

DEE MARGO  
MAYOR

TOMÁS GONZÁLEZ  
CITY MANAGER

TRACEY JEROME  
DIRECTOR



CITY COUNCIL  
PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1  
ALEXSANDRA ANELLO, DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3  
DR. SAM MORGAN, DISTRICT 4  
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5  
CLAUDIA ORDAZ, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CISSY LIZARRAGA, DISTRICT 8

**Museums & Cultural Affairs  
The City of El Paso Public Art Committee (PAC)  
Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 3:30 PM  
MCAD Board Room**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order.** Meeting called to order at 3.37 pm.

**2. Roll Call.**

**Members Present:** Sarelah Aguilar, Jesus E. Carrillo, Laura Jaquez, Adam Marshall and Josue Muñoz.

**Members Absent:** Cathy Chen and Edgar Lopez.

**Others Present:** Diana Cepeda and Miriam Garcia.

**3. Public Comment.** None.

**4. Approval of Minutes.** Adam Marshall requested a motion to approve the November 12, 2019 minutes. Sarelah Aguilar seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

**5. Update on modifications to 2020 Public Art Plan.** Ms. Garcia provided the PAC members the modifications to the 2020 Public Art Plan. The district 5 representative, Isabel Salcido, requested a veteran's memorial project at Eastside Regional Park. The new project has been added to the 2020 Public Art Plan, Eastside Regional Park Ph. II, with a budget of \$150,000. Ms. Garcia proceeded on listing projects that had an increment in budget. Hawkins Blvd. Improvements had an increase from \$220,000 to \$300,000. Mesa St and I-10 Improvements increased from \$250,000 to \$500,000. Montana and Mescalero improvements increased from \$200,000 to \$300,000. Sunglow/Lockheed Landscaping went from \$175,000 to \$250,000. Lastly, Viscount Boulevard Roadway Lighting and Median Landscape project, increased from \$125,000 to \$250,000. The district 3 representative, Cassandra Hernandez, has requested that 3 of the new projects on her district to be combined as one. Representative Hernandez stated that Hawkins Blvd. Improvements, Sunglow/Lockheed Landscaping, and Viscount Blvd. Roadway Lighting and Median Landscape if combined, it will be more impactful to the residents. A meeting will be held with Representative Hernandez and Capital Improvements Department to discuss this matter. Moving forward, Ms. Garcia mentioned that 5 Public Safety projects have been included in the 2020 Public Art Plan but slight information on those has been released. Ms. Garcia continued on listing the changes on the Public Art Projects in Progress. Chamizal Recreation Center/Library had an increase in budget from \$200,000 to \$500,000 due to complications of the materials being used. The Children's museum was originally two projects but now will be combined into one. The Children's Museum Umbrella Canopy increased from \$735,000 to \$835,000. Country Club Rd. Roundabout increased \$20,000, from \$70,000 to \$90,000 due to increase of cost of materials. Eastside Regional Water Park increased from \$70,000 to \$150,000 for the amount of space that the project will cover. The final 2020 Public Art Plan was approved by council and officially adopted on January 21, 2020.

**6. Update on changes to final design and lighting plan for Eastside Regional Park Archway project.** Miriam Garcia provided a background of the discussions on a previous meeting regarding this project. The committee previously made the following recommendations: To emphasize lighting on letters so it won't compete with the background lighting. Ms. Garcia showed the original rendering and the new improved rendering of the modifications based on committee recommendations. The title of the project will have 9 spotlights with 2 light fixtures each, a total of 18 light fixtures. A couple of the light fixtures will have motion. The artist has created an online voting competition for the selection of the name. Moving forward, Ms. Garcia revealed to the committee that the city engineer of the project changed the color of the columns from plain gray to a rusted metal color to match the walls of the building. Committee discussed. The committee agreed with the update on changes to final design and lighting plan for Eastside Regional Park Archway project.

