked up for another season. A six part series is coming to Santa Fe. Oppenheimer is getting ready to do a lot of shooting downtown. We may be losing some productions because we don't have enough stage space or production offices. Landlords don't want to do short term leasing. A production is renting out Camelrock for a year because they are coming back to shoot and do not want to strike the sets. Garson is fully leased as well. It is something we need to address. We need to expand at Midtown, if possible, to expand stage space.

Ms. LaBar-Tapia continued saying the RFP for our website and social media has been published and noticed. That will be a two month process. We held a vendors conference last week and had ten vendors in attendance. March 16th is the deadline for proposals.

Alternate Commissioner Graham noted that he saw a Resolution go before the Governing Body to open up an RFP for Garson and several other areas.

Ms. LaBar-Tapia said she is not part of that conversation yet.

Ms. Krish said she would look into that and get back to Alternate Commissioner Graham.

Alternate Commissioner Graham said there is another piece of property across from Garson, the tennis center, that is for sale. It is a large building with indoor tennis courts that would be great for a stage. He thinks there have been offers.

7. UPDATES

A. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Commissioner Reiss reported that the Production Assistant Training Program had its first week of training. We had twenty students and were very encouraged about

it. We received one hundred twenty applications and had to narrow it to twenty. This is a Beta test. There is no reason why it would not continue.

Commissioner Wysong reported the last day of the Legislature an appropriation passed for the Next Generation Media Academy. We are still waiting to hear how that will pan out. The appropriation is \$40 million. \$20 million in capital and \$20 million in programming. The Santa Fe Community College has been working on getting a 501c3 entity launched. We were just notified by the Secretary of State's Office that the State signed off on that. It will be a vehicle for us to do specialized training for the future and for public/private partnerships.

Chair Dillingham said the Commission is starting our work plan with the \$10,000 appropriation we have received. We have broken up the scope of work in two stages. We requested funds from the County, but they were unable to help. We also reached out to Randy Randall at Tourism and have not heard back from him yet. We are going to get started with the work group, which is getting close to a quorum. We can have previous Commissioners or members of the public join the group. If you have any suggestions please let us know.

Chair Dillingham continued saying as to our work groups, if anyone has any reports please give them now. It seems we are going to have to reform our work groups and would like to hear from the Chairs of any existing work groups as to if they should continue or not. This is your Commission. As you see things we need to learn about or act on please bring those to us so we can get them on the agenda. We also need more nominees for Commissioners. Send your suggestions to Ms. Krish or to her. We are still short in the film crew department.

Alternate Commissioner Darrah said she will speak with Alternate Commissioner Graham as to the work group they headed up and will make a presentation at our next meeting.

Chair Dillingham said she and Commissioner Ragano will talk off line about the digital media vacancy.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. DISCUSSION TO AMEND THE NAME OF THE FILM AND DIGITAL MEDIA COMMISSION

Ms. LaBar-Tapia said we put in a request to City Staff and to the Chair about the name of the Commission. Historically the Film Commission is the Film Office. It has been an issue in the past and is more so now. It is confusing for the productions. We are asking that the Commission be renamed to the Film Council. The State's advisory entity is named the New Mexico Film Council so this would be consistent with the rest

of the State.

Chair Dillingham stated the proposal is for the Commission to be renamed as the Santa Fe Film and Digital Media Council. We would like to ask you to map out what the State has now.

Ms. LaBar-Tapia said that information would be available from the State Film Office.

Alternate Commissioner Darrah asked Commissioner Ragano if he felt the name change would be appropriate.

Commissioner Ragano said it sounds good.

MOTION A motion was made by Chair Dillingham, seconded by Commissioner Ragano, to approve the name change to the Santa Fe Film and Digital Media Council.

VOTE Chair Dillingham, yes; Commissioner Reiss, yes; Commissioner Wysong, yes; Commissioner Ragano, yes; Commissioner Dennis, yes; Commissioner Kahn, yes; Commissioner Aubrey, yes; Commissioner Gallegos, yes; Commissioner Lujan, yes; Commissioner Pearce, yes; Alternate Commissioner Graham, yes; Alternate Commissioner Darrah, yes.

Ms. Krish said we will get a Councilor to sponsor the name change and get it to the Governing Body for approval.

Chair Dillingham said we need to address the additional money needed for the plan. We also need a new member packet. She will work with Ms. Krish, Alternate Commissioner Graham and Ms. Martin on that.

B. ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL EMMYS

Commissioner Pierce said this is her last meeting as her term runs out on March 31st. She appreciates all of the members being part of her circle of learning.

Commissioner Pierce continued saying she is a Board member of the Rocky Mountain Regional Emmys. We are constantly seeking youth entries for which all fees are waived. If you know of any please let her know. The youth are also able to attend their lunches and speaking events. We also need speakers if any of you are available. The Rocky Mountain region includes part of Texas, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. There are no New Mexico speakers or entries as of this time.

Commissioner Ragano asked if this was just for traditional film making.

Commissioner Pierce said, no it is open to anything. She will provide the information to him.

9. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Rosey Hayett said he is the Director of Film Prize Junior New Mexico. This is the first year for the statewide youth film event in our state. We are working with the Stagecoach Foundation and New Mexico high schools. The short film will be shown at the Dreamcatcher theater in Espanola. We are also using the Moving Arts Center in Espanola on April 22nd. Seven Santa Fe schools are involved and twelve Tribal schools. They are competing for scholarships for their schools and stipends for teachers. We are looking for more school participation and sponsors. Thank you for your wonderful work and your support of youth in our State. We want them to experience the magic of putting a film together. We need judges if you are interested.

Commissioner Pearce volunteered to serve as a judge and to do anything she can do to support the event.

10. MATTERS FROM STAFF

None.

11. MATTERS FROM THE COMMISSION

None.

**12. NEXT MEETING
APRIL 5, 2022**

Chair Dillingham thanked all of the members who have termed out for their dedication and said we will reach out to you as we do our work plan.

13. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Gay Dillingham, Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer