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National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities (1976-1979): Correspondence 03

Jim Veninga

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December 2, 1980

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University of Texas at Austin

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Vice Chairman
Lubbock

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Dallas

William Broyles
Austin

Ruth Cox
Corpus Christi

Sam Dunnam
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Carolyn Galerstein
University of Texas at Dallas

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Jesus H. Hinojosa
Texas A&M University

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Dallas

Archie P. McDonald
Stephen F. Austin State University

Bill McKay
Fort Worth

Margarita Melville
University of Houston

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Sandra L. Myres
University of Texas at Arlington

Robert L. Patten
Rice University

Thomas E. Porter
University of Texas at Arlington

Beverly Rupe
San Antonio

Bob Ray Sanders
Dallas

Max Sherman
Canyon

Leonard P. Sipiara
El Paso

William G. Toland
Baylor University

George R. Woolfolk
Prairie View A&M University

Dear Sandy:

Thanks for the phone call of today. It has been, indeed, a rather lively, interesting experience. I am of course pleased with the outcome and you deserve alot of congratulations. Who knows, you might even get an invitation from the Federation to attend the annual meeting in 1990 celebrating the 20th anniversary of state humanities programs.

I am enclosing the two documents. The Texas Committee, throughout most of its history, has shared the sentiments of most state councils concerning state government. It has only been during the past 18 months or so, as new members have come on, that we have been able to move forward in thinking about state agency status. What most people probably don't know is the long road traveled within this state--and the Committee--to claim what is obviously the right option. The Committee vote in September (see enclosed minutes), which was well-timed, was a bit of a breakthrough. Now, as the minutes of our Executive Committee indicate, the Committee will have the opportunity at our upcoming meeting, to push one step further.

Interestingly, what really provided the basis for the Committee's vote in September in favor of the Senate bill was my quoting the original, entire statement of Senator Pell when he introduced the Senate bill (from the Congressional Record). It is a powerful statement.

Thanks for all your work.

Cordially,



Jim Veninga



James F. Veninga
Executive Director

**TEXAS COMMITTEE
FOR THE HUMANITIES**

1604 Nueces
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 473-8585

Members

Edmund L. Picoeff
Chairman
University of Texas at Austin

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William G. Toland
Baylor University

George R. Woolfolk
Prairie View A&M University

December 1, 1980

TO: All Committee Members
FROM: Jim Veninga JV

Enclosed please find a summary of action and recommendations stemming from a meeting of the Executive Committee on November 21, 1980.

The enclosed material relates to that item on the agenda entitled "Report of the Executive Committee on Long-range Planning and Goals for the TCH".


James F. Veninga
Executive Director

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

November 21, 1980
Austin, Texas

The meeting was called by Chairman Edmund Pincoffs to 1) assess the future of the TCH in light of the new legislation and the new administration in Washington, 2) to recommend to the full Committee additional priorities for the TCH in the coming years.

The Executive Committee recommends to the full Committee that the TCH take certain steps to heighten the catalytic role that the TCH can assume within the state in improving the state and status of the humanities in Texas.

The Committee should continue to place priority on its role as a grant-making agency, reaching out to museums, libraries, historical organizations, and other institutions and organizations interested in mounting public humanities projects. It will do this in a number of ways:

- 1) normal program development activities;
- 2) the publication of The Texas Humanist;
- 3) utilizing existing networks, such as the statewide associations of libraries, museums, historical societies, etc., with increasing contact between humanities scholars and these associations in terms of developing humanities efforts;
- 4) TCH grant programs;
- 5) Texas Humanities Resource Center.

In addition to this priority, however, the Committee should move forward in emphasizing the catalytic role of the TCH, and the relationship of the TCH to other agencies, institutions, and organizations concerned about the humanities. In order to assume this role, the TCH should 1) find new ways of becoming an advocate for the humanities and humanistic education, 2) find fresh ways of providing assistance and encouragement to humanities scholars and teachers, and 3) assume a more formal relationship with the State.

