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**MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS**  
**The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)**  
**Thursday, April 15, 2021, 4:00 PM**  
**Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting**

CITY CLERK DEPT  
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**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order.** Meeting called to order at 4:03 pm.

<b>2. Roll Call.</b>	<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>
	Adame, Rachel	X	
	Diaz, Alfredo		X
	Giangiulio, Anne	X	
	Glenn, Lucio	X	
	Gorski, Kenneth	X	
	Harris, Jeff	X	
	Herrera, David		X
	Jaquez, Laura		X
	Leffler, Beth	X	
	Leon, Vanessa	X	
	Loweree, Carlos III	X	
	Marshall, Adam	X	
	Nino, Ivan	X	
	Schmid-Falcon, Stephanie		X
	Valdez, Laura	X	
	Valdez, Daniel		X

Consecutive Absences: Alfredo Diaz (3), Laura Jaquez (2), and Stephanie Schmid-Falcon (3)

Other present: Ben Fyffe, Karla Munoz, Vladimir von Tsurikov, Jeff Romney, Rebecca Munoz, Rocio Rivas and Diana Cepeda.

**3. Public Comment.** None.

**4. Approval of Minutes.** Adam Marshall moved to approve the February 18, 2021 minutes. Carlos Loweree III seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

**5. Approval of Minutes.** Vanessa Leon moved to approve the March 18, 2021 minutes. Adam Marshall seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

**6. Approval of Revised Minutes.** Adam Marshall moved to approve the September 17, 2020 revised minutes. Vanessa Leon seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

**7. Discussion and Action on FY22 Cultural Funding Program, Arts Activate Program.** Ben Fyffe, addressed the Board to introduce Rebecca Munoz and to discuss the changes being recommended for the Cultural Funding Program. Due to the pandemic, and given the current funding level, the Department is seeking to put several programs on hiatus and collapse into one program temporarily. This recommendation will be more aligned to meet the needs of local artists and nonprofit organizations in the current economy. Rebecca Munoz addressed the Board and presented a PowerPoint. Ms. Munoz presented the new Arts Activate Proposed Program for FY2022. The Program's funding limits will be set at \$10,000 for individual artists and \$20,000 for non-profit arts and cultural organizations. The project provides project-based support for the creation and presentation of innovative arts and cultural activities that are reflective of the El Paso region's rich and diverse art, culture, and heritage. This would be covering a wide range of activities. The rationale behind

the new proposed program is the increased demands for funding. Also, the need to maximizing the budget while supporting local artists and non-profits organizations. Lastly, looking into incentivize innovation in programming and impacting the local community. Due to the pandemic and budget constraints, some programs have been postponed for FY22. Ms. Munoz added that funding opportunities will be open to any artist and arts organizations that have at least two years of active programming in the City of El Paso. Lucio Glenn, moved to approve, Rachel Adame seconded; all members in favor, none opposed, and the motion passed unanimously.

**8. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Accessions.** Dr. Vladimir von Tsurikov addressed the Board to present a gift offer from Joel Salcido, a photograph that is 20x30" and valued at \$1,200. Joel Salcido lived and worked in El Paso and his fine art photographs are now in the permanent collections at various galleries throughout the United States. Currently, the El Paso Museum of Art has three sepia prints made by him. Museum staff is recommending approval from the Board to accession this piece for the permanent collection. Jeff Harris moved to approve, Vanessa Leon seconded; all members in favor, none opposed, and the motion passed unanimously.

**9. Museum Reports.** Ben Fyffe, addressed the Board to announce that they have exciting news about Phase 1 of the re-opening. Jeff Romney, Director of the El Paso Museum of Archaeology addressed the Board to present the Archaeology Museum report. He shared the Museum's virtual programming over the past months and the number of engaged people. He highlighted his recent participation in a virtual roundtable meeting with several other Museum Directors from various cities in Mexico. The meeting discussed how the pandemic has impacted the museums in their area and what is foreseen in the future. Mr. Romney continued by discussing details of upcoming exhibits and events for the Archeology Museum. Mr. Romney ended by recognizing Itzel Barraza for her work with the El Paso Health Department and getting individuals registered for their vaccine process. Dr. von Tsurikov addressed the Board to present the El Paso Museum of Art report. Dr. von Tsurikov began by discussing details of the phase 1 re-opening for the Museum of Art and History and he shared the opening hours. He also listed and discussed the details of the Art Museum's four new exhibitions along with detailing upcoming exhibitions and events. He shared some of the upcoming virtual programming and mentioned that some of the exhibitions can be found virtually on the Museum's page. Ben Fyffe, addressed the Board to announce that the recruitment for a permanent Director for the Art Museum, began two weeks ago. Dr. von Tsurikov ended by discussing the details of current and upcoming exhibitions and scheduled events for the History Museum. Anne Giangliulo congratulated the History Museum's staff for the success of the *Low and Slow: Lowrider Culture in the Borderlands* and she highlighted the importance of exposing and deeply exploring other cultures. Mr. Gorski thanked all of the MCAAB Board members and MCAD staff for all they do for the citizens of El Paso and being noticed.

**10. Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 4:38 pm. Next meeting scheduled for May 20, 2021.

Approved for content by:  
Ken Gorski, Chair

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Respectfully submitted by:  
Diana Cepeda, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator