



**EMMA S. BARRIENROS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2023**

The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center convened in a Regular meeting on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at City Hall – Board and Commissions Room located at 301 West Second Street in Austin, Texas 78701. (Some members of the ESB-MACC Advisory Board participated via videoconference.)

Chair Navarro called the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Meeting to order at 6:06pm.

Board Members in Attendance:
Angelica Navarro, Chair
Hilario “Larry” Amaro, Vice Chair
Litza Gonzales, Member
Lily Zamarripa-Saenz, Member

Board Members in Attendance Remotely:
John Estrada, Member
Gerardo Gandy, Member
Greg Gonzalez, Member (Arrived at 6:54pm)

Staff in Attendance:
Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Manager
Estrella de León, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Special Events Coordinator
Tina Davila, ESB-MACC Administrative Specialist

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL
None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The minutes from the Regular meeting of May 3, 2023, were approved on Chair Navarro’s motion. Member Zamarripa-Saenz seconded the motion. Unanimous vote (6.0). Motion passed. Member Gonzalez absent.

CHAIR REPORT

2. Chair Navarro expressed her gratitude for Board Members and staff’s participation, thanking them for their time and being present at meetings. She also encouraged dialogue on all agenda items and welcomed questions on board protocols.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

3. **Staff Report on ESB-MACC programs during May & June and upcoming programs in July.**
Olivia Tamzarian, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Marketing & Outreach Representative provided a report on program highlights for the month of May & June, along with upcoming programs &

events for the month of July. She also announced that the MACC was currently undergoing interviews to select and hire the Class of 2024 Teen Camino students by the end of the summer.
(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Manager provided an update on the Cosecha Summer Camp and Academia Cuauhtli Aztech Kidz Code Camp.
(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

Estrella de León, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Special Events Coordinator updated the Board on upcoming signature events.

- de León announced that there were over 40 individuals nominated for the Awards of Excellence (AOE) and an announcement of the recipients would be posted online July 21, 2023. All Advisory Board Members were invited to attend the Award of Excellence Ceremony located at the Long Center, beginning at 3:00pm on Saturday, July 29th.
- de León mentioned that on the same night as the AOE event there would be a collaboration with Guelaguetza by Ballet Folklorico de Austin also at the Long Center beginning at 6:00pm.
- She shared with the Board that The Oswaldo A.B. Cantu Pan American Recreation Center and Neighborhood Park partnered with the MACC to present Austin's longest running free concert series, "Hillside Summer Concert Series" taking place Tuesdays, July 11th, 18th, and 25th from 6:00pm to 9:00pm.
- She asked the Board to save the date for the following events -
Viva Mexico – Saturday, September 16th located at Pan Am Recreation Center
Dia de Los Muertos - Saturday, November 4th located at Pan Am Recreation Center

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

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

4. Presentation by City of Austin Capital Delivery Services Department, Capital Delivery Project Manager, Heidi Tse, AIA Assoc, CNUa, LEED APBD&C on the Phase 2 updates.

Heidi Tse, Capital Delivery Services Department Project Manager gave an update on the current project phase, covering the construction document, permitting, bidding, and negotiation phase while ensuring a timeline was provided and detailed information for each process was relayed.

- Chair Navarro asked Tse to explain the delays on the site plan permit application requesting clarity as to why the permit was submitted in July of 2022 but wasn't approved until March of 2023. She also wanted to know why there was a delay from March of 2023 to June of 2023 and questioned if the delays would impact the budget.
- Tse stated that the on-site development permitting historically had taken anywhere from 6 to 12 months and that the MACC was a complicated site. She explained the complication was the expansion goes into pervious versus impervious surfaces meaning what can soak in ground water and what cannot, giving an example of the trail dividing the water's edges. She also noted there was environmental issues because the MACC is adjacent to the lake as well as close to a floodplain. She commented that there were many disciplines that must be cleared and worked out to get approval. Tse, also clarified that she did not believe the delay would impact their budget if they were able to get the permit to begin construction in July, stating they would be 30 days behind but are hopeful they could make up the time lost during construction.
- Chair Navarro asked when the Board would expect the right-of-way permit. Tse, responded that she was not sure of where the team is with that but would provide an update at the next Board meeting.

5. **Discussion and possible action on the Phase 2 Expansion where a recommendation to City Council will be approved.**

Vice Chair Amaro reminded Board Members that the last time the Board met they discussed writing a letter to Council requesting additional funds for the 2024 budget to complete Phase 2 of the MACC.

- Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Manager stated that she would put together a drafted letter of support and send to the Board by Friday, July 7th for them to keep as is or adjust.
- Rojas stated that once the Board decided on how they would like to proceed with the letter each member could then sign the letter and reach out to their City Council Members to ask for the funds to finish Phase 2 of the MACC.

6. **Discussion and possible action on creating new and/or updating current ESB-MACC Working Group memberships.**

Vice Chair Amaro brought up creating new working groups that would discuss defining and planning Music & Arts Working Groups.

- Vice Chair Amaro motioned to establish a working group to define a planning group for cultural activities which include music and the arts. No second. Motion did not pass.

Member Gonzales motioned to revisit the working groups and open discussion for new membership.

Member Estrada seconded. Unanimous vote (7.0). Motion passed.

Phase 2 Project Working Group Members: (Confirmed)

Chair Navarro, Vice Chair Amaro, Member Estrada, Zamarripa-Saenz, and Gonzales

- Working group will continue to be held the last Thursday of every month at noon.

Ethnographic Working Group:

Chair Navarro motioned to wait until more Board Members were appointed. Member Zamarripa-Saenz Seconded. Unanimous vote (7.0). Motion passed.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion and possible action on defining and planning a new Music & Arts Working Group (Amaro, Gonzales)

Staff Report

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Amaro motioned to adjourn the July 5, 2023, Advisory Board meeting at 7:50pm. Member Zamarripa-Saenz seconded. Unanimous vote (7.0). Motion passed.

The minutes were approved at the 8-2-2023 meeting on Member Zamarripa-Saenz's motion, Member Gandy second on a 6.0 vote.