

**EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

**Wednesday, July 10, 2019**

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

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Tomas Salas, Chair

Aida Cerda-Prazak, Vice Chair

Endi Silva, Member

Art Navarro, Member (Left at 8pm)

David Goujon, Member

Rosemary Banda, Member

Denise Hernandez, Member

**Board Members Absent:**

Nelly Garcia, Member

Claudia Massey, Member

**Staff in Attendance:**

Lucas Massie, PARD Acting Assistant Director

Tina Herrera, ESB-MACC Administrative Assistant

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Salas called the Board Meeting to order at 6:02pm. He introduced and welcomed new Board Member, Denise Hernandez, asking her to share a little about herself.

- Member Hernandez let the Board know that she was the Assistant District Attorney at the Travis County District Attorney's office as well as the founder of Chingona Fest Texas and expressed she was excited to be joining the Board.

**B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:**

1. Maria Solis, President of the Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin shared with the Board that they would be working on a long-term project conducting genealogy on the first Mexican American families in East Austin.
  - Solis stated that the first family they planned to work on would be Danny Camacho former East Austin Historian, explaining they would study, document and then provide a presentation. Tentative date for their first presentation would be April 2020.
  - Solis asked the Board for their support in hosting their future presentations at the MACC.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Member Goujon requested that there be a correction made under ***E. BRIEFING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (4)*** bullet #6, to change from, "Member Goujon motioned to recommend the exploration of dual programming, one that was an incubator and the other for childhood education." to read, "Member Goujon motioned to recommend the exploration of dual programming, one that was an incubator and the other for childhood programming."
  - Member Hernandez motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections. Member Goujon seconded. (7.0) Motion passed. Members Massey and Garcia were absent.

## **D. PRESENTATIONS**

### **Presentation by Deputy City Clerk Myrna Rios.**

1. Rios made the Board aware that she had received several phone calls of complaints and concerns regarding past meetings but was speaking specifically towards the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - She stated that after listening to the audio recording of the meeting the City Manager's office met with the Mayor and City Council aids where it was then determined that she provide a presentation to discuss the agenda and decorum.
  - She and Stephanie Hall Boards and Commission Coordinator conducted an audit on how agendas were posted and noticed many inconsistencies and noted that after speaking with the law department they came up with some recommendations for staff.
    - Recommendations provided for agenda post.
      - 1) Remove introduction statement and work with the Law Department on an opening statement regarding decorum and Citizens Communication.
      - 2) On the agenda it states that Citizens will be given 10 minutes to sign up before the meeting is called to order. Rios stated that the Board should implement the time given for citizens to sign up to speak or remove the statement from the agenda.
      - 3) Use **"BRIEFINGS"** instead of **"PRESENTATIONS"** and discuss with the presenter how long their presentations would take and remove the time allowed to present. (Note\* Public comments are not allowed on items posted as a briefing.)
      - 4) Once agenda has been prepared, it has been asked that staff submit the agenda to an attorney for final review.
      - 5) Due to ADA requirements staff should be contacting and scheduling an interpreter for meetings especially if they know that a clear majority of the audience are Spanish speaking members so there is clear understanding and dialogue.
    - Recommendations provided for decorum.
      - 1) Indicating or noting a start and end time for the Board Meetings. Rios commented that the only down side to that would be that meetings would have to end at whatever time was listed and agenda items that were not discussed would have to be pushed onto the next meeting agenda.
      - 2) Suspend speakers or limit the time they speak.
      - 3) Adding a decorum statement to the beginning of the agenda instead of reading the ESB-MACC Mission statement.
      - 4) If a meeting is out of control the Chair or Vice Chair can recess the meeting to see if they can gain composure, if after that the meeting continues to be disruptive then the meeting can be adjourned.

### **Update by University of New Mexico researcher Cassie Smith on her dissertation proposal on the ESB-MACC.**

2. Smith informed the Board that her dissertation proposal had been sent to all Board Members via email.
  - She shared her timeline, research questions, a list of her collaborators, art-based methods that would be used, publications and what potential benefits would be for the ESB-MACC. (Please see Board and Commission Website for back up material of PowerPoint.)
  - Smith asked the Board how they saw themselves collaborating with her and let them know that she would be happy to continue to attend Board meetings to give updates. She also suggested the idea of possibly putting together a working group.
  - Chair Salas thanked Smith for her time and requested to place the topic as a future agenda item for further discussion.

**Briefing by Justin Schneider PARD Community Engagement Specialist on the LAAP contract.**

3. Schneider announced the contract review was completed. He stated he would send the contracts as well as the comments from community members to Tina Herrera, ESB-MACC Administrative Assistant to forward to the Board.
  - He mentioned that he was not sure of the exact timeline the Law Department would be finished with reviewing the contract but let the Board know the contract had been expedited for review.
  - He made it known that the LAAP program was a pilot program so that meant it was possible that once the program met its two-year term it would no longer exist.