In regard to the first goal (an advocate for the humanities), the TCH should:

- 1) implement the Annual Humanities Lecture (as previously approved);
- 2) increase contact with various professional organizations and other agencies, perhaps with a series of lunches, to explore ways of relating the humanities to their interests and needs (medicine, law, Texas Education Agency, etc.);
- 3) serve as a resource center on the state of the humanities in Texas, by reviewing and maintaining current literature on this matter;
- 4) implement, as time and money permit and needs dictate, an occasional conference or seminar on particular topics, such as the "back to the basics" movement in public school education;
- 5) document and publish (perhaps in a series of booklets), model humanities programs (in the schools, in museums, in libraries, in colleges and universities, in the public arena)--whether funded by TCH, NEH, the National Humanities Faculty, foundations, or through public and private initiatives.

In regard to the second goal (encouragement to scholars and teachers), the TCH needs to find new ways of recognizing the contributions of exemplary activity. The Annual Humanities Lecture, for instance, could provide the setting for recognizing exemplary work of high school teachers in the humanities, or of remarkably successful activity of university scholars through participation in TCH funded projects.

In regard to the third goal, that of assuming a formal relationship with the State, which is warranted on the basis of both the nature and role of the TCH within the State of Texas and the new federal legislation, the Executive Committee submits the following resolution for consideration of the full Committee:

Whereas the Congress of the United States, in the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended through November , 1980, has declared that the encouragement and support of national progress and scholarship in the humanities, which is primarily a matter for private and local initiative, is also a matter of concern to the federal government, and

Whereas the Congress, in its most recent amendment to this legislation, has specifically authorized and encouraged state government to assume the challenge, responsibility, and opportunity of designating its state humanities committee as an agency of the state in administering the state humanities program, and

Whereas the Texas Committee for the Humanities, since 1973 has implemented through the resources of the National Endowment for the Humanities a statewide humanities program designed to increase public understanding of the humanities, which is critical to the education of a wise and visionary citizenry,

Therefore, the members of the Texas Committee for the Humanities, assembled in El Paso on this 12th day of December, 1980, hereby declare their desire to work toward a full federal/state partnership in support of public programming in the humanities, with the State of Texas exercising its option to designate the Texas Committee for the Humanities an agency of the State, in accordance with the provisions of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, as amended.

In developing this resolution, the Executive Committee expressed its belief that: 1) the TCH, as a private, non-profit organization using public tax revenue, cannot have assurance of its long-term viability; 2) that public humanities programming would best be served by a true federal/state partnership, with state humanities councils serving as state humanities programs, using federal funds for particular purposes, rather than federal programs operating in the states, 3) for the TCH to truly achieve its goals, it needs to be fully within the public sector and within the political process, and 4) in order for the TCH to assume the active role outlined above, the TCH needs the prestige, responsibility, and public accountability that comes with state agency status.

The Executive Committee recognizes that some of the activities outlined above (under point 1) can be implemented only as other funds become available to the TCH. However, should the TCH become an agency of the State, the State of Texas would need to appropriate a minimum of \$150,000 for the TCH and, in developing a budget for state appropriations, it would be advisable to think of state funds helping to support some of these initiatives, in addition to support for the regular grant programs of the Committee.

In moving toward these three initiatives, the Executive Committee expressed its hope that the TCH should serve as "connectors" and catalysts" in meeting our basic objectives, thereby assuming a role larger than that of a grant-making organization.

In order for the Committee to consider these initiatives, the following resolution is presented:

Whereas there is growing concern in the United States and in Texas in regard to the state of the humanities and the status of humanistic education, as documented most recently in the report of the Rockefeller Commission on the Humanities, and

Whereas the amount of funds available to promote education in the humanities, within the schools, within colleges and universities, and within ongoing and special programs of cultural institutions, agencies, and organizations, has either remained stable or actually declined during a period of extensive inflation, and

Whereas the Texas Committee for the Humanities needs to increase its efforts in working collaboratively with a variety of agencies, associations, institutions and organizations in addressing the problems confronting education in the humanities,

Therefore, the members of the Texas Committee for the Humanities, assembled in El Paso on this 12th day of December, 1980, hereby agree that, in order to achieve its goals and objectives, the TCH must pay increasing attention to the active, catalytic role that it can assume within the State, as a center for information on and ideas about the status of the humanities and the kinds of humanities programs, including projects within the schools, innovative and successful community projects, and courses of instruction in such professional areas as law and medicine, that can be implemented.

