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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Thursday, December 19, 2024, 4:00 PM
Via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 4:03 pm.

Roll Call.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Edens Gary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Giangiulio, Anne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glenn, Lucio	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gonzalez, Marlene	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hernandez- Cigarruista, Patrick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loweree, Carlos III	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Olivares, Christopher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prieto Montoya, Pamela (Vice-Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Salas, Jose Luis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tena, Vanessa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Valdez, Laura (Chair)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Zampini, Maria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Consecutive Absences: Vanessa Tena (2), Laura Valdez (2)

Others Present: Claudia Cardoza, Russell Albeln, Miriam Garcia, Erica Marin, Edward Hayes, Sebastian Ribas-Normand, Michael Reyes, Naomi Castro, Adrian Guzman, Bernadette Ramos, Kerry Doyle, Meredith McKinley, Aliza Schiff, and Rocio Rivas

Public Comment. None.

- 1. Approval of Minutes.** A Motion made by Patrick Hernandez-Cigarruista, seconded by Lucio Glenn and unanimously carried to APPROVE the November 21, 2024 minutes as written. None opposed. The Motion Passes.

AYES: G. Edens, L. Glenn, A. Giangiulio, M. Gonzalez, P. Prieto, M. Zampini, C. Olivares, C. Loweree, and, P. Hernandez-Cigarruista

NAYS: None

ABSENT: J. Salas, L. Valdez, and V. Tena

- 2. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Acquisitions.** Michael Reyes, Senior Curator, addressed the Board to present a gift offer from James Kranzthor, by artist *Leola Freeman*.

A Motion made by Anne Giangiulio seconded by Gary Edens; and unanimously carried to APPROVE the El Paso Museum of Art Acquisition. None opposed. The Motion Passes.

AYES: G. Edens, L. Glenn, A. Giangiulio, M. Gonzalez, P. Prieto, M. Zampini, C. Olivares, C. Loweree, and, P. Hernandez-Cigarruista

NAYS: None

ABSENT: J. Salas, L. Valdez, and V. Tena

3. **Introduction of the 2025-2035 Public Art Master Plan Planning Process.** Adrian Guzman, Public Arts Project Associate, introduced the agenda item and invited Meredith McKinley of Via Partnership to present. McKinley, joined by team members Eliza Schiff, Todd Bressi, and Kerry Doyle, provided an overview of the planning process. The team, drawing on experience with the 2014 Public Art Master Plan, emphasized research, outreach, and engagement, with the final plan set for adoption in 2025. Ms. McKinley outlined key elements of the process, including mapping the current collection, identifying funding needs, and exploring public-private partnerships. Community input will play a central role, with roundtables already conducted and a public questionnaire launched. Open houses in each council district are planned for Spring 2025. Board members shared suggestions and comments. The presentation concluded with an invitation for continued feedback and an emphasis on broad community participation in the planning process.
4. **Museum Reports.** Sebastian Ribas-Normand, Director of the Museum of Archaeology, reported attendance of 6,290 visitors, with expectations for increased numbers during the holiday season. He highlighted the success of the Native American Heritage Month celebration, which featured Pueblo ceramic painting, traditional dances, and storytelling. Upcoming events include the Winter Solstice celebration on December 21 and the opening of *Sun Sparkle–Pueblo Micaceous Pottery*, a new exhibit showcasing pottery traditions from Northern New Mexico. Lastly, he announced the relocation of the Mescalero Apache Tipi to a more visible location, drawing attention from Transmountain drivers. Edward Hayes, Director of the Museum of Art, shared updates on the Frontera Forward initiative, aimed at advancing cultural understanding through art and community engagement. He highlighted the success of the *EPMA Arcoiris program*, funded by a \$25,000 AT&T grant, which provides free art classes for children with intellectual and developmental abilities. Mr. Hayes noted the Museum's ongoing partnership with local school districts, including Socorro ISD and El Paso ISD, bringing students into the Museum for workshops and exhibitions. Erica Marin, Director of the Museum of History, announced that attendance has nearly doubled to 12,589 due to the reopening of Cleveland Square Park. She highlighted the success of the Museum's programs, including a book series featuring local authors and the Kids Table program, which introduced Lebanese cooking traditions to young participants. Ms. Marin noted the revenue success of the Museum's pop-up shop, *Mercadito Monarca*, which has generated \$8,000 this fiscal year. Upcoming exhibitions include *Hacienda Heights*, opening March 13, and *Escaramuzas: Poetics of Home*, opening April 18.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2025.

Approved for content by:
Claudia Cardoza, Assistant Director
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

Respectfully submitted by:
Rocio Rivas, Research and Management Assistant
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

Attachments: None