**7. Discussion and action on final design for Polly Harris Senior Center project.** Miriam Garcia presented an overview of local artist Terry Wright, which specializes in mosaics. Ms. Wright has worked with MCAD before but has been funded by grants through the teaching artist pool, it will be the first time she partakes with the Public Art Program. The community meeting for the Polly Harris Senior Center was held on February 6, 2020 to present the public art piece that will be installed at the Senior Center. The artist Teresa Wright was contacted via telephone and started her presentation on showing her previous work. Some of her murals can be found at Happiness Senior Center, Animal Services, Lee Moor Children's Home and Hanks High School. Terry Wright and partner Katie Gelinas will create two mosaic murals that will feature the mountains surrounding El Paso. One will be a hummingbird among cacti with El Paso's Mount Cristo Rey Mountain in the background. The other one will be the Franklin Mountains with a jack rabbit. Ms. Wright explained the process in creating her murals. The tiles that will be used in parts of the mosaic will be painted at the center by the seniors. It will be a 2 hour workshop where the seniors can decorate, paint, and write on 4 inch ceramic tiles. After the tiles are painted, the tiles will be placed in a fire of 1800 degrees to make the colors more vibrant. The tiles will then be broken down and the artists will assemble the mosaics. Ms. Wright mentioned two possible locations for the murals, one location can be on the entrance with the murals facing each other, and the other location can be one mural on the entrance and the other one inside the lobby, next to each other. Ms. Wright mentioned that the title of the center (Polly Harris Senior Center) will be included at the top of one of the murals. The murals will go as high as the ceiling, and will cover the bottom plastic rubber base in solid blue tiles. The public art budget for Polly Harris Senior Center project is \$20,000. Josue Muñoz interjected and asked about how many times the community has been involved in her projects? Ms. Wright responded that in all of her projects she has involved the community. Ms. Wright excused herself from the meeting. Adam Marshall was concerned on how the murals were going to be placed to the wall, if the mosaic was going to be applied directly to the wall or it will be a mounted mural. He suggested that the murals be mounted in the event that the center has to move them. Committee discussed. Adam Marshall made a motion to approve the final design for Polly Harris Senior Center with comments read into the record 1. To use a mounting system instead of using the wall directly in order to protect the artwork in the event that they need to be removed 2. The artist design needs to make the mountains look exactly like the mountains they stated they represent. Sarelah Aguilar Seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

**8. Discussion and action on final design for Men of Company E Memorial at MACC project.** The artist Julio Sanchez De Alba and Assistant Director Ben Fyffe joined the meeting in person. Julio Sanchez went over his presentation of the monument that will be placed at Cleveland Square Park dedicated to the "Sons of El Paso", The Men of Company E. The monument will be 18ft. long x 17 ft. high x 5ft wide. The piece will include five, 8ft. tall soldiers, accurately dressed as they were on January 22, 1944. He stated that his piece will be steel and reinforced concrete on top of a steel and concrete pedestal. Mr. Fyffe added that the piece will be in an oval shape that it will create partial seats around it. To honor each of the 124 Company E Members, Mr. Sanchez will include 124 6"x 8" bronze plaques with their name, year they were born, and year they died. The piece will also include a 6ft. x 3ft. black granite plaque detailing the event of January 22, 1944, along with a 7ft. x 2.5 ft. title composed of 55 bronze letters that will read:

COMPANY E  
U.S. 5<sup>th</sup> ARMY  
36<sup>th</sup> TEXAS DIVISION  
141<sup>st</sup> INFANTRY REGIMENT

Moving forward, Mr. Sanchez stated that the public art project for Men at Company E Memorial at MACC has a budget of \$415,000. He explained that the lights are not planned in his budget, however he is working on adding them and will be placed strategically to lit the faces and hands on the soldiers. Mr. Fyffe added that the Public Art Program will work with Parks and Recreation Department to make sure the lighting of the piece is in code with the City of El Paso.

Adam Marshall interjected and asked about the credibility of the 124 names of the soldiers. Mr. Fyffe suggested that the artist contacts Fort. Bliss for an exact list of names. Jesus Carrillo included that it will be very controversial if a name was left out. Mr. Fyffe commented that a formal military historian will be included to help the artist with the names of the fallen soldiers of Men of Company E. Mr. Sanchez excused himself from the meeting. Committee discussed. Adam Marshall made a motion to approve the final design for Men of Company E Memorial at MACC with comments read into record 1. Artist must use a reputable military historian for final and official list of names and to verify accuracy of uniforms, guns, and military gear 2. Artist must provide a final design layout to include locations and specifications of lights to be used. Jesus Carrillo Seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

**9. Adjournment.** Adam Marshall motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jesus Carrillo seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm. Next meeting scheduled for March 10, 2019.

Approved for content by:  
Ben E. Fyffe, Assistant Director Museums and Cultural Affairs Department

Respectfully submitted by:  
Luz Ibarra, Public Art Specialist