

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

REGULAR MEETING

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, March 6, 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:

Aida Cerda-Prazak, Vice Chair

Art Navarro, Member

Endi Silva, Member

Anjelica Erazo, Member

Tomas Medina, Member

Claudia Massey, Member

Andrea Chavez, Member

Rosemary Banda, Member

Tomas Salas, Member

Board Members Absent:

Nelly Garcia, Member

David Goujon, Member

Staff in Attendance:

Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Manager

Tina Herrera, ESB-MACC Administrative Assistant

A. CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak called the Board Meeting to order at 6:00pm.

B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak announced that the ESB-MACC Advisory Board had a new member and asked that he introduce himself.

1. Tomas Salas let the Board know that he was appointed by Council Member Pio Renteria and gave a brief overview of his history with the Cultural Center.
2. Hector Ordaz, Proyecto Teatro Member commented on the dates and procedures for the Latino Arts and Residency programs contract.
 - Ordaz asked that the Board come up with a contingency plan so that LARP artists would be allowed to continue to request dates even after the September deadline.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Member Silva motioned to approve the minutes with no corrections. Member Massey seconded. Motion passed. (9.0) Members Goujon and Garcia were absent.

D. PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation by Diane Siler Deputy Budget Officer on the FY20 Budget Process.

1. Siler went over the timeline for FY2020.
(Please see backup material on Boards & Commissions website)
 - Siler informed the Board of why discussing the budget was so essential, letting them know that they had the ability to increase property tax by 8% over the revenue that was collected the previous year. The City is discussing lowering that cap to 2 ½ %.
 - She brought to the Boards attention that they had started their community forums and planned to have (9) forums in total that would be open to the public.
 - Co-Chair Cerda-Prazak asked if the meetings were for the public to discuss their priorities for the Center. Siler responded with, "That is correct, feedback is an important component when developing the budget."

- Member Erazo questioned the ways that the Budget Office planned to retrieve its feedback. Siler assured Erazo that they were obtaining feedback by holding forums where staff takes notes as well as taking in feedback through a survey on the City's website.
- Deadline for resolutions for priorities are due by the end of May to be considered in the new budget.

Briefing by Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager for PARD Planning, on the City process for vacating the alley adjacent to the ESB-MACC and the short-term plans for maintenance of 64 Rainey Street

2. Soliz noted that the contractual agreement with the developer ended March 1, 2019 making the area dedicated parkland.
 - PARD is currently working on ways to avoid the public from parking on the land by installing temporary bollards. He also mentioned that staff was looking into locating the water source so they could start planting greenery on the property.
 - Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak believes it is important for there to be signage posted so that the public is aware that the area is not part of the condos but belongs to the MACC.

E. BRIEFING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Discussion and possible action on the shade structure.

1. Hector Ordaz, Proyecto Teatro Member made a proposal on how to best use the funds for the shade structure. His proposal was to use the funds for repurposing of the facilities spaces.
 - An example he gave was that the music room was not sound proof and that other artists were not able to use the space for that reason. He noted that if the space was sound proof, for those who were musicians they could use the space more efficiently as a recording studio if that was an option.
 - Anna Maciel, Former ESB-MACC Advisory Board Member reminded the Board that during February meeting Lucas Massie, PARD Acting Assistant Director shared with the Board that Council Member Renteria had allocated \$22,000 for the shade structure. Laura Esparza, PARD Division Manager let the Board know that Massie must have misspoke on the amount and confirmed that it was \$150,000.
 - Member Salas suggested that staff and LARP artists come up with a list of priorities and provide it to Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Site Manager so she could share with the Board at the April meeting for further discussion.

Update on the LARP Community Forum meetings.

2. Member Banda made the Board aware of the meetings that have taken place and the meetings that will follow.
 - She noted that both the LARP groups and MACC staff had provided their feedback. Commissioners will meet March 20th and then March 25th the community would be given an opportunity to provide their feedback. March 28th would be the final meeting to come up with a completed contract.
 - Anna Maciel, Former Board Member stated it was important for the Board to set timelines.
 - Hector Ordaz, Proyecto Teatro Member expressed his frustration when attending the forum for LARP members. He commented that the mission had to be explained and felt that the formatting of the process was not beneficial to all those that participate in the LARP program.
 - Ordaz believed that for the process to work it might not be a good idea to speed the process up by having the contract completed by the end of March. He suggested that in

order to meet their deadlines to apply for grants maybe having something concrete by mid-April would be more sufficient.

- Vice Cerda-Prazak asked the Board if they agreed to the contract being completed and approved by mid-April. Member Banda stated that she would get with Justin Schneider, PARD Community Engagement Specialist to see if they would be willing to extend the process and have the contract completed by mid-April.

Update on the Awards of Excellence Working Group.

3. Member Silva reported that the Awards of Excellence Working group was not able to meet in February.
 - Zamora let the Board know that the nomination forms were out and posted on the MACC's website and provided a copy of the form to all Board Members.
 - Awards of Excellence will take place June 1st.
 - Zamora will send an email to working group members to meet the last week of March.

Update on the Bond Working Group.

4. Member Navarro stated that there were no updates to report.
 - Member Chavez requested that she be added onto the Texas Hispanic Legislators Working Group.

F. STAFF REPORTS BY HELINDA ZAMORA, ESB-MACC SITE MANAGER

1. Zamora informed the Board of March programs and LARP highlights.
2. Zamora announced that SXSW events with Crossroads, Casa Mexico, and Pan Americana were cancelled due to funding issues.
 - Zamora let the Board know that as an alternative they would have an event called "Tardeada" with vendors and music playing out in the Zocalo in hopes of generating activity.

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Election of officers for the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center.

Presentation from Allan Umana, Financial Consultant on PARD's Budget.

Update on the LARP Community Forum meetings.

Discussion and possible action on a list of MACC priorities for improvements to the Center.

Update on the Awards of Excellence Working Group.

Update on the Bond Working Group.

Discussion and possible action on the parkland design.

H. ADJOURNMENT:

Member Medina motioned to adjourn with a second by Member Navarro. Motion passed. (9.0) Members Goujon and Garcia were absent. Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak adjourned the meeting at 8:20pm.