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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Thursday – September 20, 2012 – 4:00 p.m.
City Hall, 4th floor conference room

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	Francesca Alonso	X	
	R. Katherine Brennand		X
	Estrella Escobar	X	
	Jeannine Kennedy	X	
	Ann F. Kruzich		X
	Lilia B. 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	
	Abel Saucedo		X
	Jane B. Thomas		X

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Others present: Sean McGlynn, Michael Tomor, Julia Bussinger, Patricia Dalbin, Ben Fyffe, Misty Castaneda, Bonnie Escobar and Cesar Martinez.

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

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes.** Susan Novick assisted in carrying out the action items in the absence of the Chair. Estrella Escobar requested that a sentence in item number 6 be amended to read "Estrella relayed a situation she was notified of in confidence about a panel member feeling pressured to vote a certain way, and Sean requested that the person in question contact him to have a direct conversation". Lilia Limon moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting on August 16, 2012 as amended. Estrella Escobar seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Museum Reports.** Michael Tomor provided a brief recap of museum activities, starting with a new addition to the museum administrative staff; a clerical assistant has been hired to help with the front desk duties. The cinema series has been re-launched; all entry fees will be used to help buy books for the library, providing a way to build the library collection without a library fund. Mentioned the launch of a performing art series, a concert series and a lecture series. Updated the board on upcoming exhibit openings and mentioned the receipt of a \$5,000 grant that is to be used to bus more children in to the museum. Michael opened the floor for questions, and general discussion followed.

5. **Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Loans and Acquisitions.** Michael Tomor began by explaining to members that he was seeking approval on accessions; there were five gift offers and one purchase. Images were provided for review and consideration via a PowerPoint slide. Vice-Chair requested a motion to accept, and Carina Ramirez so moved. Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Michael continued with a loan consideration for 9 Gaspar Enriquez prints that make up the 'Elegy on the Death of Cesar Chavez' and one work of Gloria Ozuna Perez that will be loaned to the Las Cruces Museum

of Art for the 'Latino Folktales/Cuentos Populares' exhibition. It is a traveling exhibition featuring illustrations from bilingual children's books. Vice-Chair requested a motion to approve the loan, and Marina Monsisvais so moved. Lilia Limon seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

6. **Discussion and Action on Nominations to Serve on the Public Art Committee.** Susan Novick began by reminding members that the decision to meet with Cesar Martinez was made during August's board meeting because nobody knew him. The floor was turned over to Cesar and he provided members with a brief explanation of his qualifications to serve and mentioned that his interest was in seeing how areas of the community can be improved and enhanced to create a stronger visual experience for anyone who passes through. The floor was opened for questions and Carina Ramirez asked how he felt about considering the area that will receive public art and the feelings of the community about it. Mr. Martinez replied that he was happy to discuss art placement, but admitted he was not familiar with the subject in depth as he referred to the Alameda corridor project. He continued to say that it seemed there was already a precedent in regards to public art placement and he was hopeful that all areas of the city could be engaged in public art placement. He expressed that art for the community is important. There were no other questions and Cesar was asked to step out while the board had discussion on his nomination. Sean McGlynn explained to members that as noted in the by-laws, the Chair needs to make the appointment and his absence would prevent a motion from being taken during this meeting. Sean further explained that an additional vacancy was created when Gustavo Reveles-Acosta stepped down from his position on the board. Susan Novick asked if the board could recommend Cesar Martinez's appointment to the Chair and Sean replied affirmatively. Estrella Escobar asked if any board member had any information on Cesar that would be of concern to his appointment. No concerns were raised and Estrella Escobar made a motion to recommend to the Chair that he be appointed. Elia Perez seconded; Carina Ramirez abstained; all other members voted in favor, and motion passed.

7. **Presentation on Chalk the Block 5.** Ben Fyffe provided a presentation on Chalk the Block 5, which will be taking place October 12-14. This event is the result of a fruitful collaboration and partnership with our private sector committee, chaired by Marina Monsisvais. The festival is centered around temporary chalk murals in downtown El Paso, and is now recognized as a downtown driver, cited by the Texas Downtown Association with an award and the International Downtown Association for events that promote their downtown areas and revitalization of downtown areas. Ben provided a brief overview of the works of art that will be a part of the festival this year and general discussion followed.

8. **Presentation on Quality of Life Bond Issues by El Paso Tomorrow PAC.** Susan Novick introduced Bonnie Escobar with the El Paso Tomorrow PAC, and she proceeded to provide a PowerPoint presentation on the Quality of Life bond. She provided an overview of Proposition 1 which is parks, recreation, open space and zoo improvements for \$245,000,000. Proposition 2 is museums, cultural, performing arts and library facilities for \$228,250,000. Proposition 3 is the hotel occupancy tax, which will determine how the baseball stadium is paid for. Bonnie opened the floor for questions and general discussion followed.

9. **Adjournment.** Vice-Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Lilia Limon moved to adjourn; Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for October 18, 2012.

Approved for content by:
William Moody, Chair

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

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