



**EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026**

The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center convened in a Regular meeting on January 7, 2026, at 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas. (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 6:04 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Angelica Navarro, Lillian “Lily” Zamarripa-Saenz, Hilario “Larry” Amaro, Noemi Castro, Alexander “Al” Duarte, John Estrada, Raul “Roy” Reyna, Selma Sanchez.

Board Members in Attendance Remotely: Cynthia “Cy” Herrera (arrived at 6:34 p.m.), Lynda Quintana.

Board Members Absent: Anthony Martinez.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Mateo Hernandez, Teatro Vivo Board Member, reported on Teatro Vivo’s collaboration with the MACC on the production of La Pastorela. He noted that the event had a strong turnout, reaching more than 160 audience members, and that attendees expressed their gratitude for a bilingual performance that was culturally relevant to Latine communities. Mr. Hernandez shared that this year’s performance was designed as a participatory experience, inviting the audience to actively become a part of the story. He concluded by thanking MACC staff, AARC Staff, and Board Member Amaro for their support and contributions to the success of the production.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center regular meeting of November 5, 2025.
The minutes from the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center regular meeting of November 5, 2025, were approved as amended on a motion by Board Member Duarte and a second by Vice Chair Zamarripa-Saenz. Amendments included revisions to Discussion Item 5, clarification of terminology from “Mexican American” to “Mexican-American.” The motion passed on a 9-0 vote. Board Members Herrera and Martinez absent.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

2. Staff briefing on November, December, and January programs, marketing and outreach efforts, and updates on signature event planning.
Erik Granados, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Coordinator, Austin Arts, Culture, Music, and Entertainment, gave a briefing on Casa de la Cultura programming.

Olivia Tamzarian, ESB-MACC Culture and Arts Education Marketing & Outreach Representative, Austin Arts, Culture, Music, and Entertainment, reported on Youth and Family Education programs; Caminos Teen Leadership programming; current and upcoming marketing and outreach efforts; signature events; collaborations; the Latino/a/e Artist Access Program (LAAP); and staffing updates.
(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 3. Update on Phase 2 Construction Project.
Heidi Tse, Capital Delivery Project Manager, Austin Capital Delivery Services, provided an update on the Phase 2 Construction Project. The update included construction progress photos; temporary certificate and certificate of occupancy; estimated and substantial completion timelines; project milestones; emergency project items; and square footage analysis.
(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

- 4. Community update outlining the history of the Latino arts community and City of Austin funding programs.
Morgan Messick, Assistant Director, and Laura Odegaard, Program Manager III, both with Austin Arts, Culture, Music, and Entertainment, presented an overview of the history and current status of cultural funding in the City of Austin and addressed clarifying questions regarding applicant and audience demographics.
(Please see the Board and Commissions Website for backup material.)

- 5. Presentation by community members on their experience with Cultural Arts funding.
This item was postponed to February 4, 2026, without objection.

- 6. Presentation by past participants on their experience with the ESB MACC Latino Arts Residency Program.
This item was postponed to February 4, 2026, without objection.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Keep standing agenda items. Board Members who wish to propose additional agenda items will submit their request via email to the Chair and Vice Chair.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Herrera motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Board Member Quintana seconded. Unanimous vote 10-0. Motion passed. Board Member Martinez absent.

The minutes were approved at the February 4, 2026, Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center meeting on Vice Chair Zamarripa-Saenz’s motion, Board Member Reyna second on a 8-0 vote. Board Members Duarte and Sanchez absent.