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## MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)  
Thursday – March 17, 2011 – 4:00 p.m.  
El Paso Museum of Art Boardroom

### MINUTES

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

<b>Roll call</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
	Francesca Alonso	X	
	R. Katherine Brennand	X	
	Estrella Escobar	X	
	Jeannine Kennedy	X	
	Ann F. Kruzich	X	
	Belinda Luna		X
	Marina Monsisvais	X	
	William Moody		X
	Elia Perez	X	
	Ana Pilhoefer		X
	Carina Ramirez	X	
	Jane E. Ratcliff	X	
	Abel Saucedo	X	
	Jane B. Thomas	X	
	Ray Valencia	X	

Others present: Sean McGlynn, Maria Aragon, Barbara Angus, Marilyn Guida and Jeffrey Romney.

2. **Public Comment.** None.

3. **Approval of Minutes.** Chair not present. Sean McGlynn (ex-officio member) asked the present board members to carry item forward in Chair's absence. Estrella Escobar asked for approval of the minutes of last meeting on March 17, 2011. Jane Thomas motioned to approve the minutes as submitted; Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Discussion on Upcoming Exhibitions, Programs and Events at the Museum Facilities.**

- A. Sean McGlynn mentioned that the *Vaquero* sculpture outside the Art Museum entrance was on long-term loan and not part of the permanent collection. Recently, the estate of Luis Jimenez has recalled the loan and the piece will be removed from the premises. Mentioned that the City was not granted Right of First Refusal, and the piece will be placed on the market for bid.
- B. Mentioned that a directive was given to MCAD for funding an Arts Market year-round initiative; notification has gone out to artisan and market population, and process will take about 4-6 weeks. Will be located at Union Plaza and will be held each Saturday 8am-12pm. Will be modeled after nationwide best practices and is intended to fuel the downtown economy and create tax roll investments. Criteria will be strictly local manufacture, with goal to build core of committed vendors for year-round event.
- C. Provided flyer for community meetings around Mills Avenue and San Jacinto redesign. Public process for improvements; encouraged board members to participate.
- D. Mentioned that the water feature at the Art Museum is undergoing renovations. Initiative was delayed due to winter freeze and budget impacts, but still scheduled to be completed this year.
- E. Barbara Angus, Curator for Museum of History, mentioned that *Hilo de la Memoria* is on exhibition until April 24; Maps workshop on March 19; and Lectures on March 24 and 26. Mentioned Mexican Revolution celebration events were very well attended. Mentioned Tai Chi classes ongoing. Mentioned Irish band playing on March 17 for St. Patrick's Day celebration. Mentioned upcoming *GIANTS* Exhibitions will feature Farah and Polo Real. Mentioned Museum

is focused on building membership. Mentioned collaboration with Museum of Archaeology to tie exhibits and programs together.

- F. Marilyn Guida, Education Curator for Museum of Archaeology, reported statistics for February. Mentioned *Pueblo* Exhibit, a collaboration with Tigua Tribe and Nick Houser as guest curator; exhibit includes over 100 years of photographs, maps, illustrations and artifacts. Mentioned family tour this weekend March 19. Mentioned that the Tigua Tribe was very appreciative of the City's recognition at the event opening. Mentioned Poppy Festival next weekend March 26; no poppies this year, but lots of great vendors, local handmade crafts, children's activities, and live music. Elia Perez mentioned that Navajo Native, Alex Mares will be onsite. Marilyn Guida mentioned Trails are undergoing major improvements by the City. Mentioned recruitment for Curator is ongoing; national call was posted seeking qualified candidates on the American Association of Museums (AAM) website.
- G. Jeffrey Romney, Head of Development for Museum of Art, mentioned *Monet to Matisse* is ongoing through May. Announced that 1,791 individuals have come through the exhibit to date, not including school tours. Mentioned exhibit has received great media response on both sides of the border, with media coverage expanding to Lordsburg, Marfa and statewide. Statistics support visitorship, with out of state visitors reserving tickets online, allowing opportunity to solicit for memberships as well. Mentioned Mesley Lecture on May 19; invite will be mailed to board members. Mentioned collaborative with Opera on Wednesdays at noon; just a couple more weeks to go. Mentioned the *European Collection* catalogue is on sale in Museum Store; \$35 members and \$50 non-members; won Addy Award. Mentioned upcoming book signing event, and provided invite. Mentioned *Common Language* soft opening on March 25, with VIP/Member Reception on April 21. Mentioned ongoing Spring Break Camps; some classes cancelled due to lack of enrollment. Mentioned Museum School Coordinator hired and will start next week; filling this position will increase activities. Mentioned Collectors Club trip to Dallas on March 18 is sold out; group will visit local sites and private collections. Mentioned 3 grants from Chase totaling approximately \$15,000 will support educational programs. Mentioned 50th Anniversary Fundraiser event scheduled for September; additional information is forthcoming.
- H. Katherine Brennand mentioned *Monet to Matisse* has received lots of recognition; has set the platform to draw blockbuster exhibits to El Paso; opportunity to create sustainability for signature exhibits featured simultaneously with other facility activities and programs. Mentioned that exhibits like *Monet to Matisse*, *Hilo de la Memoria* and *Pueblo* (featuring Tigua Tribe) will definitely help secure memberships at each of the museum facilities.
- I. Jane Ratcliff wanted the board to recognize and thank the staff and security guards at all the division facilities for all their hard work and efforts.
- J. Sean McGlynn mentioned that next meeting will include introduction to the Public Art Program and an update on the Trails System at the Museum of Archaeology.

**5. Adjournment and Site Tour.** Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m. followed by docent lead tour of the Exhibition: *Monet to Matisse: French Masterworks from the Dixon Gallery and Gardens*. Next meeting scheduled for April 21, 2011.

Approved for content by:  
William Moody, Chair

Respectfully submitted by:  
Maria Aragon, Administrative Assistant  
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department