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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Thursday – May 16, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.
El Paso Museum of History, Board Room

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	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	

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Consecutive absences: Francesca Alonso (2nd), Daniel Longoria (4th), Belinda Luna (11th) and William Moody (3rd).

Others present: Julia Bussinger, Sean McGlynn, Kaycee Dougherty, Patrick Shaw Cable, George Maloof III and Misty Castaneda.

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

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for April 18, 2013.** Chair began by allowing members time to review the minutes of the last meeting. Jane Thomas moved to approve the minutes as presented. Lilia Limon seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Museum Reports.** Julia Bussinger began by introducing new Archaeology Curator, George Maloof, and explained that he would say a few words about himself and then continue with what is happening at the Archaeology Museum. George explained to members that he was born in Las Vegas, grew up in Santa Fe and spent the last eleven years all over Costa Rica doing field archaeology. He further explained that he specializes in field archaeology, geophysics, and GIS, with a background in museums. Members were reminded that Saturday, May 18th is International Museum Day and it will be celebrated at the Archaeology Museum with *Sky Stories, Ancient and Modern* featuring storytelling by Alex Mares and an astronomer, with telescopes available for those who want to look at the stars. Will also be skyping with the Museo de Jade in San Jose, Costa Rica for a virtual tour and communication between both facilities. Hoping to confirm a museum in Argentina as well.

Julia continued with the museum assessment program at the History Museum, mentioning that Trevor Jones, a consultant from the American Alliance of Museums talked to EPMH staff members and the Accession Committee regarding collections stewardship. His report and recommendations are forthcoming.

For International Museum Day, the History Museum will start on May 17th with two special tours and a sleepover for local students. There will be Skype communications with the South Florida Museum, the museum in Costa Rica and the Museum of Copenhagen. There will be three time capsules opened, to include one from the Smelter Vocational School that contains a message that Julia read for the group (attached as part of these minutes).

Patrick Shaw Cable began by reminding members of the Ciudad Juarez El Paso 2013 Biennial, which will include a juried show of 46 artists, 24 American artists and 22 Mexican artists that were accepted. It will open on May 26th to the public, with the opening reception in El Paso being on June 1st in the evening, and the opening reception in Juarez on May 31st in the evening. He continued with upcoming events at the museum, briefly mentioning the International Museum Day, the Docent Appreciation Lunch, the New Members Open House, and an inaugural ceremony for the sculpture by Oswaldo Sagastegui. He continued with summer art camps for youths and studio classes for adults, mentioning they will run from mid-June through the 2nd of August. The next newsletter will be mailed during the second week of June, summer school brochures are mailing very soon, and scholarship applications for summer camps are coming in.

5. Discussion and Action on Board Attendance. Sean McGlynn began by reminding members of the three consecutive absence rule per the by-laws for board members. Members can be subject to removal after their third consecutive absence, and members are reminded when they are coming up on that issue. There is a member that has not been in attendance for over a year, Belinda Luna, who was really good on the Art Museum board and for an initial period on this board. The representative has been notified and it has come to our attention that City Council is the only one who can formally remove someone from the board, requiring this body to make a recommendation to council asking for removal. This has been brought forward because we have reached out several times and it impacts our quorum situation. Katherine Brennan asked if we had spoken with her and Sean replied that we had tried repeatedly through various outlets to reach her and have informed her that it has become a quorum challenge for us before every meeting. He continued by noting that the board could either wait for a term expiration or the board makes a recommendation to council for removal. Ann Kruzich asked who the City Representative was and Sean replied it was Emma Acosta. Chair asked for clarification on what exactly would need to take place to move forward with a removal. Sean replied that an item requesting removal would need to be placed on the consent agenda and after approval by Council, the representative would be free to make another choice. Lilia Limon asked if Belinda completed ethics training and Sean replied that she had not. Katherine Brennan made a motion to recommend to City Council that Belinda Luna be removed from the board per the MCAAB by-laws. Ann Kruzich seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Chair asked for a motion to re-open the roll call, listing Belinda Luna as active, but absent from this meeting. Elia Perez made the motion; Lilia Limon seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Chair asked for a motion to re-open the minutes of April 18, 2013. Elia Perez made the motion; Lilia Limon seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Lilia Limon made a motion to correct the minutes of April 18, 2013 to indicate that Belinda Luna was not present. Katherine Brennan seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion and Action on Cultural Funding Review Panelist Roster. Kaycee Dougherty began by explaining that she was standing in for Socorro Diamondstein in regard to approving the selection panel for the cultural funding. She further explained that there were four programs and proceeded to give a brief description of each program for clarity. Sean McGlynn provided specific information on the award of grants and how long before the artist or individual receives it. General discussion followed. Lilia Limon moved to approve the panel as presented; Jane Thomas seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

7. Presentation on Last Thursdays. Kaycee Dougherty explained to members that Last Thursdays is an art walk that the Downtown Arts District started in February. It is a monthly event that happens every last Thursday of the month, and it has been tremendously successful and garnered a lot of momentum so far. Information on the event, such as a line-up of venues and artists that are participating specifically for the current month can be found at www.epdowntownarts.com or www.facebook.com. Major anchors have been the museums, and the El Paso Museum of Art has begun catering their programming to accommodate Last Thursdays by providing curated tours and allowing all the ticketed exhibits to be free that evening. The Camino Real opened a space that had not been open in years, the Uptown Bar, as a means to get involved with the program. There has been a lot of involvement with downtown restaurants and pop-up galleries being created. This is a signature event for the Arts District, bringing an aspect to El Paso that hasn't been available to artists before.

8. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Jeannine Kennedy moved to adjourn; Elia Perez

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seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for June 20, 2013.

Approved for content by:
Isela Ocegueda, Chair

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

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THE SMELTER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
JULY, 1975

AS THE YEARS PASS AND THE ELEMENTS OF NATURE MAKE THEIR MARK UPON THIS MONUMENT, IT MAY BE THAT THIS TIME CAPSULE WILL BE EXPOSED.

“WE, WHOSE NAMES APPEAR HERE, ASK THAT THE READER REVERENTLY RECOGNIZE THAT EDUCATIONAL HISTORY WAS PIONNERED HERE. WE OVERCAME MANY OBSTACLES AND AT TIMES FELT DISHEARTENED, BUT WITH THE EVER PRESENT BLESSINGS OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER AND THE INSPIRATION OF OUR MAESTRO, OUR SCHOOL BECAME A REALITY. IT WAS ACTUALLY MORE THAN A SCHOOL, IT BECAME A WAY OF LIFE WHICH LED TO THE FULFILLMENT OF OUR DREAMS AND ASPIRATIONS.

THAT THE SCHOOL NO LONGER STANDS HERE IS UNIMPORTANT, THE SUCCESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF ALL OF US WILL LIVE FOREVER”.

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