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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Thursday – February 21, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.
El Paso Museum of Art, Larry Francis Board Room

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. Meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
	Francesca Alonso	X	
	R. Katherine Brennand	X	
	Estrella Escobar	X	
	Bernice Gregory		X
	Jeannine Kennedy	X	
	Ann F. Kruzich		X
	Lilia Limon		X
	Daniel Longoria		X
	Belinda Luna		X
	Marina Monsisvais	X	
	William Moody	X	
	Susan Novick	X	
	Isela Ocegueda	X	
	Elia Perez	X	
	Carina Ramirez	X	
	Jane B. Thomas		X

CITY CLERK DEPT.
2013 APR 11 PM 4:00

Others present: Michael Tomor, Julia Bussinger, Ben Fyffe, and Misty Castaneda.

2. Call for Public Comment. None.

3. Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for January 7, 2013. Chair began by allowing members time to review the minutes of the last meeting. Marina Monsisvais moved to approve; Susan Novick seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. Introduction of New Board Member. Item was tabled as the new board member had an emergency and could not make the meeting.

5. Museum Reports. Michael Tomor began with a brief report on vacant positions, followed by an update on exhibition programming. Mentioned that two shows closed and five have opened since the last meeting. He continued with education programming, noting that the winter camp was very successful, the winter class schedule offered eight classes, attendance was high for a zip tour of the Wyeths exhibition, the Bach lunch program had no less than 200 in attendance each Thursday, and free movies are shown each Saturday at 2pm. Staff is currently working on focused, niche programming such as a Senior Day, Veterans Day, Family Day and a Crybaby Day for young parents with infants aged one to three.

Julia Bussinger began with current exhibits at the Archaeology Museum, mentioning that International Museum Day is May 18th and expressing her wish to have International Museum Night, keeping both the Archaeology and History Museums open until midnight on that day. She informed members that the Archaeology Curator position has been filled and the candidate will start on April 10th. Poppy Fest will be on March 23rd, the 18th Jornada Mogollon conference will be on October 4th and 5th, and building improvements and enhancements are upcoming. The storage area will be expanded and a special traveling exhibit gallery is planned. Julia continued with the History Museum update, mentioning that the T-13 plane is gone and the first floor will be a transportation gallery. Mandy the Mule will be on permanent display on the first floor along with the Touch City Wall, which is a project in progress. An advisory committee has been organized and the first meeting will be held on March 5th to discuss potential challenges in document collection for the

Touch City Wall project. A content specialist will be hired to communicate with different institutions to make sure there are enough images to open the wall. There is a lot of preparation involved to compile the database, to include scanning photographs and research. Julia discussed upcoming exhibits and opened the floor for questions, there were none, and she concluded her reports.

6. City Hall Relocation Update. Ben Fyffe shared with members the relocation plans for MCAD, explaining the new location will be in the Union Plaza Transit Terminal (UPTT), a four-story parking garage with a walkway connected to the Convention Center. There is ground floor retail and office space that never rented out, allowing the department to remain in the Arts District. Construction crews are working double-shifts in preparation for the move and renovations should be complete by March 4th along with fiber lines. There will be a programmatic side to the office along with a business side, which will allow for improved workflow. Ben opened the floor for questions, and the Chair expressed her concern over where future advisory board meetings would be held. Ben replied that once the move was complete, it would be determined whether holding meetings at the new location would be feasible or not. Alternative locations being considered are the El Paso Museum of Art and the El Paso Museum of History. General discussion followed.

7. Discussion and Action on Ethics Training Deadline. Chair began by explaining to members that since not everyone has met the requirement for ethics training, there would be a new deadline set. Members engaged in general discussion and Susan Novick moved that April 1st, 2013 be established as the deadline. Marina Monsisvais seconded the motion; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and Action on March Board Meeting Date. Chair explained that a date for the next meeting in March needed to be discussed. Board Secretary Misty Castaneda explained that the regularly scheduled date would fall during Spring Break. Chair continued by mentioning that MCAD Director Sean McGlynn had proposed two dates: March 14th or March 28th. Chair pointed out that both dates fall on a Thursday and general discussion followed. Carina Ramirez moved to schedule the March meeting on the 28th. Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Susan Novick moved to adjourn; Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for March 28, 2013.

Approved for content by:
Isela Ocegueda, Chair

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