In regard to program initiatives, no attempt has been made at this time to determine an exact cost for specific activities. However, in terms of budget concept, the basic expenditures of the TCH would be organized around three rather than two primary categories:

- 1) administration, evaluation, planning
- 2) special projects and TCH initiated programs
- 3) the grant programs (including program development)

MINUTES

Texas Committee for the Humanities
Austin, Texas
September 12-13, 1980

Members

Edmund L. Pincoffs
Chairman
University of Texas at Austin

Betty Anderson
Vice Chairman
Houston

Lillian M. Bradshaw
Dallas

William Broyles
Austin

Ruth Cox
Corpus Christi

Sam Dunnam
Austin

James Early
Southern Methodist University

Carolyn Galerstein
University of Texas at Dallas

Antonio E. Garcia
El Paso

Rebecca Harrington
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Jesus H. Hinojosa
Texas A&M University

Archie P. McDonald
Stephen F. Austin State University

Bill McKay
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University of Houston

Roy M. Mersky
University of Texas at Austin

Sandra L. Myres
University of Texas at Arlington

Robert L. Patten
Texas Tech University

Thomas E. Porter
University of Texas at Arlington

Beverly Rupe
San Antonio

Bob Ray Sanders
Dallas

Max Sherman
Houston

Leonard P. Sipiora
Paso

William G. Toland
Taylor University

George R. Woolfolk
Fairview A&M University

James F. Veninga
Executive Director

The Texas Committee for the Humanities met at the Driskill Hotel, Austin, September 12-13, for its quarterly meeting. Committee members attending were: Edmund Pincoffs, Betty Anderson, Lillian Bradshaw, Ruth Cox, James Early, Carolyn Galerstein, Rebecca Harrington, Jesus Hinojosa, Zan Holmes, Margarita Melville, Roy Mersky, Sandra Myres, Thomas Porter, Bob Ray Sanders, Max Sherman, Leonard P. Sipiora, and George Woolfolk. Committee members absent were: William Broyles, Sam Dunnam, Antonio Garcia, Archie McDonald, Bill McKay, Robert Patten (on leave), Beverly Rupe, and William Toland. Staff members present were: Jim Veninga, Bob O'Connor, Joe Holley, Alison Paggi, and Judy Diaz.

The Chairman, Edmund Pincoffs, opened the meeting of the Texas Committee for the Humanities by welcoming everyone to Austin. A special welcome was given to B. J. Stiles, Director of the Division of State Programs, National Endowment for the Humanities; to Jack Carlson, former TCH Chairman; and to new TCH staff members Alison Paggi and Judy Diaz.

Mr. Pincoffs then moved to the business as scheduled on the agenda.

Minutes of June 14, 1980 Committee Meeting

James Early, Secretary, moved approval of the minutes as prepared and mailed earlier. The motion was unanimously approved.

Review of the Planning Grant Program

Betty Anderson, Vice Chairman, summarized for the Committee the special report on the Planning Grant Program prepared by the staff at the request of the Committee. She noted that over the last two years, the Committee had received 41 planning grant applications, with 28 of these applications being approved. However, of the 20 organizations returning to the Committee for implementation funds as of June 1, 1980, only 11 have been approved, for a funding rate of 55% (slightly below the overall TCH funding rate). Hence, Mrs. Anderson was concerned about the fact that the applicants had less of a chance of getting implementation funding if they asked for a planning grant. She also noted that many of the requests came from universities, media organizations, and from urban areas--not the areas of need for which the grant program was intended.

Bob Ray Sanders pointed out that the grant program was intended for groups and organizations that frequently lack the resources necessary to develop a competitive proposal, and that while many such groups and organizations are found in the more rural areas of the state, they are also found in the urban centers as well.

Jim Veninga noted that the new Media Development Grant program would eliminate media organizations from applying to the Committee through the Planning Grant Program, and thus the number of applications received would be smaller over the next several years. He also noted that the total amount of funds awarded through the Planning Grant Program was 1.5% of our total program budget.

After consideration of the issue, the Committee agreed that the staff should draft a statement for inclusion in the grant application packet that would further describe the purpose of the Planning Grant Program and the intended beneficiaries. It was agreed that universities and media organizations would be excluded as potential applicants through this grant program.

