

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

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:

Rick Hernandez, Chair

Anna Maciel, Member

Blanca Valencia, Co-Chair

Julia Aguilar, Member

Juan Oyervides, Member

Aida Cerda-Prazak, Member

Juanita Tijerina, Member (Arrived at 6:12pm)

Kathy Vale-Castillo, Member

Staff in Attendance:

Laura Esparza, Museums and Cultural Programs Manager

Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Manager

Tina Herrera, ESB-MACC Administrative Assistant

A. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Hernandez called the Board Meeting to order at 6:10pm and announced that there was going to be a change of order to the Agenda. The change will be as followed:

1. Discussion and possible action regarding a proposed contract with Casabella Architects for the completion of the ESB-MACC Master Plan.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

2. Discussion and possible action on issues related to Proyecto Teatro.
3. Discussion and possible action on recommendations to the Hispanic Quality of Life Commission on possible funding initiatives for the FY18 City budget.
4. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to request Council funding for providing full-time staff persons to open the facility on Sunday.
5. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to request Council funding for additional parking security for the ESB-MACC Parking Lot.
6. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to request Council funding for a Master Plan for the Rainey Street Historic District.

B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

At the Boards discretion it was decided that they would allow twenty speakers three minutes to speak within one hour.

- Numerous individuals came to speak in support of reinstating Proyecto Teatro, all stating to the Board the importance of Proyecto Teatro to their children, how they have taught them their culture, to express themselves, not to forget their language, and creating a home where they feel safe. The following speakers were Liliana Batista, Martinique Duchene-Phillips, Paulina Bermeo, Chris Milk, Patricia Ortiz, Monica Sanchez, Julia De Los Santos, Marisa Limon, Brianda Campos, Leonel Garza, Tarik Daniels, Guillermo Garza, Rudy Ramirez, Jorge Jimenez, and Kenny Snodgrass. (Most individuals that spoke were PT parents, members, or LARP members)

- Mario Ramirez, Teatro Vivo Member expressed that he is on the MACC's Latino Arts and Residency Program and feels torn between the MACC and Proyecto Teatro. He does not believe that PT was given a fair chance to fix their mistakes and asked that they be reinstated.
- Some individuals were signed up to speak but decided to give their spot up, left early removing themselves from the meeting, or asked that they speak during the Item, the following were...Laura Santiago, Nazlie Saeedi, Elizabeth Chalpeno, Josefina Escamilla, Luis Ordaz, Hector Ordaz, and Marcos Ordaz.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

No action taken. The Board will review the March 1st and March 8th Minutes at the April 5th Board meeting.

D. BRIEFING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

1. Member Vale-Castillo motioned to proceed as recommended by Kim. Member Oyervides seconded the motion. Motion passed. (8.0)
2. Chair Hernandez let the citizen's and Proyecto Teatro know that Friday, March 10th they would be meeting with PARD at 10am to go over the appeals resolution process.
 - The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board so moved to recommend the reinstatement of Proyecto Teatro's residency. Unanimous vote. (8.0)
 - The Board decided to create a Working Group with the following members being, Commissioners Oyervides, Vale-Castillo, Cerda-Prazak, Tijerina, and Maciel. They would also like to include in the group Rudy Ramirez, Artistic Director of The Vortex Repertory Company, and Anita Quintanilla, Community Member. They will meet Wednesday, March 15th to review the contract, and share their ideas with the Board at the next meeting.
 - Luis Ordaz, Artistic Director of Proyecto Teatro asked if they would be able to return to the MACC to use the space. Laura Esparza, Museums and Cultural Programs stated to him and the Board that at this time their suspension has been imposed.
 - Ordaz asked that there be an investigation from an outside third party, and a Bill of Rights to protect children and Latino Art and Residency Program members.
3. No discussion, will be added to the April Board Meeting Agenda.
4. No discussion, will be added to the April Board Meeting Agenda.
5. No discussion, will be added to the April Board Meeting Agenda.
6. No discussion, will be added to the April Board Meeting Agenda.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

- Discussion and possible action on recommendations to the Hispanic Quality of Life Commission on possible funding initiatives for the FY18 City budget.
- Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to request Council funding for providing full-time staff persons to open the facility on Sunday.
- Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to request Council funding for additional parking security for the ESB-MACC Parking Lot.
- Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to request Council funding for a Master Plan for the Rainey Street Historic District.
- Working Group Report regarding the 10th Anniversary of the ESB-MACC.
- Working Group Report regarding Latino Arts Residency Program.

F. ADJOURNMENT:

Co-Chair Valencia motioned to adjourn with a second by Member Vale-Castillo. Motion passed.

(8.0) Chair Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 9:13pm.