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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Thursday – August 21, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.
El Paso Museum of Art, Larry Francis Board Room

MINUTES

CITY CLERK DEPT.
2014 OCT -9 PM 1:40

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	R. Katherine Brennand	X	
	Estrella Escobar	X	
	Kenneth Gorski	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	

Consecutive absences: Daniel Longoria (3rd), Analinda Moreno (1st), Susan Novick (1st).

Others present: Dionne Mack, Michael Tomor, Julia Bussinger, Barbara Angus, Ben Fyffe, Pat Dalbin, Misty Castaneda and Brittny Bevel.

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

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for May 15, 2014.** Dionne Mack assisted in carrying out the action items in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Carina Ramirez moved to accept the minutes as written. Jane Thomas seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Museum Reports.** Michael Tomor began with the Art Museum report, showing a brief video narrated and produced by museum employees working with artist Sabiha Khan, which was the end result of a grant received from Texas Commission on the Arts. He continued with updates on staffing vacancies, the café project, exhibition openings, education, programming and workshops. Michael opened the floor for questions and general discussion followed.

Julia Bussinger began with the Archaeology Museum report, providing updates on lectures, camps, inventory and museum improvements, demonstrations, staffing vacancies and events. She continued with the History Museum report, mentioning exhibit openings and closings, Touch City Digital Wall construction, workshops, tours and classes. Julia opened the floor for questions, there were none and she concluded her reports.

5. **Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Acquisitions.** Michael Tomor explained to members there were three acquisitions being brought forward for consideration after the Accessions Committee met and recommended the ratification of the pieces. Images of all three pieces were available for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. The first piece, *Flame of Friendship* by Leonardo Nierman, is a stainless steel mirror finished sculpture being offered as a gift from Mexico to the City of El Paso as a symbol of friendship. The piece will arrive within a month, but pre-approval is being requested because it will ultimately have to go to City Council for acceptance. Estrella Escobar made a motion to approve; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

The second piece, *Chaos Redux* by Jedd Novatt, is a bronze sculpture gifted by an anonymous donor. Katherine Brennand moved to approve the piece. Jane Thomas seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

The third piece, *Horus / Horace* by Patrick Mehaffy, is a mixed media piece gifted by Alice and Jerry Kruse. Jane Thomas so moved; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of History Acquisitions. Julia Bussinger noted there would be two acquisitions presented by Senior Curator Barbara Angus. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. Barbara began with the first acquisition, a panoramic photograph of Camp Stewart in 1916. Barbara requested a motion to approve. Carina Ramirez so moved; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Barbara continued with the second acquisition; two additional panoramic photographs, one of Camp Stewart in 1917 and the camp of Sixth Brigade in Douglas, Arizona also in 1917. Barbara requested a motion to approve. Carina Ramirez so moved; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and Action on FY15 Cultural Funding Awards. Ben Fyffe began by explaining to members that we grant out a little under a quarter of our budget annually to local artists and arts organizations doing work within the community. The total granted out for this fiscal year is \$292,965 to 59 awardees. The Operating Support Program (OSP) is for large arts organizations with professional staff and budgets over \$100,000; the Project Support Program (PSP) allows larger non-profit organizations to apply for arts projects or programming; the Community Arts Program (CAP) is open to smaller non-profit organizations, individual artists and artist collectives for art services, workshops, demonstrations and performances within the community; and the Artist Incubator Program (AIP) directly grants money out to artists for the creation of new work with the caveat that funded artists must hold a public exhibition or performance upon the completion of their work that allows public access to the work. Awardees and amounts recommended for funding were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. Ben requested a motion to approve. Estrella Escobar so moved; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and Action on FY15 KickstART Downtown Awards. Ben Fyffe explained that these awards are specific to downtown events and festivals that are tourism drivers. This program was created 5 years ago at the direction of City Council and it has been very popular and successful. Awardees and amounts recommended for funding were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. General discussion followed and Ben requested a motion to approve. Estrella Escobar made the motion; Ken Gorski seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussion on Public Art Master Plan. Pat Dalbin began by introducing herself and noted that each member had a draft of the Public Art Master Plan before them for review and noted it will come before the board for approval in September or October. She invited members to call her if they had any questions or comments, or found anything they wanted to discuss with her. The floor was opened for questions and general discussion followed.

10. Adjournment. Dionne Mack requested a motion to adjourn. Jeannine Kennedy moved to adjourn; Kenneth Gorski seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for September 18, 2014.

Approved for content by:
Dionne Mack, Director

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

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