



EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, September 2, 2015

The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board convened in a regular meeting at 600 River Street, in Austin, Texas.

Board Members in Attendance:

Anna Maciel, Member
Blanca Valencia, Member (LEFT @ 7:39)
Juan Oyervides, Member
Julia Aguilar, Member
Juanita Tijerina, Member
Adriel Meditz, Member
Kathy Vale-Castillo, Member
Rick Hernandez, Member

Board Members Absent:

Ruth Powers, Member

Staff in Attendance:

Laura Esparza, HAND Manager
Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Manager
Socorro Chapa, ESB-MACC Administrative Assistant

A. Call to Order: Laura Esparza called the Board Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Laura introduced new member Rick Hernandez.

B. Citizen Communication:

1. Dr. Emilio Zamora, Member, Hispanic Quality of Life Commission and the Raza Round Table talked about two recommendations for the City Council that specifically address the needs of the MACC. One is a community liaison person and the other calls for a leadership program that would recruit high school and college students as interns to work at the MACC. He encouraged folks to write or call the Council Members and ask that they seriously consider the recommendations.
2. Council member Leslie Pool talked about the Internship Program for At-Risk Youth the City Council is working on. The program would place 25 students at the airport and Convention Center. She stated she was happy to play a small role to have the property on 64 Rainey a reality and dedicated as parkland. Member Maciel asked Council member Pool since the MACC is a tourist facility what could be done to get some of the bed tax money. Council member Pool said there is some effort on this Council to reduce the percentage of the bed tax that goes to cultural contracts and she would be glad to see that we get a share of the tax for the MACC.
3. Gloria Mata Pennington publicly thanked Council member Pool and Mayor Pro Tem Kathy Tovo for their support of the parkland victory and their work on the Council.
4. Council member Delia Garza welcomed the new board and stated she was proud of the work done at the MACC and proud of such a historic day. Member Valencia thanked Council member Garza for her work.
5. Kitty McMahon of the Rainey Neighbors Association invited the Board to the annual neighborhood Get-Together on Sept 29th at the MACC. Mayor Pro Tem Tovo will be the speaker.

6. Peggy Vasquez of Hispanic Today Live stated she was thankful for the results on August 25th and proud of the community that came together and showed up in full force.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Member Vale-Castillo made a motion to change the language on D. (b). to read “Member Vale-Castillo asked for a report on the funding and staffing of the City’s Cultural Centers.”
2. Member Valencia made a motion to amend the minutes to include the person’s last name on F. (b). Herlinda Zamora and (d) and (e) Kimberly McNeeley.
3. Member Valencia made a motion to pass the minutes as amended with a second by Member Meditz. Motion passed. (8.0)

D. Briefings:

1. Ricardo Soliz with the Planning and Developing Division spoke on the Master Plan and the decision by the Council for the dedicated parkland. The plan needs to be looked at again and see what needs to be added.. After the plan is completed it would have to be endorsed by the MACC Board and the Parks Board before moving on to City Council. The role of the Board is to help with the process of the Master Plan, help with the next bond, and research grant opportunities for future funding.
 - a. Mr. Soliz explained in detail the funding agreement with Fremont Holdings and City of Austin. The agreement is not signed yet but it is anticipated it will be signed by December.
 - b. Laura Esparza asked Mr. Soliz to explain to the new Board the difference between a Master Plan and an Architectural Feasibility Study.
 - c. Mr. Soliz explained to the Board the meaning of “dedicated parkland.” With dedicated parkland you get protection from state law.
 - d. Laura Esparza said she would make a note for the next meeting to provide accurate information on fair market value vs appraisal value. Member Vale-Castillo asked for clarification on the timeline for planning for actual signing for the sole source bid for the architect of record for the Master Plan. Kim McNeeley stated she could verify via a memo to the Board.
2. Laura Esparza talked about the 2000 MACC Master Plan and the City of Austin Rainey Street Historic District.

E. Discussion and Action Items:

1. Laura Esparza took nominations for Board Chair and Vice Chair.
 - a. Member Kathy Vale-Castillo nominated Member Blanca Valencia for Vice-Chair. Member Valencia accepted the nomination. Members voted (7.0). (Maciel, Hernandez, Valencia, Aguilar, Meditz, Tijerina, Vale-Castillo). Member Oyervides opposed. (1.0). Member Valencia will serve as the new Vice- Chair.
 - b. Member Blanca Valencia nominated Kathy Vale-Castillo for Chair. Member Vale-Castillo accepted the nomination.
 - c. Member Juanita Tijerina nominated Juan Oyervides for Chair. Member Oyervides accepted the nomination.
 - d. Member Rick Hernandez nominated himself. Member Oyervides offered his support to Member Hernandez and removed himself from the nomination.
 - e. Members voted. Member Kathy Vale-Castillo received 3.0 votes (Valencia, Aguilar and herself). Member Hernandez received 5.0 votes (Meditz, Maciel, Tijerina, Oyervides and himself). Member Powers was absent. Member Hernandez will serve as the new Chair.
2. Action Item:
 - a. Chair Hernandez and Laura Esparza addressed the Board on the discussion and

proposed amendments to the By-Laws. A discussion was held about absences and tardiness at Board Meetings. Member Hernandez made a recommendation that it be his role to address the situation when it occurs. Member Maciel stated she would like the Board to be advised if there is a member out for extended periods. Laura stated that meetings can be delayed for 30 minutes if there is no quorum. It was decided not to include absences or tardiness in the recommendations for the by-laws.

- b. Chair Hernandez took a vote to pass the Universal Recommendations. The vote passed (7.0). (Maciel, Aguilar, Tijerina, Meditz, Vale-Castillo, Oyervides and Hernandez). Members Valencia and Powers were absent for the vote.

3. Action Item:

- a. The Board took nominations for one member to serve on the Joint Cultural Committee. Chair Hernandez accepted nominations. Member Maciel and Member Oyervides nominated themselves.
- b. Member Maciel received 6.0 votes (Maciel, Aguilar, Tijerina, Meditz, Vale-Castillo, and Hernandez). Members Valencia and Powers were absent.
- c. Member Oyervides received 1.0 vote (Oyervides).
- d. Member Maciel will serve on the Committee.

F. Herlinda Zamora reported on September programming at the MACC. Laura Esparza gave an update on CIP projects and a review of the City of Austin policy on solicitations and a comparison on PARD cultural center data.

G. Future agenda items from the Board Members.

- a. Member Vale-Castillo requested a Strategic Plan for the next meeting to include future planning for programming and cultural events.
- b. Member Oyervides requested a residency program report.

H. Adjournment: Member Aguilar made a motion to adjourn. Member Vale-Castillo seconded the motion. Motion passed. (7.0) Member Valencia and Powers were absent. Laura adjourned the meeting at 8:50.