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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Thursday – September 17, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
El Paso Museum of History, Seminar Room

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:06 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 Monsisvals		X
	William Moody	X	
	Analinda Moreno		X
	Susan Novick	X	
	Isela Ocegueda		X
	Elia Perez	X	
	Carina Ramirez	X	
	Ida Mae Steadman	X	
	Jane B. Thomas	X	

CITY CLERK DEPT.
2015 DEC -3 AM 7:21

Consecutive absences: Daniel Longoria (5th), Isela Ocegueda (1st)

Others present: Ben Fyffe, Misty Monteros, Julia Bussinger, Patrick Shaw Cable, Brittany Hutchinson, and Chris Espinoza

2. **Call for Public Comment.** The following members of the public commented: Margarita Cabrera, Nidia Holguin and Cemelli de Aztlán.

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for August 20, 2015.** Chair began by allowing members time to review the minutes of the last meeting. Katherine Brennand noted that the minutes reflected Isela Ocegueda moving for adjournment, yet she was not present at the meeting. Board Secretary Misty Monteros noted the correction as requested. Susan Novick motioned to approve as amended; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Museum Reports.** Patrick Shaw Cable began his report on the Museum of Art, noting that the *Hal Marcus/Lyric Modern* exhibition opened with a free public reception that had over 460 people in attendance. The store had a noticeable spike in sales due to related prints and a Hal Marcus book. He continued by mentioning the reinstallation of the Tom Lea Gallery, focusing on Tom Lea as a draftsman and illustrator; the next installation of the Guggenheim Series, *The Green Violinist* by Marc Chagall which opens in October; the retablo niche located in the Roderick Gallery will take over the whole gallery to highlight the Hamilton collection, which was accessioned late last year and adds 460 retablos to the Museum's existing collection of 500; and the Jedd Novatt sculpture, *Chaos Redux*, is now on display in the lobby, making us the first Texas institution to have one of his monumentally-scaled sculptures. Patrick briefly reviewed education and development events, to include art talks, camps, workshops and tours before concluding his report.

Brittany Hutchinson introduced herself and proceeded with the Archaeology Museum report, briefly reviewing tours, lectures, museum attendance and workshops. The museum received a grant for Texas Archaeology

Month activities to be hosted at the Downtown Art and Farmers Market in October. The Jornada Mogollon Conference will take place on October 9-10 with over 34 papers being presented this year.

Julia Bussinger gave the History Museum report, beginning with exhibition openings such as *Drawing on the Past: El Paso during Artist Tom Lea's Childhood*, which depicts the early history of El Paso through Tom Lea's childhood from 1907-1924, and an exhibit in partnership with the Tom Lea Institute and the participation of 6 major boot makers in El Paso opening on October 1st, titled *Made in El Paso: The Traditions, Influence and Legacy of El Paso's Cowboy Boots*. She continued with an update on collection management, noting it is very intensive work evaluating the collection, unpacking boxes using preventive conservation measures, taking pictures and reorganizing everything in storage. Julia briefly reviewed local travel plans for Mini-Digie, marketing events, development events, and provided an update on the Digital Wall, noting that museum personnel participated in a workshop through the American Alliance of Museums called "One Good Thing" to promote the Digital Wall, El Paso and its heritage. Julia concluded her report and opened the floor for questions; general discussion on Digital Wall upload procedures and the *Made in El Paso* exhibit followed.

5. Chalk The Block Update. Ben Fyffe began by explaining that members traditionally get an update on Chalk the Block, which is our annual Public Arts festival. He took a moment to acknowledge and thank Marina Monsisvais, who is such a huge part of the success of Chalk the Block thanks to her hard work, her drive and her tireless effort to raise funds and awareness from the private sector. She pushes us to consistently go bigger and be better, and provides us with ideas that make us think outside of the proverbial box. Ben provided a bit of history, noting that when we first started, it was a one-day event that involved about 12 artists and drew about 5,000 people; within a little over 5 years, the event now spans 3 days with 200 artists and draws about 38,000 people. With that, Ben turned the floor over to Chris Espinoza, MCAD Production and Marketing Coordinator, who has been a big part of that success as he works throughout the year on logistical issues and helps to turn 'out of the box' ideas into reality. Chris first pointed out that we are rebranding ourselves and have a new logo this year, as well as a title sponsor, Rudolph. The festival takes place this year from October 9th-11th in coordination with the private sector and the El Paso Community Foundation, with Marina working in fundraising and other programmatic efforts. Chris provided a thumbnail sketch of the program, mentioning the event generates about a million dollars of economic impact into the economy and has been recognized nationally as a downtown driver by both the Texas Downtown Association and the International Downtown Association. Members reviewed installations that will be present at this year's event via a PowerPoint slideshow, and Chris opened the floor for questions. General discussion followed.

6. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Susan Novick so moved; Katherine Brennan seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for October 15, 2015.

Approved for content by:
Ken Gorski, Chair

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