

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURE CENTER

REGULAR MEETING

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

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:

Blanca Valencia, Co- Chair

Juan Oyervides, Member

Juanita Tijerina, Member

Aldo Davila, Member

Julia Aguilar, Member

Anna Maciel, Member

Ruth Powers, Member

Adriel Meditz, Member (Arrived at 6:30PM)

Board Members Absent:

Rick Hernandez, Chair

Kathy Vale-Castillo, Member

Aida Cerda-Prazak, Member

Staff in Attendance:

Kim McNeeley, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director

Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Manager

Tina Herrera, ESB- MACC Administrative Assistant

A. CALL TO ORDER: Co-Chair Valencia called the Board Meeting to order at 6:03pm.

B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

1. Ernesto Calderon suggested that the MACC sponsor a community band to give inexperienced and experienced artists an opportunity to play music. Calderon believes that the MACC should be gathering a place for musicians, and bring in a younger generation of musicians.
 - Member Maciel expressed that she really liked the idea and Member Oyervides asked staff if it was possible.
 - Herlinda Zamora thought it could be a possible collaboration with the LARP program.
2. Daniel Llanes addressed the possible reinstating of Atzlan Dance Company into LARP. Llanes stated that ESB-MACC is a cultural center and should be looking to support Chicano artists, and expressed his advocacy for Atzlan Dance Company. He believes that it is important to reconnect the Mexican community with the MACC.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: With no corrections to the minutes, the minutes were approved. (7.0) (Co- Chair Valencia, Members Tijerina, Oyervides, Davila, Aguilar, Maciel, and Powers). Member Meditz and Member Vale-Castillo were not present at time of vote.

D. PRESENTATIONS:

1. Suzanne Williams-Piper from PARD'S Finance Division gave a presentation on PARD FY2017 Budget forecast comparing the budget to other departments. She explained the proposed increase was due to insurance, wages, maintenance, and general cost drivers.
2. Kim McKnight from PARD's Planning and Construction Division provided an update on the ongoing proposed CIP projects at the ESB-MACC.
 - Kim McNeeley provided an update on the Wall of Excellence that included painting the rivets and engraving the names to meet the request of the artist.

- Kim McKnight provided an update on the auditorium room improvements. She noted the lights procurement for the parking lot fixtures to provide better illumination bid came in at \$17,700.
- George Maldonado, Project Manager will be placing an order for lights and anticipates the order to take about 4 to 6 weeks for delivery and installation. The plan is to install the new lighting and evaluate it to see if there will be a need for additional lighting.

E. BRIEFING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

1. Kim McKnight discussed the Master Plan and mentioned to the board members that the plan has not yet been executed.
 - McKnight stated that there are a few details being worked out in regards to the fire access issues.
 - Member Oyervides asked that two of the board members be able to be in attendance when negotiation takes place and that the board be able to see a draft of the agreement.
 - Co-Chair Valencia expressed concern in the cost of the Master Plan. Valencia believes that originally the estimated budget cost was \$250,000 and then moved up to \$300,000 to redesign the Master Plan. She questions if the MACC will need to rethink the scope of work.
 - Member Davila and Member Oyervides asked that McKnight provide the actual budget amount left in the CIP fund so that the MACC can prioritize what they can spend.
2. Member Oyervides opened discussion on the possibility of reconsidering Aztlan Dance Company into the Latino Arts Residency Programs at the ESB-MACC.
 - Herlinda Zamora stated that there was a panel that scored the applications and the staff made the percentage cut-off point.
 - Co- Chair Valencia suggested a potential formal appeals process be put into place that goes through LARP panel and staff. She expressed concern that the discussion could be perceived as favoritism.
 - Member Davila moved to close discussion. Member Powers seconded. Motion split (4.4)
 - Aztlan Dance member Roen Salinas stated that on January 6th when going before the panel there was a conflict with one of the panel members.
 - Member Maciel expressed that if there was an issue with one of the panel members that Aztlan be reconsidered.
 - Co-Chair Valencia asked Herlinda Zamora for access to the Panel Review audio to assure there was no unethical practice. Once the board has reviewed the tape, then further discussion on the possibility of reconsideration will be discussed.
3. Co-Chair Valencia stated she did not have anything to report and would give an update at the next board meeting.
4. Member Oyervides submitted a presentation on the Rainey Street Historic Working Group and possible community members that can help provide history to the MACC.

- Co-Chair Valencia expressed that she understands the reasoning for wanting the input of the Latinos on Rainey Street, however she believes that the MACC needs the input of Rainey Street neighbors as well as the stakeholders.
 - Kim McNeeley will review the bylaws and ordinance and email to the board.
 - Member Oyervides stated that at the next working group meeting they will discuss how they will reach out to the Rainey Street Association and the Stakeholders.
 - Co-Chair Valencia asked Rainey Street Working Group members to find out what happened to the \$100,000 that should have been in the deficient funds and what was that fund going to be used towards.
5. Member Oyervides stated that he would like to remind the board that there is an Awards of Excellence Working Group and they plan on giving an update at the July board meeting.
- Member Oyervides expressed that staff as well as Kim McNeeley did an amazing job.
 - Member Maciel expressed concern in regards to the seating arrangements and that there were just not enough tables.
 - Member Tijerina expressed that overall the ceremony was wonderful but the MACC can always revisit the process.
 - Member Davila believes the ultimate goal of the MACC be that the council members be in attendance, and share the Mexican American culture.

F. STAFF REPORTS:

- No Marketing report.
- Herlinda Zamora provided the following report: There is still enrollment available for Teen Camps Sessions 3 and 4.
- June 18th Mary Collett will host a family event called “Let’s talk in Volume”.
- June 3rd & 4th Teatro Proyecto will perform “Queerness Mexican Families”.
- June 25th tribute to Danny Camacho.

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

- Member Oyervides requested that Kim McKnight provide some specifics on the CIP projects and master planning budget.
- Member Davila asked that McKnight provide a list of facts as well as expenditures so that the Board knows exactly what is available, so that they are able to make good logical decisions.
- Member Davila requested a discussion on how the MACC can maximize its spaces and how the center connects with its community.
- Discussion and possible action on Marketing.

H. ADJOURNMENT: Member Ruth motioned to adjourn with a second by Member Davila. Motion passed. (8.0) Chair Hernandez, Member Vale-Castillo, and Member Cerda-Prazak was absent. Co-Chair Valencia adjourned the meeting at 8:54pm.