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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)  
Thursday – May 17, 2018 – 4:00 p.m.  
El Paso Museum of Archaeology

REVISED MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:19 p.m.

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
	Elizabeth Ann Bulos	X	
	Elvira Carrizal-Dukes		X
	Carolina Franco		X
	Anne Giangliullo	X	
	Kenneth Gorski	X	
	Lloyd III Hamilton	X	
	Jeff Harris	X	
	Karla Iscapa	X	
	Laura Jaquez	X	
	Jeremy Jordan	X	
	Vanessa Leon	X	
	Daniel Longoria		X
	Adam Marshall		X
	Carina Ramirez		X
	Ana Laura Ruiz		X
	Ida Mae Steadman		X

Consecutive absences: Elvira Carrizal-Dukes (1st), Carolina Franco (1<sup>st</sup>), Daniel Longoria (1<sup>st</sup>), Adam Marshall (2<sup>nd</sup>), Carina Ramirez (1<sup>st</sup>), Ana Laura Ruiz (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Ida Mae Steadman (1<sup>st</sup>).

Others present: Ben Fyffe, Jeff Romney, Victoria Ramirez, Aidee Cosme, Omar De La Rosa, and Diana Cepeda.

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

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of April 19, 2018.** Kenneth Gorski gave members a few minutes to review the minutes and requested a motion to approve. Vanessa Leon moved to approve. Karla Iscapa seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Discussion and Action on appointing Sarelah Aguilar to the Public Art Committee (PAC).** Aidee Cosme introduced herself as the Public Art Supervisor and she requested approval to appoint Sarelah Aguilar to the PAC. She provided a package with Ms. Aguilar's credentials information and she added Ms. Aguilar has a Master of Arts Degree from the University of Texas at El Paso. Mr. Gorski mentioned Ms. Aguilar was one of his students at El Paso Community College and requested a motion to approve the appointment of Sarelah Aguilar to the PAC. Jeremy Jordan moved to approve. Elizabeth Bulos seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

5. **Discussion and Action on appointing Jesusita Ibarra to the Public Art Committee.** Mr. Gorski requested a motion to postpone the appointment of Jesusita Ibarra to the PAC until next meeting. Ms. Iscapa moved to approve. Jeremy Jordan seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**6. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Accessions.** Victoria Ramirez presented a gift from Dian Bruemmer from Anthony, NM who collected Mata Ortiz Pottery. The Museum selected 11 works for the permanent collection and 19 for the study collection. The study collection does not require the Board's approval because it is for educational purposes. The pieces are from seven artists all from the Quezada Family related to the father of Mata Ortiz. The collection is inspired in Paquime and Casas Grandes archeological sites and it provides an idea of different styles and aesthetics. Dr. Ramirez presented pictures of the 11 pieces and provided details about each piece. Mr. Gorski added Juan Quezada is 76 years old and he still producing. The price ranges for his pieces range from \$2,000 to \$12,000. Mr. Gorski requested a motion to approve the accession of 11 works from Dian Bruemmer. Ms. Bulos moved to approve. Mr. Jordan seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**7. Public Art Program Update.** Ben Fyffe explained the Board would get a bi-annual Public Art update in addition to the annual Public Art plan. The Public Art program is twelve years old and it has completed 56 projects. The program has established the Art Purchase Program with 122 acquisitions and the Allied Artist Program with 14 commissions. The Allied Artist Program requires lead artists to work with local artists as part of the outreach process for the art piece fabrication. The program has worked with 117 artist of which 45% were local artists and it has economically impacted 87 local businesses. Mr. Fyffe showed pictures of some of the completed and in-progress projects. He mentioned the Public Art staff checks in on the process at multiple points instead of checking out projects only at the end. Anytime the City issues capital debt either from bonds or certificates of obligation, 2% is given specifically for art to be integrated into the project.

**8. Museum Reports.** Jeff Romney announced the Museum is moving forward with the preparation for the construction of improvements in collaboration with the Capital Improvement Department. The Museum will be closing from September 19 to November 16 2018. The Board received the July-December 2018 lecture series calendar. Staff is getting ready for summer camps June 19-22 and July 24-27 from 9am to 12pm for both sessions. Dr. Ramirez talked about the renovation of the Kress Collection at the Art Museum that opens May 19. She and Tracey Jerome will travel to Washington DC, to accept the Art Museum Medal of Honor Award presented by Institute for Museums and Libraries Services Agency (IMLS). The IMLS recognizes the outreach, educational commitments and programming of Museums and Libraries and the El Paso Museum of Art was nominated by Congressman Beto O'Rourke office. Dr. Ramirez extended an invitation to visit the *Transborder Biennial 2018 / Bienal Transfronteriza 2018* exhibition opening on May 31. This exhibition is in collaboration with the Art Museum in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico and it was open to any artist who lives within a 200-mile radius of the Border. There are 32 artists participating from the U.S. and Mexico. She invited the Board to visit the Art Museum website for more information about summer programming. Mr. Fyffe emphasized that the attendance at the three museums has been up. He provided a hiring update for the Director's role at El Paso Museum of History. He and Tracey have conducted preliminary interviews with five candidates, who were referred by consulting firm conducting the recruitment. They have also conducted interviews to hire the first Collections Manager for the Museum and this person will be creating the first comprehensive catalog of the assets at the Museum of History. The History Museum is also hosting summer camps and working on a small exhibition on the Kress Store in El Paso in conjunction with the recent renovation of the Kress Collection at the Museum of Art.

**9. Chair's Report.** Mr. Gorski met with Tracey Jerome, Director of the Museums and Cultural Affairs Department (MCAD) to talk about the role of MCAAB described by the City Ordinance. He had requested an update of the Public Art projects more regularly and staff agreed to provide a bi-annual updates in addition to the Annual Public Art Plan approved by the Board and City Council every year. Staff provided reports of the 2017 and 2018 approved Public Art Plans, which include location, artist selection process, funds, timeline and summary for each project. Ms. Iscapa asked how the Public Art pieces are maintained and Mr. Fyffe responded there is a limited budget for maintenance. Every year staff prioritize what are the high priority items in terms of maintenance, but every time the program contracts an artist, they consider the life span of the materials the artist will use. Last year the program had a budget increase for maintenance to preserve the 56 works we currently have. Ms. Iscapa asked how the program informs the Community about the Public Art pieces and Mr. Fyffe responded information can be found at [elpasoartsandculture.org](http://elpasoartsandculture.org) under the Public Art tab. An online version of a Public Art booklet printed every year is also available on the website. The Department is also working with a new preparatory map that highlights some of the Public Art pieces and other attractions, which will be available for visitors at hotels and information centers. On the Visit El Paso app there is a section dedicated to Public Art. Staff has also conducted tours scheduled by leadership and Visit El Paso for new businesses expanding their services to El Paso because quality of life is important for their decision. Mr. Gorski added more updates will be given through the year in regard to festivals, events and deadlines. The deadline for grants was May 11 and there were 66 applicants. The deadline for the film grant is May 18 and there are five applications completed as of today. Mr. Gorski recommended increasing publicity of MCAD's events such as El Paso 5 weekly video or TV commercials. He complimented MCAD for great programming at the museums.

**10. Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 5:18p.m. Next meeting scheduled for June 21, 2018.

Approved for content by:  
Ken Gorski, Chair

Respectfully submitted by:  
Diana Cepeda, Administrative Assistant  
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

