



**EMMA S. BARRIENROS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023**

The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center convened in a Regular meeting on Wednesday, November 1, 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 6:08pm.

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Angelica Navarro, Chair  
Hilario “Larry” Amaro, Vice Chair  
Noemi Castro, Member  
John Estrada, Member  
Cynthia “Cy” Herrera, Member (Arrived at 6:31pm)  
Raul “Roy” Reyna, Member  
Eduardo “Eddie” Rodriguez, Member  
Lily Zamarripa-Saenz, Member

**Board Members in Attendance Remotely:**

Gerardo Gandy, Member (Left at 7:32pm)

**Board Members Absent:**

Litza Gonzales, Member  
Anthony Martinez, Member

**Staff in Attendance:**

Laura Esparza, PARD Division Manager of Museums and Cultural Programs  
Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Manager  
Marie Ortiz, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Supervisor  
Tina Davila, ESB-MACC Administrative Specialist

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. The minutes from the Regular meeting of October 4, 2023, were approved on Member Zamarripa-Saenz’s motion. Vice Chair Amaro seconded the motion. Unanimous vote (8.0). Motion passed. Members Gonzales, Herrera, and Martinez were absent.

**STAFF BRIEFINGS**

2. Staff Report on ESB-MACC programs during October and upcoming programs in November.

Olivia Tamzarian, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Marketing & Outreach Representative gave a report on the Holistic Wellness programs, Education, Caminos Teen Leadership, and Academia Cuauhtli programming, sharing highlights for the month of October along with upcoming programs & events for the month of November. She also provided an update of current and upcoming marketing and outreach events.

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

### 3. **Staff Report on 64 Rainey**

Laura Esparza, PARD Division Manager of Museums and Cultural Programs let the Board know there were two members of the PARD Planning division, Rachel Morris, Project Manager for the 64 Rainey Street project and Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager who would provide details on the discussion of a temporary installation on 64 Rainey Street.

- Esparza informed the Board that the upcoming installation would be an installation for a park using the Rainey Street Heritage funds but as a placeholder they planned to put in a temporary installation with park furniture that had been donated.
- Esparza noted they were currently in the midst of a 2-year process of an alley vacation for a piece of the alley adjacent to 64 Rainey and the MACC parking lot. She also mentioned that they had secured AIPP funding to fund Raul Valdez's mural that was destroyed when the Juarez Lincoln University was destroyed and that he would recreate the mural on the wall of the pocket park.
- Soliz let the Board know that PARD wanted to test the possibility of an installation at the MACC to see if the installation would live onsite permanently or temporarily. He stated the furniture was urban and wanted to see how the furniture would function in the space as well as how the public would react to the installation. He also spoke of the pressure they were getting regarding the space and made it clear that regardless of the pressure the area was dedicated Parkland and could not be turned over for commercial use.
- Morris shared a short presentation providing a visual and more context on how the temporary installation had come about. She stated that Canvus was an innovative furniture manufacturer that made furniture out of used windmill blades, and they wanted to donate 8 pieces of their furniture to the MACC. When the PARD Planning team realized they could activate 64 Rainey with those pieces they decided to discuss the opportunity and came up with a temporary design to encourage people to make use of 64 Rainey. She believed it was a great opportunity to activate the space while waiting on the vacation, design development, and construction process and that if the furniture was well received by the public then they might be able to design the installation into the new space.

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

### 4. **Staff Report on Phase 2 Construction Project Updates**

Heidi Tse, Capital Delivery Services Department, Capital Delivery Project Manager provided an update on the Phase 2 improvement project.

- Due to time and most of the Board being new, Tse asked if she should share her presentation from December of 2022 to provide more context to new members before giving current updates. Chair Navarro acknowledged Tse's ask and requested that she go ahead and provide the update from the December 2022 meeting.
- After sharing the December 2022 updates, Tse shared the current updates on the work completed from September through October as well as a list of the work proposed and ongoing for the month of November, including announcements, scheduled milestones, and a list of contacts for safety and/or questions concerning the construction of the MACC.

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

## **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

5. **Discussion and possible action on Phase 2 Project.**

Chair Navarro requested a list of the value engineered items along with the cost associated with each line item and the priority list in order of reintroduction.

- Chair Navarro asked that a detailed presentation be given on how the current design plans have changed from the original scope. Tse chimed in and let the Board know they planned to provide a report with the requested details by the end of 2023 or early next year.

6. **Discuss and recommend the appointment of one Board member to sit on the Art in Public Places (AIPP) selection panel for the Phase 2 project.**

Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Manager reminded the Board that Member Gandy had expressed interest but had to drop out of the meeting early.

- Chair Navarro appointed Member Gandy as the member of the board to sit on the AIPP selection panel. Member Estrada volunteered to be the back up if Member Gandy decided he did not want to be on the panel.

7. **Discussion and possible action to support the alley vacation for the 64 Rainey project.**

Chair Navarro entertained a motion to draft a letter of support for the alley vacation for 64 Rainey Street. Member Rodriguez motioned. Member Zamarripa-Saenz seconded. Unanimous vote (8.0). Motion passed. Members Gandy, Gonzales, and Martinez were absent.

8. **Discussion and possible action to create a 64 Rainey Working Group as well as updating current ESB-MACC Working Group memberships.**

Chair Navarro decided to have the Board discuss agenda item 9, “*Discussion on the functionality and purpose of Working Groups*” before further discussing item 8 so staff could provide an explanation on how the process worked.

Once Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Manager provided the requirements and details for what goes into creating a working group. She went through the names of each working group and the members who were listed in those groups.

Updates were made to the following Working Groups:

1) **Phase 2 Project Working Group**

- Chair Navarro let the Board know that Member Gonzales had indicated she would be contacting council to resign from her position so there would be one vacancy and asked if anyone would like to take her spot or if anyone else wanted to be removed from the group.
- Member Zamarripa-Saenz reminded the Board that the meetings were held via Zoom at noon the Thursday before the Boards scheduled meetings.
- Member Herrera requested to be added to the working group and Member Reyna volunteered to be added as an alternate.

2) **Ethnographic Working Group**

- No changes were made to the working group.

Member Zamarripa-Saenz motioned to create a 64 Rainey Project Working Group. Member Estrada seconded. Member Zamarripa-Saenz decided to withdraw her motion to allow time for the Board to discuss developing the scope of the working group.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

9. **Discussion on the functionality and purpose of Working Groups.**

Michelle Rojas, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Manager went over the purpose of a working group defined in City Code § 2-1-2 (F) and shared the details of forming a working group and its timeline.

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

### **WORKING GROUP UPDATES**

#### **10. Update from Phase 2 Project Working Group**

Tabled discussion for December meeting.

#### **11. Update from Ethnographic Working Group.**

Tabled discussion for December meeting.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Discussion, and possible action on the Phase 2 project. (Navarro, Amaro)

Discussion, and possible action on the Music Creative Hubs. (Estrada, Zamarripa-Saenz)

Discussion and possible action to create a 64 Rainey Working Group and its scope of work. (Zamarripa-Saenz, Navarro)

Phase 2 Construction Update

Staff Report

Working Group Updates

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Amaro motioned to adjourn the November 1, 2023, Advisory Board meeting at 8:24pm. Member Zamarripa-Saenz seconded. Unanimous vote (8.0). Motion passed. Members Gandy, Gonzales, and Martinez were absent.

The minutes were approved at the 12-6-2023 meeting on Member Zamarripa-Saenz's motion, Member Martinez second on a 7.0 vote.