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## MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)  
Thursday – October 20, 2016 – 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 4:16 p.m.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	R. Katherine Brennand	X	
	Angel Cabrales		X
	Elvira Carrizal-Dukes	X	
	Estrella Escobar	X	
	Kenneth Gorski	X	
	Teresa Hernandez	X	
	Ann F. Kruzich		X
	Daniel Longoria		X
	Steve Lujan		X
	M. Erica Marin		X
	Marina Monsisvais	X	
	William Moody	X	
	Analinda Moreno	X	
	Isela Ocegueda		X
	Elia Perez	X	
	Carina Ramirez	X	
	Ida Mae Steadman		X

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Consecutive absences: Angel Cabrales (1<sup>st</sup>), Daniel Longoria (2<sup>nd</sup>), Isela Ocegueda (1<sup>st</sup>)

Others present: Tracey Jerome, Omar De La Rosa, Jeff Romney, Christian Gerstheimer, Barbara Angus, and Cindy Kieffer Díaz

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

Assistant City Attorney Omar De La Rosa spoke to remind members of compliance with the Open Meetings Act. He noted any discussion should relate to agenda items and if the conversation deviates, it should be brought back to the agenda item subject. Members were reminded there is a record, so anyone speaking should direct themselves to the Chair so that names are accurately reflected. Carina Ramirez asked for clarification on whether he was referring to after the meeting was called to order, and Omar replied affirmatively. Teresa Hernandez asked if other City committees have an attorney sitting with them as well, and Omar replied affirmatively, noting he had just sat in on the City Plan Commission as well. Tracey Jerome mentioned he had been to most of MCAD's meetings since taking on the portfolio and Estrella Escobar added that when she worked for the Mayor, City boards and commissions always had an attorney present.

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for September 15, 2016.** Chair gave members a few minutes to review the minutes and requested a motion to accept. Katherine Brennand moved to approve; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Annual Meeting Schedule.** Chair reviewed the meeting schedule for the upcoming year and reminded members that per ordinance, there are not meetings in January or July before requesting a motion to accept the annual meeting schedule. Katherine Brennand so moved; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

5. **Discussion and Action on Election of Officers.** Chair noted a new Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected

and asked for nominations for the position of Chair. Carina Ramirez nominated Kenneth Gorski for Chair, and he accepted; Estrella Escobar seconded the nomination; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Chair next requested motions for Vice-Chair. Estrella Escobar nominated Marina Monsisvais for Vice-Chair, and she accepted; Katherine Brennand seconded the nomination; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

In conclusion, Kenneth Gorski was elected Chair and Marina Monsisvais was elected Vice-Chair.

**6. Discussion and Action on Selection of Board Liaisons to Museum Facilities.** Chair explained that a liaison would be needed for each of the three City museums, beginning with the Museum of Art. Estrella Escobar nominated Katherine Brennand for liaison to the Museum of Art, and she declined. Ken Gorski nominated Carina Ramirez, and she declined. Estrella Escobar nominated Elvira Carrizal-Dukes, and she accepted. Katherine Brennand seconded the nomination. Next, Estrella Escobar nominated Analinda Moreno as board liaison to the Museum of History. Analinda Moreno accepted the nomination, and Carina Ramirez seconded the nomination. Katherine Brennand nominated Elia Perez as board liaison to the Museum of Archaeology. Elia Perez accepted the nomination, and Estrella Escobar seconded the nomination. Chair requested a motion to approve all three board liaison nominations. All members voted in favor, none opposed, and motions passed unanimously.

In conclusion, Elvira Carrizal-Dukes was appointed liaison to the Museum of Art, Analinda Moreno was appointed liaison to the Museum of History, and Elia Perez was appointed to the Museum of Archaeology.

**7. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Members' Choice Acquisition Pre-Approval.** Christian Gerstheimer showed the four pieces of artwork to be pre-approved for acquisition via a PowerPoint slideshow. All four pieces have been vetted by Art Museum curatorial staff and received approval from the Accessions Committee. The pieces are *Be Fruitful* by Asya Reznikov, a video installation; an untitled work by Maria Martinez-Cañas, mixed media on wood veneer; *Blue Inflammatory Essays* by Jenny Holzer, a curved LED with blue diodes; and *Color Real and Imagined* by Carrie Mae Weems, an archival pigment with silkscreened color blocks. General discussion followed and Tracey Jerome noted that pre-approval for the acquisitions is being requested now so that whichever piece is selected to be brought into the collection during the Members' Choice event will already have approval and there will be no delay in the acquisition process by having to bring it forward later. She went on to explain it also has to do with expenditure of the funding through the Lipscomb grant, as funding has to be spent within a certain amount of time in the calendar year and delays in the process have caused issues for the curatorial team in the past. Teresa Hernandez motioned to approve; Estrella Escobar seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously with Elia Perez and Carina Ramirez abstaining.

