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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)  
Thursday – May 15, 2014 – 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 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	R. Katherine Brennand	X	
	Estrella Escobar	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	
	Jane B. Thomas	X	

CITY CLERK DEPT.  
2014 SEP 15 AM 11:44

Consecutive absences: Daniel Longoria (2<sup>nd</sup>).

Others present: Michael Tomor, Barbara Angus, George O. Maloof III, Ben Fyffe, Pat Dalbin and Misty Castaneda.

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

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for April 17, 2014.** Chair began by allowing members time to review the minutes of the last meeting. Carina Ramirez moved to accept the minutes as written. Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Museum Reports.** Barbara Angus gave the History Museum report, briefly discussing current and upcoming exhibits and classes. Polo Real fundraising event has raised \$40,000 to date, with a week to go before the actual event. Mentioned there will be free admission to *People of the Sun* exhibit on International Museum Day and 1,900 photographs have been collected toward the goal of 2,000 for the Digital Wall. Barbara opened the floor for questions, there were none, and she concluded her report.

George Maloof gave the Archaeology Museum report, beginning with current and upcoming programming, specifically mentioning a visit from 2 Australian archaeologists who gave a program on rock art in Australia and 'Bordertown Cooking' by Jim Hastings, a local chef who uses desert plants in his recipes. There have been several school tours, Archaeology camps are starting in June and attendance is steady. George opened the floor for questions and general discussion followed.

Michael Tomor began by explaining to members that the café project is moving towards completion with funds set aside in a Quality of Life bond portfolio to complete value edited-out projects at museums. The 4,500 square foot space downstairs normally used for special events will be turned into a restaurant with its own entrance and operating hours. The targeted audience is families and the café is looking to provide food service and a price point attractive to children, as approximately 14,000 school children are seen each year. General discussion followed. Michael continued with staffing vacancies, exhibit openings and closings, education and school tours. International Museum Day on May 17<sup>th</sup> is an international project that draws attention to the good work museums do and will include fencing, flamenco dancing and art activities in the classroom. He provided a brief update on

sponsorships, discussed a \$5,000 gift to underwrite the PTSD program for the year and mentioned a \$35,000 grant from the Lipscomb Foundation that is restricted for the purchase of art. The money is used to buy art at Member's Choice each year. This year the goal is to strengthen the museum's collection of El Paso art created from 1870-1950. Michael opened the floor for questions, there were none and he concluded his report.

**5. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Acquisitions.** Michael Tomor began by showing an image of the item for acquisition via a PowerPoint slideshow. It is a work by Betty Gold, an American sculptor. The piece, approximately 6 feet tall and made of welded steel, is being offered by James M. Shelton, Jr. The piece is in need of conservation, and the donor has agreed to take care of all conservation costs as part of the gift. General discussion followed. Jane Thomas moved to accept. Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**6. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Loan Requests.** Michael Tomor began by showing an image of the piece being requested for loan by the Rubin Center at UTEP from June 9<sup>th</sup> through September 27<sup>th</sup>. *Air Patterns* by Suzi Davidoff and Rachelle Thiewes is an installation of five metal sculptures and six drawings on fabric. Jane Thomas so moved; Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**7. Discussion and Action on Cultural Funding Panel Review Roster for FY2015.** Ben Fyffe began by reminding members that the Cultural Affairs division grants out about a quarter of its budget every year to local arts organizations and local artists in a competitive granting process. As part of that process, each application is reviewed by a panel of 5 community members looking for diverse perspectives in each of 4 different categories, for a total of 20 panelists. Board members were provided with a copy of the roster (attached as part of these minutes) for their review. Ben provided specific information on the application and review process, and general discussion followed. Marina Monsisvais moved to approve; Estrella Escobar seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**8. Public Art Status Report.** Pat Dalbin began by introducing herself and proceeded to review the public art status report via a PowerPoint slideshow, beginning with projects in progress, followed by ongoing projects. Pat opened the floor for questions and general discussion followed.

**9. Adjournment.** Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Marina Monsisvais moved to adjourn; Steve Lujan seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for June 19, 2014.

Approved for content by:  
Isela Ocegueda, Chair

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

CITY CLERK DEPT.  
2014 SEP 15 AM 11:44

**Panel Reviewers for Cultural Funding Grants  
for Fiscal Year 2015**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Aleman, Anna	Executive Director	FEMAP
Alvarado, Jesus	Artist	Centro Cultural La Fe
Barba, Melissa	Assistant Director	Rubin Center for Visual Arts
Brown, Billie	President	Theatre Inc.
Carter-Tripp PhD, Marshall	Retired Professor/Museum Director	UTEP
DeMatthews PhD, David	Professor	UTEP
Gallegos, Gabriela	Attorney/Art Advocate	Owner & USA Triathlon Certified Race Director at Race El Paso Mediator at Gallegos Mediation
Giza PhD, David	Professor	UTEP
Gelinas, Katie	Artist/Muralist	YISD
Green, Nancy	Artist	Independent
Gomez, Monica	Artist/Writer/Program Director	KTEP
Hernandez, Anna	Librarian	EP Public Library Central Office
Flores, Viva	Artist/Writer	Independent
Kamalimpur, Juanita	Librarian	Public Library
Natividad, Maria	Artist	Independent
Solis, Felipa	Executive Director	El Paso Pro-Musica
Rascon, Alicia	Executive Director	Latinitas, Inc
Reyes, Estela	Media & Public Information Officer	Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe
Rodriguez, Xochitl	Artist	El Caldo Collective
Wiesinger, Lucia	Resident Relations Specialist	Housing Authority

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2014 SEP 15 AM 11:44