

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Thursday, April 11, 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

Claudia Massey, Member

Andrea Chavez, Member

Rosemary Banda, Member

Tomas Salas, Member

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:

1. Javier Salas, ESB-MACC Staff Member let the Board know that his father was Member Salas and that when he heard his father was running for Chair, he didn't think that there would be anyone better to represent the Board. He felt that Member Salas has the knowledge of Mexican American/Latino Culture, informing the Board of his fathers' work with groups like Teatro Campesino, La Pena, and CMACA.
2. Nino Miranda, Former ESB-MACC LARP Coordinator stated that he had heard that Member Salas was nominated to be the ESB-MACC Advisory Board Chair. He mentioned that during his time working for the Center he always saw Member Salas at the MACC's events, supporting and helping around the facility. He asked the Board to support and vote for Member Salas.

C. BRIEFING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEM: Officer Elections.

1. Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak opened the floor for nominations of Chair.
 - Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak nominated Member Salas for Chair. Member Salas accepted.
 - Member Salas described his history with the MACC letting the Board know that he has been involved with the Center since 1976 and how he helped the MACC throughout its' early stages. He felt that he had the experience as an artist and an administrator and could help bring those perspectives together to lead and make the facility the best it could be.
 - Member Goujon nominated Member Navarro for Chair. Member Navarro accepted.
 - Member Navarro shared with the Board that he grew up in East Austin, has seen the significant changes in the community, and has been involved and will continue to be

involved with the community. He went on to mention that he has sat on multiple Boards and knows how to work with the political aspect of dealing with the City.

- Board Members took a vote to elect Member Salas as Chair. (5.4) Members Goujon, Silva, Chavez, and Navarro voted against. Board Members took a vote for Member Navarro as Chair. (4.5) Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak, Members Banda, Garcia, Massey and Salas voted against.
- Member Banda asked the Board to reconsider their votes for Chair and go ahead and continue with the vote for Vice Chair.
- Member Banda nominated Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak to continue the position of Vice Chair. Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak accepted.
- Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak stated that she was currently the longest serving Member on the Board. She felt she had represented her district well and was proud of herself for fighting to get the road banners for District 4. She also expressed her excitement for the new phase of the MACC and informed the Board that she did have a degree in design, so she was familiar with blue prints and the design process.
- Member Banda interjected and went on to say that Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak has been a strong advocate for the Cap Metro bus stop and believed that Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak would continue to push for all things that are right for the Center.
- Member Navarro nominated Member Goujon for Vice Chair. Member Goujon accepted.
- Member Goujon let the Board know that he first worked with the MACC collaboratively during its Día de Los Muertos event where he provided pinatas for the children and displayed a couple of installations. He stated that during that time when he saw what the Center had to offer and the many opportunities that were provided, he began to build a great relationship with staff and wanted to contribute more to the Center, which is why he is now a member of the Board. He believes that there is a lot of work to be done to build the MACC and feels that with his architecture background he can help in finding someone to work collaboratively with the Center as well as providing teaching opportunities.
- Board Members took a vote for Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak to continue as Vice Chair. (5.4) Members Goujon, Massey, Chavez, and Navarro voted against. Board Members took a vote for Member Goujon to be elected as Vice Chair. (4.5) Members Banda, Garcia, Silva, Salas and Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak voted against.
- Member Massey stated that she would like to change her vote. She explained that although she was impressed with Member Goujon's experience the term was only for a year and felt that since Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak had seniority she should remain Vice Chair. Member Goujon withdrew from his nomination. Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak will remain in her position as Vice Chair.
- The Board took a second vote for the position of Chair. No changes were made to the previous vote. Board Members were not willing to change their votes or withdraw therefor the vote failed. The Board decided they would revote at the May Board Meeting and in the meantime Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak would continue to run the ESB-MACC Advisory Board Meetings.

Discussion and possible action on the LARP Review Panel term limits.

2. Maria Gutierrez, Proyecto Teatro Member shared her frustrations with the term limit and was not in agreement with the new LAAP program. She commented that PT has been a resident at the MACC for several years, and therefore had real-life experiences as artists in the community. She went on to say that there were various points that had not been made clear and that community and artists feedback had not been considered. She is not against improvements to the program, but felt it needed to be done honestly, by really listening to the needs of the community. She expressed her concerns of the City imposing their own interest on the program, without direct contact with the artists to find out their point of view. She proposed that there not be a firm term limit but one that allowed the program to grow.
 - Member Banda gave an update letting the Board know the LAAP Panel had met and decided to go ahead and approve the original recommendations with no changes.
 - The LARP Panel felt that by having a two-year term it would give all artists an equal opportunity.
 - Member Goujon stated that is why he wanted to explore the budget to see if there would be a way to have the LARP artists continue permanently.
 - Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak motioned to approve the recommendation with the exception of the term limits. Member Massey seconded. (3.6) Vote did not pass. Members Salas, Banda, Goujon, Navarro, Garcia, and Chavez,
 - Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak motioned to approve the recommendations as they stood. Member Garcia seconded. (6.3) Motion passed. Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak, Massey, and Silva were against the motion.

D. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

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

Discussion and possible action on Budget Working Group.

Discussion and possible action on establishing a committee for long term projects.

Discussion and possible action on working groups.

E. ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak motioned to adjourn with a second by Member Massey. Motion passed. (9.0)

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.