**E. STAFF REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

**Staff report on ESB-MACC July Programs and LARP events.**

1. Lucas Massie, Acting Assistant Director gave an update on the budget sharing with the Board that the MACC was currently at 65% with their expenditures, most of which is allocated for staffing and utilities.
  - He announced that Linda Crockett, ESB-MACC Events Coordinator would be retiring at the end of July.
  - The MACC was hiring a Cultural Arts Education Supervisor position explaining that the position would be splitting programming duties and operational duties with Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Site Manager.
  - He gave an update on Cine de Oro's senior programming as well as the numbers for current MACC tours.
  - Massie informed the Board there was a list of quotes in their packets of items the Center needed improvements on totaling out to a little over \$135,000, including the quote for the shade structures. He asked the Board if they were okay with moving forward with making those purchases or if they had any suggestions.
  - Chair Salas asked if the Board would be okay with moving **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM (3)** after **STAFF REPORT** due to Member Navarro having to leave early. Member Goujon motioned to move "Discussion and possible action on the future of Palm School", after the staff report. Member Silva seconded. Unanimous vote. (7.0) Motion passed. Members Massey and Garcia were absent.

**Discussion and possible action items on the Creative Spaces Funds.**

2. Chair Salas explained that \$12 million had been approved as part of the Bond Package to fund the acquisition and improvements of creative spaces and believed it was important for the Board to submit a recommendation to City Council.
  - Member Goujon motioned to render resolution to Council in support of a fair and equitable evaluation process for the Creative Space funds. Member Navarro seconded. Member Hernandez moved to amend to add the language of a process that is reflective of the demographic make-up of Austin Texas.
  - **Final motion:** Member Goujon motioned to render resolution to Council in support of a fair and equitable distribution evaluation process that is reflective of the demographic make-up of Austin Texas for the Creative Space funds. Member Navarro seconded. Unanimous vote. (7.0) Motion passed. Members Massey and Garcia were absent.

**Discussion and possible action on the future of Palm School.**

3. Chair Salas opened the floor for Citizens that signed up to speak on the item.

- Commissioner Margaret J. Gomez stated that she was currently working on a way to preserve Palm School with the City of Austin and asked for the Boards support.
  - Paul Saldaña, Citizen let the Board know that he was currently working in a partnership with a group called Save Palm School Coalition. Saldaña asked that the Board encourage the City to continue to work with one another to ensure that an agreement could be made to preserve Palm school.
  - Member Hernandez motioned that the Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board support the preservation of Palm School and write a resolution letter to send to City Council. Member Goujon seconded. Unanimous vote. (7.0) Motion passed.
- Members Massey and Garcia were absent.

**Discussion and possible action on the Transportation Task Force.**

4. Member Silva made the Board aware of her being approached by the Rainey Neighborhood Association about having Members of the Board be stakeholders in a task force for City Council to discuss strategies for the Rainey District special revenue funds.
  - She asked if there was anyone that wanted to participate in the Rainey Street Association Mobility Committee.
  - Member Silva asked if the Cap Metro Working Group still existed. Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak responded that she was but could not remember who else from the Board was on the working group. Member Hernandez requested that staff find out and send an email to the Board.

**Discussion and possible action on all working groups.**

5.
  - a. **Awards of Excellence** - No further discussion.
  - b. **LAAP** - Member Goujon requested to be added onto the LAAP Working group.
  - c. **Budget** - Chair Salas asked the Board to review their packets for the quotes that were provided for the items the MACC is requesting to purchase. He noted that most of the items were sound equipment and for a projector but understood that the items were beneficial to the LARP/LAAP artist.

Member Goujon mentioned that the agenda stated discussion and possible action on all working groups but did not have the Phase II Working group or Bond Working group listed.

- He went ahead and provided an update that the working group had met with Heidi Tse, City of Austin Project Manager with the Office of City Architects and Christina Bies, PARD Project Coordinator. He believed that Tse has a good understanding of what good architecture should look like and cultural preservation.
- The Bond Working group met and discussed how they could be a good partner in the process since the Master Plan had been completed. He stated that he would like to reach out and have Tse present at the August Board meeting.

**Discussion and possible action on the Annual Internal Review and Report.**

6. Chair Salas reminded the Board that the report was due at the end of July. He stated that he would begin researching past agendas and minutes and would meet with Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak to complete the report.

**F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Briefing on the Phase II construction process.

Briefing from the Grants Department on the Creative Spaces funds.

Discussion and possible action on changing the ESB-MACC Advisory Board by laws. (Cerda-Prazak, Salas)

Discussion and possible action on creating a working group for Cassie Smith's dissertation proposal on the ESB-MACC. (Goujon, Silva)

Discussion and possible action on all working groups.

**Awards of Excellence, LAAP, Budget, Transportation, Phase II** (Goujon, Massey)

Discussion and possible action on the LAAP Contracts. (Goujon, Hernandez)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak motioned to adjourn with a second by Chair Salas. Motion passed. (6.0) Motion Passed. Members Massey, Garcia, and Navarro were absent. Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.