**8. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of History Guidelines for Community Exhibits.**

Barbara Angus reviewed the Guidelines for Community History Exhibits via a PowerPoint slideshow. Barbara began by explaining that the guidelines delineate the Museum's relationship with the community when an individual or a group approaches with a request to hold an exhibition at the museum. The goal is to develop a stable exhibit calendar each year, to allow for better budgeting, PR and programming. Barbara noted that proposals will be considered once a year, due on September 30 by 5pm. She went on to review proposal deadlines, submission requirements, image specifications and notification procedures. The responsibilities of the Museum and the exhibitor will be recorded in a signed memorandum of understanding, and the Museum is responsible for the loan paperwork, as the borrowed artifacts are insured during the exhibit by the City. The Museum will print and provide up to 200 postcard invitations for the exhibit and exhibitors are responsible for the reception, which must receive approval from the Museum Director. Exhibitors will receive no compensation for projects and the Museum will take care of installation along with producing the labels, signage, and extra material that goes with the exhibit, along with providing curatorial support and promotional assistance. In order to evaluate and improve future community partnerships, a meeting to evaluate the experience may be scheduled after the exhibit has been removed. Katherine Brennand suggested the use of the word 'will' in place of 'may' in the aforementioned sentence. Tracey Jerome suggested the addition of a tab with a direct email address for submission, as a means to make the process easier and more streamlined, rather than using the general Museum website address. Analinda Moreno suggested verbiage that would indicate the number of slots available for proposals for planning purposes. Teresa Hernandez asked why this program cannot be started right away, and what prevents it from moving forward quickly. Barbara stated that the Museum is still waiting for the new director to take his/her place so that he/she has a say in it, and there are 2 major projects this year that require a lot of focus. Ultimately, it would be up to the MCAD Director to start it any earlier. Chair requested a motion to approve. Teresa Hernandez motioned to approve; Carina Ramirez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**9. Discussion and Action on Appointment of Abel Saucedo to the Public Art Committee.** Chair noted that members were provided with resumés and letters of interest for review. Estrella Escobar inquired as to how individuals are recommended, and Tracey noted that sometimes individuals express their own interest and sometimes they are recommended by others. Estrella mentioned that while the nominees seem to be qualified, they are young, and going forward, she would like to see more seasoned people considered or included for better diversity. She further requested an expression be made on her behalf to the Public Art Program Manager to include people who are young and bring creative ideas and also more seasoned individuals who have done this for a long time and can provide insight on those ideas. Katherine Brennand expressed a concern that appointees

be made aware that service on the PAC restricts them from participating in art-related projects with the City; Tracey noted that appointees are made aware they are not eligible for funding during their service on the committee. Estrella Escobar motioned to accept the appointment of Abel Saucedo to the Public Art Committee; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**10. Discussion and Action on Appointment of Laura Turon to the Public Art Committee.** Chair requested a motion to approve the appointment of Laura Turon to the Public Art Committee. Katherine Brennand so moved; Estrella Escobar seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**11. Discussion and Action on Appointment of Derek P. Caulfield to the Public Art Committee.** Chair requested a motion to approve the appointment of Derek P. Caulfield to the Public Art Committee. Estrella Escobar motioned to approve; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**12. Museum Reports.** Barbara Angus provided the History Museum report, briefly reviewing current and upcoming exhibits. The major project coming up before Thanksgiving is a revised version of *El Paso A to Z*. She continued with information on attendance, lectures and education programming. Digie is approaching 12,000 images and Vietnam Veterans are still coming in to request help uploading their photographs. The Foundation now has a formal relationship with the El Paso Community Foundation, who will assist with money management. Tracey added that the search for a Director is going well with 3 finalists in place for final interviews.

Christian Gerstheimer gave the Art Museum report, discussing attendance for September, which is up from the same time last year. He invited members to a reception for the *Edridge Hardie: Art of a Life in Sport*, beginning at 6pm this evening. Wayne Hilton's *Hermosos Huesos* will have an exhibition reception on November 1 that will coincide with Dia de Los Muertos events. Tracey added that the search for a director is at the end with a finalist, and there will be more news soon.

Jeff Romney provided the Archaeology Museum report, noting that in the interest of time, he would provide highlights. October is Texas Archaeology Month and there have been activities most every weekend to celebrate, with just over 300 people coming to the Museum to participate. October 15 was International Archaeology Day and approximately 120 people came out for archery, Tigua bread, chili sampling, a film and a lecture by Alex Mares, with archery demonstrations taking place this weekend. November is Native American Heritage Month, with Tigua Day on November 12, which will be celebrated with the museum's first ever collaboration with the Tigua Cultural Center. November 26 will bring Native American storytelling with Alex Mares. A grant was submitted to Humanities Texas to bring in a lecture component to the upcoming Cynthia Ann and Quanah Parker exhibit opening on December 10<sup>th</sup>. In the interest of adding some formal education components to the Poppies Fest, there will be a meeting with the Poppies Festival Board and other stakeholders. Jeff closed his report by briefly reviewing attendance and noting the hiring of a new Store Clerk.

**13. Adjournment.** Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Marina Monsivais so moved; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for November 17, 2016.

Approved for content by:

Ken Gorski, Chair

Respectfully submitted by:

Misty Monteros, Administrative Assistant  
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

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