REPORT ON SPECIAL PROJECTS

Annual Humanities Lecture

Mr. Pincoffs referred the Committee to the report that had been written on plans to date for the Annual Humanities Lecture/Institute. He noted that the name of Sam Houston had been mentioned as a possible name for the lecture.

Sandra Myres voiced concern over the conference/institute portion of the event. Restricting the number of people receiving invitations would appear elitist. Any such undertaking should be very public.

George Woolfolk mentioned that it would be important to gain the involvement of allied organizations in supporting the lecture and institute, so that it would be a joint venture.

James Early commented that the lecture/institute should be either "elitist" or populist"--otherwise the entire effort would seem blurred. Jim Veninga noted that the selection of the lecturer and topic, and the development of the agenda for the Institute, would work toward resolving this issue one way or the other.

Max Sherman raised the question whether such an effort might duplicate activities of a similar nature currently taking place. He mentioned the frequent lectures sponsored by the LBJ School of Public Affairs. Mr. Pincoffs responded by noting that he hoped that this lecture and institute would be different, that it would focus on the humanities, putting a "halo" around the humanities--something that currently is not done by other lectureships.

Leonard Sipiora commented that the lecture should be rotated around the state, with backing from the region in which the lecture would take place. He also stated that it was imperative to make sure that the lecturer was an effective speaker as well as writer.

Ruth Cox commented that it would be important to clearly establish our priorities for the lecture. Money, the media, and volunteers would all need to work effectively toward those priorities.

Margarita Melville suggested that the TCH implement only the lecture, while encouraging other groups, at the local level, to do workshops related to the topic of the lecture.

Jack Carlson stated that if the lecture were held at the Capitol, it would be an excellent way to involve state legislators in the event and in the TCH program.

George Woolfolk moved that the Committee adopt the idea of implementing an Annual Humanities Lecture/Institute with the Chairman of the TCH appointing a special subcommittee to develop plans that could be approved or disapproved at the December, 1980 Committee meeting. Leonard Sipiora seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Alumni Organization

Edmund Pincoffs asked Jack Carlson, former TCH Chairman, to comment on the possible role that an alumni organization could play in the life of the TCH.

Mr. Carlson noted that 10 former members had replied to date to the questionnaire sent out by the staff. These responses were enthusiastic and it was clear that alumni could serve in a variety of ways. He commented that those who have served on the TCH involve a unique group, and these people could play an important role in the years ahead. He noted that the visibility of the TCH statewide is good, and that alumni could particularly aid the TCH in terms of its ongoing visibility in various communities. Mr. Carlson then asked for comments from other members.

Sandra Myres noted that the humanities lecture could provide the setting for an annual meeting of alumni and, should regional workshops take place in conjunction with the lecture, former members could serve as resource persons for these workshops.

Mr. Carlson stated that he believed the most important role to be assumed by alumni would be as resource people to the staff--aiding in such areas as program development, evaluation, and public information.

B. J. Stiles of the NEH noted that there were a number of former members from other state humanities councils who have moved to Texas and that they too could serve as important resource persons.

Mr. Carlson stated that he would be willing to circulate a letter to former members, indicating the various ways in which the TCH hopes they will be involved.

Tom Porter suggested that The Texas Humanist be used to announce the existence of this effort, who the people are and, periodically, what they are doing. That is, we need a bulletin board for the alumni.

Mr. Pincoffs suggested that discussion on the nature of the organization continue and that he and Mr. Carlson would seek to develop an organization that--while not formal--would nevertheless exist.

Ruth Cox suggested that all former members be invited to Committee meetings when they occur in their area.

George Woolfolk moved the adoption of an alumni organization as a part of the TCH. Margarita Melville seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Folk Art and Culture Grant Program

Carolyn Galerstein, Chairman of the Program Development Subcommittee, introduced the document on this topic prepared earlier by the staff. It was noted that the only step the TCH could take at this time was to indicate that it was willing to engage in discussion with the Texas Commission on the Arts in regard to such a joint program. Many details would have to be worked out and the TCH itself was at least two years away from implementing such an effort.

Ms. Galerstein moved that the TCH continue its discussions with the TCA regarding this possibility with a more detailed report submitted at a later date. Lillian Bradshaw seconded, the motion was approved.

