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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Wednesday – February 18, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
El Paso Museum of History, Seminar Room

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	R. Katherine Brennand	X	
	Estrella Escobar		X
	Kenneth Gorski	X	
	Teresa Hernandez	X	
	Jeannine Kennedy	X	
	Ann F. Kruzich	X	
	Daniel Longoria	X	
	Steve Lujan	X	
	Marina Monsisvais		X
	William Moody		X
	Analinda Moreno	X	
	Susan Novick	X	
	Isela Ocegueda	X	
	Elia Perez	X	
	Carina Ramirez	X	
	Ida Mae Steadman	X	
	Jane B. Thomas	X	

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Consecutive absences: William Moody (2nd)

Others present: Tracey Jerome, Julia Bussinger, Pat Dalbin, Chris Espinoza, Patrick Shaw Cable, Brittany Hutchinson and Misty Monteros.

2. **Call for Public Comment.** None.

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for December 18, 2014.** Chair began by allowing members time to review the minutes of the last meeting. Carina Ramirez moved to approve as written. Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Introduction of New MCAD Director.** Tracey Jerome began by introducing herself as the new director for the Museums and Cultural Affairs Department. She provided members with a brief description of her background and previous work experience, noting that she holds dual-citizenship and two Master's Degrees, one in Historic Preservation with a focus on Economic Revitalization and the other in the History of Art with a focus on East Asian art. General discussion followed.

5. **Museum Reports.** Julia Bussinger began with the Archaeology Museum, introducing Brittney Hutchinson as the new Community Engagement Coordinator. Brittney provided members with a brief background on her education and work experience. Julia continued with her report, mentioning upcoming spring camps, summer camps, lectures and demonstrations. Invitations for the Membership Appreciation event on March 7th were distributed to members. Julia continued with the History Museum, noting that the Digital Wall grand opening was a success. A meeting with the Mayor of Culture from Copenhagen, his CEO, plus the curator and director of the Copenhagen Museum, along with cultural leaders from El Paso was focused on strategizing their relationship and how to work together on cultural exchange. Copenhagen's Mayor of Culture and his team were provided with a special tour of the History Museum along with a tour of Hueco Tanks and lunch with representatives of the Tigua tribe. Julia provided some statistics from the opening, noting there were 1,200 people in attendance and 35,667 touches on the Wall. With that, she concluded her reports and opened the floor for questions. General

discussion followed.

Patrick Shaw Cable provided the Art Museum report on behalf of Michael Tomor, who was unable to attend. He began by notifying members of Michael's last day, which will be March 20th. Additionally, there was an offer made to a candidate for the Community Engagement Manager position, who will start in a couple months if the offer is accepted. Patrick continued with exhibition openings and closings, lobby installations, and a new *Artists on Art* series. There has been some Texas institutions expressing interest in the Gaspar Enriquez exhibit, and as a result, it will be traveling to the Latino Cultural Center in Dallas this summer and to the Brownsville Museum of Fine Arts in the fall. The museum accepted 2 gifts into its permanent collection, a 450 piece collection of retablos and a 200 piece collection of regional and international works and prints by European masters. Patrick mentioned three major educational and outreach initiatives for the community, and concluded his reports before opening the floor for questions and general discussion followed.

6. Discussion and Action on the 2015 Public Art Annual Plan. Pat Dalbin began by introducing herself and reminding members she comes before the board every year for approval of the annual plan before going to City Council for final approval. She explained the strategic goal and purpose for the plan, explaining that the 2015 Public Art Plan includes an update of projects in progress and new projects to be initiated, including the planned location, proposed budget and timetable, along with the artist selection process and/or the artist selected for each project. The Public Art Master Plan was approved in 2014 on October 28th and this annual plan aligns with it. Images of completed projects and projects in progress were provided via a PowerPoint slideshow. Pat requested approval of the 2015 Public Art Annual Plan. Teresa Hernandez so moved; Carina Ramirez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and Action on Artist Roster for Summer Music Programs. Chris Espinoza began by introducing himself and briefly explained both summer music programs to members. Music Under the Stars is at Chamizal National Memorial every Sunday from June 7th-July 26th at 7:30p and Dancing in the City is at Convention Center Plaza every Saturday from June 6th-July 25th at 7:00p. There is an artist selection process for all applicants to ensure an equal opportunity to be selected for participation. Under the selection process, there is an artist call sent out through online applications, press releases, social media, an existing applicant database and direct solicitation. All applications are compiled and an artist selection panel is created that includes 2 staff members from the Chamizal along with others that are involved in the arts or public programming, for a total of 4-5 people on the panel. A survey with performance video is sent to panel members who then rate the applicants on different criteria for scoring. After scoring, the top 40 artists are placed on the roster, which was provided for members to review via a PowerPoint slideshow. Ida Steadman inquired as to why the El Paso Symphony Orchestra was not included on the artist roster, and Chris explained that they did not apply. Tracey Jerome asked if we have a relationship and is this something we might want to discuss to see if they would be available and where that might happen in the schedule. Ida Steadman volunteered to call Ruth Ellen Jacobson and inquire. Ken Gorski inquired as to whether contracts with artists had been signed and Chris replied they had not as the board's approval was needed before that could happen. Jeannine Kennedy asked if there was time to add the El Paso Symphony Orchestra if they chose to submit an application and Chris replied that the decision would lie in the hands of his supervisor and the department director. General discussion followed. Isela Ocegueda motioned to approve the artist roster as presented; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and Action on Proposed Change to Regular Meeting Day. Tracey requested the item be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting on March 19th. Chair requested a motion to approve. Katherine Brennand so moved; Isela Ocegueda seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Jeannine Kennedy so moved; Isela Ocegueda seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for March 19, 2015.

Approved for content by:
Ken Gorski, Chair

Respectfully submitted by:
Misty Monteros, Administrative Assistant
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

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