

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

REGULAR MEETING

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, December 4, 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:

Tomas Salas, Chair

Aida Cerda-Prazak, Vice Chair

Endi Silva, Member

Art Navarro, Member

David Goujon, Member

Denise Hernandez, Member (Arrived at 6:17pm)

Claudia Massey, Member

Tanya Karakashian, Member (Arrived at 6:26pm)

Staff in Attendance:

Laura Esparza, PARD Division Manager

Lucas Massie, PARD Acting Assistant Director

Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Supervisor

Tina Herrera, ESB-MACC Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Salas called the Board Meeting to order at 6:02pm.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

None.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak motioned to change ***D. PRESENTATIONS, STAFF REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS: ITEM (1) bullet (8) to read***, “Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak did not agree with the amounts that the performers were being paid. She commented that Austin was supposed to be the Live Music Capital of the World, but artists couldn’t afford to live there. She felt the performers should be adequately compensated so they could afford to live in Austin and practice their craft. She went on to say that a gig wasn’t just the two hours that were spent performing but there was also time spent rehearsing, arranging music, maintaining instruments, travel time to and from venues, load up, unload, set up, and take down.” Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections. Member Massey seconded. Unanimous vote. (8.0) Motioned passed.

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Briefing from Cole Kitten from Transportation on the results of the mobility study and the closure of Rainey Street.

- Kitten provided the Board with an overview of the Austin Transportation Departments (ATD) initiatives, informing them of the shared streets pilot resolution that was adopted June 19, 2019.
- He went over the proposed safety closure, notifying the Board that details were being determined in coordination with APD and neighborhood stake holders. He also addressed that the pilot would begin December 5th and end March 8th. Closure would be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9pm-2:30am.

- Chair Salas and other Board Members believed the pilot would impact the Center tremendously and not in a positive way but would cause numerous problems for the MACC. Member Goujon listed those problems to be more individuals using the MACC's parking lot during events, trashing the lot, drunken pedestrians, urinating...etc.
- Member Hernandez expressed that it was disconcerting that ATD commented they had done some outreach but failed to include the MACC in their process. She commented that she would like to provide Kitten with constructive criticism addressing that the presentation that was given had a lack of cultural history and that Kitten had even mentioned that the department had only spoken to the businesses and Homeowners Association also showing lack of community input.
- Member Hernandez requested that someone from APD attend the next Board meeting to discuss the procedure for the Rainey street closure.

(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

2. Briefing from Jorge Rousselin from Planning and Zoning on the Palm District Planning Initiative.

- Rousselin shared with the Board there was a 27-page resolution that was passed to address Rainey Street improvements and gave a brief overview of its background, study area, purpose, project team, timeline, and the next steps.
- He asked the Board for their help in the process. The Board responded and asked that when going forward that Rousselin work with stakeholders and MACC staff to engage with the community.

(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

3. Briefing from Acting Assistant Director Lucas Massie on ESB-MACC manager recruitment.

- Massie announced to the Board that Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Site Manager would be making a lateral transfer within PARD and would continue to work as the Manager at the MACC until the new manager was hired. He also mentioned that Zamora would be included in the recruitment process.
- Massie took a moment to recognize Zamora for all her hard work and dedication, commenting that he knew she had put her heart and soul into the Center for the last decade.
- Laura Esparza, PARD Division Manager gave an overview of the hiring process, recruitment, Municipal Civil Service regulations, desired outcomes, and targeted dates.
- Member Goujon requested that the position be advertised on LinkedIn. Member Hernandez requested that the position be advertised on Facebook, and Chair Salas suggested advertising through Latino Arts organizations such as NALAC (National Association of Latino Arts & Cultures).

(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

C. STAFF REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Staff Report on ESB-MACC December Programs and LARP reports and events.

1. Olivia Tamzarian, ESB-MACC Outreach & Marketing Coordinator provided the Board with a handout of updates for the MACC's outreach and marketing projects.

(Please see Board and Commissions Website for back up material.)

- ❖ Lorie Martinez, Rentals & LAAP Coordinator announced that she and the Site Manager had met with an organization by the name of Pan Americana, PARD Special Events, and the ACE (Austin Center for Events) office to discuss the possibility of hosting a SXSW event at the MACC in March 2020.
- Martinez mentioned that the organizer currently had an outstanding fee that had to be paid before their event could be approved.

- Martinez provided the Board with LAAP's November highlights as well as handouts of a bar graph and pie charts of the ESB-MACC's Actual Attendance by reservation type, space utilization, and comparison of attendance and space use for November of 2019.

(Please see Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

Discussion and possible action on a meeting schedule for January 2020 – December 2020.

2. Member Hernandez motioned to maintain meetings to take place the first Wednesday of every month in 2020 except for January's meeting would be moved to January 8th to accommodate the holiday. Member Goujon seconded. Unanimous vote (8.0) Motion passed.

Update on ESB-MACC Advisory Board by-laws.

3. Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak shared with the Board that the City Clerk's office had notified ESB-MACC staff that the Board's request to amend their current bylaws had been received and were on the Audit and Finance Committee's agenda.
 - The meeting would take place December 11th at 9:30 am in the Boards and Commission's Room.

Discussion of the LAAP contract.

4. Member Goujon stated the item should have been removed from the agenda. No updates.

Discussion and possible action on all working groups.

5. Chair Salas opened the floor for discussion.
 - a. **LAAP** – Member Goujon let the Board know that the working group had not met but planned to meet sometime in the month of December.
 - He informed the Board that when the group does meet it would be to discuss how to filter potential problems.
 - b. **Budget** – Member Goujon stated that the working group was currently in hibernation but would need to schedule a meeting to start discussing the budget process.
 - Member Goujon commented that he would reach out to all working group members to see when they would be available to meet.
 - c. **Transportation** – No further updates.
 - Member Navarro requested that he be added to the working group.
 - d. **Phase II** – Member Goujon let the Board know that the working group had several meetings with Project Manager Heidi Tse and Project Coordinator Christina Bies and at this point felt it was time to open discussion to observe input on the RFQ process for Phase II.
 - He believed it was important for there to be a structured conversation with City staff and let the Board know that he would like to invite staff to provide updates on the process during the January meeting.
 - Member Goujon motioned to write a letter of support for the project delivery method of construction manager at risk. Member Silva seconded. Unanimous vote. (8.0) Motion passed.

D. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Update from Heidi Tse and Christina Bies on the RFQ for Phase II.

Update from Cole Kitten on the process of the community engagement and process for the Shared Street Pilot Program.

Staff Report on ESB-MACC January Programs and LARP reports and events. (Cerda-Prazak, Salas)

Discussion and possible action on the community engagement process, impact of the closure of Rainey Street on the MACC parking lot and illegal ride share drop offs. (Cerda-Prazak, Salas)

Discussion and possible action on all working groups.

LAAP, Budget, Transportation, Phase II (Goujon, Massey)

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chair Cerda-Prazak motioned to adjourn with a second by Member Hernandez. Unanimous vote.

Motion passed. (8.0) Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.