Report from the Nominations and Elections Subcommittee

Chairman of the Subcommittee, George Woolfolk, reported on activities of the Subcommittee to date. He noted that four vacancies would have to be filled at the December meeting, all from the academic sector. Serious nominees reviewed last year would be included in this year's list of possibilities. New nominations will be sought through an announcement in The Texas Humanist and through a special announcement sent to colleges and universities. The deadline for nominations is October 15 and the Subcommittee will meet in late October or early November to determine its recommendations to the full Committee.

Mr. Woolfolk then referred to the recent letter from the NEH in response to the two year proposal submitted by the TCH. He noted that the letter suggested that the TCH improve upon its current representation from West Texas and strive toward a better balance of males/females on the Committee. The letter also stated that the TCH should have representation from the community colleges of Texas.

Edmund Pincoffs raised the question whether West Texas was really under-represented, given the population makeup of the State. An argument can be made that Houston is also underrepresented.

Ruth Cox stated that the Committee should look closely at the fields of the academic nominees to the Committee, to ensure that as many humanities disciplines as possible would be included in the representation. It seems as though the Committee should have an additional scholar of literature.

Margarita Melville noted that it might be important to have an additional person with expertise in media, given the number of media proposals that the Committee now receives.

The Committee requested that the Subcommittee submit a list of four backup candidates in addition to the top four nominees. The Committee requested complete resumes of these eight people.

New Public Service Announcement

Joe Holley asked Committee members to volunteer to hand deliver the new public service announcement to radio and television stations in their communities. The PSA was produced by Cynthia and Allen Mondell.

Bob Ray Sanders commented on how helpful the media review the day before had been. It was suggested that the media review be made a regular part of the meetings. This would give the members a chance to look at the quality of the work done by the people submitting media proposals.

NEH Response to TCH Proposal

The Chairman asked B. J. Stiles to comment on the review process at the NEH for proposals from state committees. Mr. Stiles outlined in detail the various stages in the process: the outside reviews; the work of the panel reviewing proposals; staff work in preparation of the National Council meeting; the meeting of the National Council; the Chairman's action on the proposal.

Mr. Pincoffs noted that the letter was very positive of the work of the TCH, but that we could learn from some of the suggestions made in the review letter-- if the suggestions have merit. He noted that the most serious criticism was that of the under-involvement of community colleges in the TCH program as a whole and, particularly, the lack of representation on the Committee from community colleges.

Jim Veninga commented on the work that has been done in the past to solicit the interest of community colleges in the wider TCH program. George Woolfolk noted that the matter of lack of representation was being reviewed by the Nominations Subcommittee.

Tom Porter stated that the Committee could not discuss the issue of the potential involvement of community colleges in our wider program without a representative from this academic sector on the Committee.

Financial Report

Jim Veninga gave the financial report in place of the Treasurer, Sam Dunnam. He noted that the resources of the Committee were being squeezed rather tightly, given the constant level of funding from the NEH and the extensive demands placed on the Committee. The Committee has available for the twelve-month period June 1, 1980 to May 31, 1981 \$418,000 in outright funds and \$270,000 in gifts and matching funds. As of August 31, the Committee had obligated outright funds in the amount of \$262,929 and gifts and matching funds in the

amount of \$68,430. Hence, the Committee has available for the September and December meetings (March proposals could be awarded effective June 1, 1981) \$155,071 in outright funds and \$201,570 in gifts and matching funds. Mr. Veninga noted that we were still awaiting receipt of some final expenditures reports from the previous fiscal year and that the Committee may have available an additional \$20,000 or \$30,000 as a result of unexpended grant funds. Outright funds requested at the September meeting: \$254,921; gifts and matching funds requested: \$240,217.

The Committee agreed to set a limit of approximately \$80,000 in direct awards at the September meeting. The Committee noted that there was more flexibility with the gifts and matching funds.

Association of Southwest Humanities Councils

The Chairman introduced Arturo Rosales, Executive Director of the Association of Southwestern Humanities Councils. Mr. Rosales opened by giving a short history of the project and its objectives. The Association was funded in January, 1980, and most of that time has been spent traveling around the Southwest in an attempt to get contacts who would sponsor workshops to show how the humanities are useful and relevant to the hispanic communities. Leonard Sipiora and Margarita Melville are part of an eight-member board who establish policy and determine the direction of the Association. The direction of the Association is to work specifically with hispanic groups throughout the Southwest (California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas) to develop public programs.

