



EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 4, 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:

David Carroll, Chair
Veronica Forsyth, Co-Chair
Kathryn McMahon, Member
Juan Oyervides, Member
Velia Sanchez-Ruiz, Member
Blanca Valencia, Member

Board Members Absent: 1

Anna Maciel, Member

Staff in Attendance:

Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Manager

1. Call to Order: Chair Carroll called the Board Meeting to order at 6:05pm.

2. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Motion to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on 3/4/15 by Member McMahon with a second from Member Sanchez-Ruiz. The motion passed unanimously. (6.0) + Chair Carroll, Co-Chair Forsyth, and Members McMahon, Maciel, Oyervides, and Sanchez-Ruiz. Member Maciel was absent.

3. Citizen Communication: NONE

4. Presentations:

- a. Dr. Angela Valenzuela with Nuestro Grupo updated the Board on the developments of Academia Cuauhtli. She stressed the importance of the partnership between AISD, ESB-MACC, and Nuestro Grupo. She informed the Board about the three units that the students have been studying (Tejano monument, migration/immigration, and civil rights). There are 30 students enrolled from Metz, Sanchez, and Zavala. Dr. Valenzuela invited the Board to attend a book event on May 1 and a culminating event on May 2 in the Black Box. The culminating event for Academia Cuauhtli will be from 9am – noon and will include performances and showcase the work of the students. Modesta Trevino, Martha Coteria, Tiffany Moreno, and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Pauline Dow all spoke about the importance of the program and how it's placing the Center on the map.
- b. Artists Mery Godigna-Collet and Luis Gutierrez presented their designs to the Board. They discussed the area where they wanted to place the work, which is where the gate is located in the parking lot. They discussed the meaning of their geometric designs as they relate to water, migration, and birds. Their proposed budget is estimated at \$3,000.

BOARD ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

5. Discussion and recommendation on crosswalk art design proposals from artists Luis Gutierrez and Mery Godigna-Collet. (Forsyth, Carroll)

- a. Member Oyervides asked that the design follow the natural curve of the entrance. The artists were concerned that the area is not a walkway and wanted to stay within the parameters of the pedestrian walkway.
 - b. The Board recommended that artists Luis Gutierrez and Mery Godigna-Collet move forward with finalizing a design for a crosswalk at the parking lot entrance to the ESB-MACC (outside of right-of-way) and that PARD support the artist's effort. The Board chose the "water" theme crosswalk as the preferred design concept. The Board understands that the artist's collaboration is donated to the ESB-MACC and that a strong effort will be made to have sponsors cover the cost of the materials and installation with possible minimal cost participation by the ESB-MACC.
- 6. Discussion on the Award of Excellence selection process and timeline. (Maciel, Sanchez-Ruiz)**
- a. Herlinda Zamora updated the Board on Lyn Estabrook's report regarding the installation. 220 Designs has submitted their paperwork. A purchase order should be issued by purchasing within a couple of weeks. Zamora provided the Board with a flyer announcing the Award of Excellence nomination.
 - b. Member Oyervides would like to extend an invitation to the Mayor. Co-Chair Forsyth wants an update on the program for the next Board meeting.
- 7. Update and discussion on the status of the Rainey Street Historic District Fund. (Carroll, Forsyth)**
- a. Item was tabled.

8. Working Group reports:

- a. 64 Rainey Street Working Group; Lead, David Carroll.
Chair Carroll was informed of a meeting with the developers of 70 Rainey Street and PARD department. Ricardo Solis, Laura Esparza, and the developer's lawyers attended the meeting. He informed the Board that the developers offered to convert 64 Rainey Street into a pocket park with no expense to the City of Austin.

Chair Carroll mentioned that PARD is still working on transferring the area from Public Works to Parkland. The developers are asking to use 64 Rainey for construction staging, 18 to 24 months, while they build the condos. The developers are asking to widen the alley way from 18ft. to 20ft. The developer is asking for a "no build zone" on 64 Rainey, 25ft from their property line into 64 Rainey. In return, the developers would design (with ESB-MACC and community input), construct, and maintain a park in perpetuity. If the COA agreed to the 25ft. setback, it would allow the developers an amenity for the condo owners and make it more appealing. No permanent structure could be built within that setback by the City. The condo building design includes 120 public parking spaces in the garage in addition to parking for the tenants.

Member Oyervides felt it was not a good deal since the ESB-MACC would only use the park once in a while, and the maintenance of the park would be minimal. Co-Chair Forsyth suggested keeping negotiating for a pocket park and to make it a nice area, or negotiate to remove the Austin Energy tower. Chair Carroll suggested re-engaging the 64 Rainey Street Working Group to evaluate the developer's offer. The developers want to go to construction by July or August. Member Sanchez-Ruiz asked if the community was aware of the developers design. Chair Carroll said "No" but that the community's input should be addressed. Member McMahon brought up PARD's recommendation to dedicate 64 Rainey Street to Parkland in April, which would not allow for the use of construction staging. The Board decided to reactivate the 64 Rainey Street Working Group. Chair Carroll will be talking

to Anna Maciel, Juan Oyervides, and Kitty McMahon to see who is best fit for the Working Group. Member Valencia was also interested in serving on the Working Group.

- b. Multimedia Working Group; Lead, Veronica Forsyth.
No update.

9. Staff briefings:

- a. Herlinda Zamora updated the Board on Lyn Estrabrook's report regarding the new drive way on the north lawn, which is part of the new parking/landscaping improvements.
- b. Zamora reported on ESB-MACC programming and upcoming events.

10. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Discussion on the Award of Excellence planning. (Forsyth, Sanchez-Ruiz)

11. Adjournment: Chair Carroll adjourned the meeting at 7:54 pm with a motion from Member McMahon and a second from Member Sanchez-Ruiz without objection. (6.0) + Chair Carroll, Co-Chair Forsyth and Members McMahon, Maciel, Oyervides, Sanchez-Ruiz, and Valencia. Member Maciel was absent.