The first workshop was held in Austin. Mr. Rosales said he was a bit disappointed in the turnout--only about 33 people attended. He noted that the main problem was going to be in publicizing the workshops. The next workshop in San Antonio would be co-sponsored by the Mexican-American Cultural Center. Co-sponsoring with a local organization that has visibility will hopefully get more people interested in attending the workshops. There will be 22 workshops held during the next nine months.

Mr. Rosales said that the most difficult aspect of the project was to coordinate interstate proposals. The different deadlines and guidelines make it very hard for an applicant to apply to four different states. Mr. Rosales suggested that a special committee (composed of members from the four councils) be established to consider interstate projects with maybe one or two deadlines a year.

Reauthorizing Legislation

Mr. Pincoffs moved to a discussion of reauthorizing legislation currently before the U.S. Congress. Mr. Pincoffs noted that the staff had prepared a memo on this matter and that copies of the bills had been sent to Committee members. The Chairman asked Mr. Veninga to make some preliminary remarks.

Mr. Veninga stated that the memorandum mailed earlier summarizes where the reauthorization process is at this point. The Senate bill which has been passed, and the House bill which is currently being considered, are the

results of a long process. He noted that it would be helpful for the Committee to reflect on the differences between these bills and perhaps to arrive at a consensus of which would be most favorable from the standpoint of the TCH.

The House bill essentially states that state humanities councils are doing a good job, that their present accountability is sufficient, and that that accountability is essentially to the NEH. The House bill allows the program to continue to operate basically as a federal program, with state councils having a great deal of independence in terms of its program. The Senate bill, as passed, involved a compromise of the original bill submitted by Senator Pell which mandated state agency status. The current bill, which incorporates five suggestions made by the Federation, provides an option, to leave the program as is or to give the State the right to assume the program, with certain conditions. One important condition is a financial one, that, in the case of Texas, \$150,000 would have to be appropriated. Another condition provides for continuity over the next several years; the Governor could make appointments only as current members rotate off the Committee. The Senate bill allows for the issue to be resolved at the state level, between the humanities council and state government.

The House bill, Mr. Veninga noted, certainly does the TCH no harm. It provides the basis for at least a minimum of accountability and authorizes the state program for another five years. If federal appropriations are there, state councils will do okay, if not, then state councils would obviously suffer without state support being there. The Senate bill does something different, it provides an option. But it is doubtful, in Texas, whether the Governor would move to exercise this option without strong lobbying for that effort. The real question is whether we wish to have the option available. The question of whether or not we may wish to pursue state agency status needs further discussion, analysis and study.

Mr. Pincoffs raised the question of what would the TCH be losing by keeping the option open? Why is it that the majority of state councils have seemed to be in favor of the House bill?

Mr. Veninga answered by stating that the history of the state humanities program has involved a certain distrust of state government. There has been a fear on the part of most state councils that state bureaucracy would interfere with the program. But the answer to the question probably has to do with how the program began, how the NEH itself implemented the program.

B. J. Stiles noted that the present law allows the Governor to appoint one-half the membership on the Committee if the State moves toward matching on a dollar for dollar basis the outright allocation to the Council. He also noted that it is a bit premature to project exactly what language the final House bill will contain. But he noted that there may be an attempt to reach compromise between the House and Senate before a final House bill is passed.

Max Sherman raised the question of whether or not state councils would continue to experience intense political pressure year after year, if reauthorization is for a five year period. Does that mean that every year we would have to face the same issue?

Jim Veninga noted that it has been reported that Congressman Yates will hold hearings next year in conjunction with appropriations on this very issue. To face this issue in appropriations is far more dangerous than in the reauthorizing process.

James Early expressed concern over the appointment process if state agency status were to occur. He noted that the TCH has been fairly representative and broadly responsive to the state. Would there be guidelines for gubernatorial appointments? Otherwise, he noted, he liked the notion of TCH becoming a state agency.

Jim Veninga noted that the basic difference is in the fact that the TCH selects its own members, whereas under state agency status, the Governor would make the appointments, as members rotate off the Committee. The question is whether state councils should continue to do this or whether it should be done through the state democratic process with the Governor making the appointments.

Max Sherman stated that the gubernatorial appointments would be subject to confirmation of the Senate, and that that process would certainly involve discussions. But he noted that the potential for politicization could occur in the grant making process, and that the agency would need to be prepared for this and to deal with it.

Sandra Myres stated that she was not concerned about the appointment process, that state government in Texas has been fairly responsible. What worried her, however, was the possibility of obtaining funding from one legislative session to find out later that the next legislature no longer wanted to support the program. What one legislature may support, another may not, and the program could be dissolved.

Mr. Veninga read the original statement of Senator Pell contained in the Congressional Record when he introduced the reauthorizing legislation. The critical issue, noted Mr. Veninga, is whether this program, as Senator Pell states, belongs fully in the public sector.

Leonard Sipiora asked to speak from the perspective of someone who has served on the Texas Commission on the Arts. He stated that there is an implied concern in the remarks of Senator Pell that we may need the additional support of state government. That point cannot be ignored, given the state of the economy. Texas certainly has the wherewithal to help support this program. His experience with the TCA indicated that political pressure, while at times excessive, can be countered, and that they were survivors who survived pretty well, and were able to withstand the vagaries of the political process. There are distinct advantages to having a standard capital base if we are indeed looking to the future. It is better to control our destiny by planning for it than by allowing it to slip upon us in a way that we would not want.

Max Sherman then moved that the Texas Committee go on record as favoring the Senate bill. James Early seconded the motion. The motion carried, by a vote of 14 to 1.

Other Business

The next meeting of the Texas Committee will be in El Paso, December 12 and 13. Jim Veninga mentioned that some Committee members expressed an interest in having a reception similar to the one held in Austin. Mr. Veninga and Leonard Sipiora will work together on arrangements for the December meeting.

Mr. Pincoffs moved the discussion to the National Meeting of State Humanities Programs being held in Indianapolis on November 16-19. The Federation will reimburse the expenses of the Chairman and the Executive Director.

Jim Veninga pointed out that since his travel is paid as a member of the Executive Committee of the Federation one other Committee member could go.

Mr. Pincoffs asked that members interested in attending the meeting contact the Executive Director.

Following this discussion, the Committee moved to consideration of current grant applications.

Review of Grant Applications

S80-756-HIR - Model Addition Improvement League - "The Concept of Neighborhood in a Texas City: Past to Present and the Future Challenge"

Resubmit

Motion to Resubmit: Myres; seconded: Holmes

Vote: 7 yes - 5 no

Reason for rejection: 1) proposal vague, 2) no humanities content, and 3) not enough involvement of scholars.

S80-757-HIR - Daughters of Progress Club - "A Collection of Short Stories Based on Post-Slavery Black Folklore in Matagorda County, Texas"

Approved, up to \$20,000

Motion for Approval: Woolfolk; seconded: Sipiora

Vote: 13 yes - 2 no

Suggestions: 1) that oral history tapes be deposited in a university library, and 2) use folklore festival as a vehicle for discussion.

Comments: Committee funded the project because of its local history emphasis.

S80-758-HIR - Railroad and Pioneer Museum - "A Century of Change: History of Temple, Texas"

Rejected

Motion to Reject: Myres; seconded: Bradshaw

Vote: Unanimous

Reasons for rejection: 1) needs additional consideration given to some of the more important social, cultural, and political issues involved in the history of Temple; 2) appears more celebratory than investigative; and 3) needs assistance of senior historian.

S80-759-HIR - Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorale, Inc. - "A Motivating Story for the People of Permian Basin"

Approved, with conditions - \$5,418 in direct funds and Challenge Grant up to \$20,000

Motion for Approval: Hinojosa; seconded: Sanders

Vote: 8 yes - 4 no

Conditions: 1) indirect cost eliminated, 2) advisory committee needs to be expanded to include minority representation, and 3) change title to "A Motivating Story of the People of the Permian Basin".

S80-760-HIR - Hardin-Simmons University - "Abilene - Past, Present and Future"

Rejected

Motion to Reject: Anderson; seconded: Myers

Vote: Unanimous

Reasons for rejection: 1) appears more celebratory than investigative, 2) needs additional consideration given to some of the more important social, cultural, and political issues involved in the history of Abilene, 3) needs assistance of senior historian.

S80-761-PD - University Art Museum - "Symposium/Russian Art of the Avant-Garde: Its Cultural Context"

Rejected

Motion to Reject: Galerstein; seconded: Early

Vote: Unanimous

Reason for rejection: Not sufficiently oriented to a public audience.

S80-762-PD - Dallas Health and Science Museum - "Dreamstage: Public Humanities Component to the Dreamstage Exhibition"

Rejected

Motion to Reject: Myers; seconded: Bradshaw

Vote: Unanimous

Reason for rejection: Inadequate humanities content.

S80-763-PD - Houston Center for the Humanities - "Houston"

Approved

Challenge Grant up to \$42,122 in gifts and matching funds

Motion to Approve: Hinojosa; seconded: Myres

Vote: Unanimous

S80-764-MP - The Communications Alliance - "A Nation of Victims"

Rejected

Motion to Reject: Myers; seconded: Sanders

Vote: Unanimous

Comment: The Committee will review the proposal at a later time if the script can be revised to reflect the reviewers' comments.

S80-765-MP - KCOS TV, Channel 7, El Paso Public Television Foundation - "The Quadracentennial Minutes: People, History, and Issues"

Approved, with conditions, up to \$38,965

Motion for Approval: Early; seconded: Melville

Vote: 14 yes - 1 no

Conditions: 1) amount of award reflects deletion of indirect costs, 2) request detailed budget narrative, 3) bilingual emphasis, 4) raise thought-provoking questions concerning culture and history of El Paso, and 5) advisors should play a key role throughout the project.

S80-766-MP - KERA/90.FM, Public Communication Foundation of North Texas "Texas Towns"

Resubmit

Motion to Resubmit: Myers; seconded: Sipiora

Vote: Unanimous

Resubmit - taking into consideration the following concerns: 1) include women and ethnic representation on advisory committee, 2) programs produced should be more than entertainment; history, values, and culture of the community should provide point of inquiry.

S80-767-MD - KUHT-TV, Channel 8, University of Houston Central Campus "Descent into the Past"

Approved, up to \$4,994.65

Motion for Approval: Myres; seconded: Sipiora

Vote: 14 yes - 1 no

Condition: expand advisory committee to include ethnic representation.

S80-768-MD - Criminal Justice Media Center, Sam Houston State University "Eyewitness"

Approved, with conditions, up to \$4,983

Motion for Approval: Mersky; seconded: Melville

Vote: Unanimous

Conditions: 1) that leading scholars in the field be included in the project, 2) that advisory committee be expanded to include minority representation.

S80-769-MP - Bilingual Broadcasting Foundation, Inc. - "Elecciones '80"

Rejected

Motion to Reject: Bradshaw; seconded: Myers

Vote: 11 yes - 3 no

Reasons for rejection: 1) format unclear, 2) insufficient time for this kind of project, 3) budget unclear, 4) quality of demonstration tape was weak.

Comment: Committee is willing to receive the proposal at a later time.

S80-770-HIR - Texas Historical Commission - "Texana II, Cultural Heritage of the Planter South"

Rejected

Motion to Reject: Myres; seconded: Anderson

Vote: 8 yes - 6 no

Reason for rejection: appeals more to a professional group rather than broad public audience.

S80-771-PD - Department of Art: North Texas State University - "China to Texas: The Great Bronze Age Exhibition"

Approved, with conditions, up to \$7,093

Motion for Approval: Early; seconded: Melville

Vote: 14 yes - 1 no

Conditions: 1) eliminate \$1,500 for institutional administrative costs, 2) eliminate \$400 for crafts demonstration.

J80-715-PD - Texas A&I University, Department of Speech Communication - "Mobile Theatre for Public Movement in Humanities Education"

Approved, with conditions, up to \$15,905

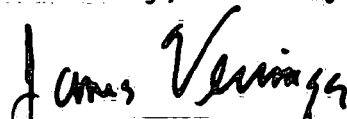
Motion for Approval: Sanders; seconded: Melville

Vote: 9 yes

Conditions: 1) reduce actors' salaries to \$5,400, 2) eliminate \$4,000 for media promotion, 3) strengthen publicity efforts, 4) have participating scholars meet at the beginning of the project to see how discussion following the plays can be strengthened, and 5) existing videotape should be made available to other stations and groups.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

James Early, Secretary



James Veninga, Executive Director