

OSCAR LESSER  
MAYOR

DIONNE MACK  
CITY MANAGER

BEN FYFFE  
MANAGING DIRECTOR



CITY COUNCIL

BRIAN KENNEDY, DISTRICT 1  
DR. JOSH ACEVEDO, DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3  
JOE MOLINAR, DISTRICT 4  
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5  
ART FIERRO, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CHRIS CANALES, DISTRICT 8

**MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS**  
**The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)**  
**Thursday, November 21, 2024, 4:00 PM**  
**Via Microsoft Teams**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order.** Meeting called to order at 4:02 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Loweree, Carlos III	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

CITY CLERK DEPT  
2025 JAN 8 PM2:13

**Consecutive Absences:** None

**Others Present:** Ben Fyffe, Miriam Garcia, Maria Marin, Edward Hayes, Sebastian Ribas-Normand, Carolyn Yañez, and Rocio Rivas

**Public Comment.** None.

1. **Approval of Minutes.** A Motion made by Maria Zampini, seconded by Christopher Olivares; and unanimously carried to APPROVE the October 17, 2024 minutes as written. None opposed. The Motion Passes.

AYES: G. Edens, L. Glenn, A. Giangiulio, M. Gonzalez, P. Prieto, J. Salas, M. Zampini, C. Olivares  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: C. Loweree, V. Tena, L. Valdez, P. Hernandez-Cigarruista

2. **Discussion and Action on the 2025 Public Art Plan.** Ben Fyffe, Managing Director, addressed the Board to introduce the agenda item. Miriam Garcia, Public Arts Program Manager, presented the 2025 Public Art Plan, highlighting current projects, funding allocations, and upcoming initiatives. Questions from Board Members were addressed by Miriam Garcia and Managing Director Ben Fyffe.

A Motion made by Maria Zampini seconded by Gary Edens; and unanimously carried to APPROVE the 2025 Public Art Plan. None opposed. The Motion Passes.

AYES: G. Edens, L. Glenn, A. Giangiulio, M. Gonzalez, P. Prieto, J. Salas, M. Zampini, C. Olivares  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: C. Loweree, V. Tena, L. Valdez, P. Hernandez-Cigarruista

3. **Discussion and Action on the Appointment of Sebastian Escobar Garcia to the Public Art Committee.** Miriam Garcia addressed the Board and recommended Sebastian Escobar Garcia, an architect, for appointment to the Public Art Committee. Questions from Board Members were addressed by Miriam Garcia and Managing Director Ben Fyffe.

A Motion made by Jose Luis Salas, seconded by Gary Edens; and unanimously carried to APPROVE the appointment of Sebastian Escobar Garcia to the Public Art Committee. None opposed. The Motion Passes.

AYES: G. Edens, L. Glenn, A. Giangiulio, M. Gonzalez, P. Prieto, J. Salas, M. Zampini, C. Olivares

NAYS: None

ABSENT: C. Loweree, V. Tena, L. Valdez, P. Hernandez-Cigarruista

4. **Discussion and Action on Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board 2024-2026 Meeting Schedule.** Ben Fyffe addressed the Board to introduce the agenda item. Rocio Rivas, Research and Management Assistant presented the proposed meeting schedule, including a mix of virtual and in-person meetings, based on feedback from the Board.

A Motion made by Jose Luis Salas, seconded by Christopher Olivares; and unanimously carried to APPROVE the El Paso Museum of History Accessions. None opposed. The Motion Passes.

AYES: G. Edens, L. Glenn, A. Giangiulio, M. Gonzalez, P. Prieto, J. Salas, M. Zampini, C. Olivares

NAYS: None

ABSENT: C. Loweree, V. Tena, L. Valdez, P. Hernandez-Cigarruista

5. **Museum Reports.** Erica Marin, Director of the Museum of History, shared updates on increased attendance, attributing it to the reopening of Cleveland Square. She highlighted WinterFest activities and announced a \$15,000 grant from Humanities Texas, as well as a \$10,000 donation from former Judge Linda Chew. Upcoming events include WinterFest programming and the opening of Hacienda Heights in March 2025 as part of the Neighborhoods and Shared Memory series. Sebastian Ribas-Normand, Director of the Museum of Archaeology, reported on attendance numbers and highlighted the success of the Native American Heritage Month celebration and the upcoming Winter Solstice celebration on December 21. He announced a new exhibit, *Sun Sparkle-Pueblo Micaceous Pottery*, which is set to open in December. Edward Hayes, Director of the Museum of Art, discussed the Museum's participation in WinterFest, including a cookie-making workshop and other holiday programming. He announced that second-floor gallery renovations are on track to reopen in early 2025. He also noted the success of the Museum's new All-Abilities Class program, funded by a \$25,000 AT&T grant, which is fully booked for the next two months. Managing Director Ben Fyffe concluded the reports by highlighting the success of recent department events, including Dia de los Muertos, which drew 55,000 attendees. He shared details about the cohesive layout for Chalk the Block and announced upcoming WinterFest and Lunar New Year programming.

**Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 4:46 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2024.

Approved for content by:  
Ben Fyffe, Managing Director  
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

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

Attachments: The Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board 2024-2026 Schedule.

CITY CLERK DEPT  
2025 JAN 8 PM 2:18



# Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

**MAYOR**  
Oscar Leaser

## Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB) 2024-2026 Meeting Schedule

### CITY COUNCIL

**District 1**  
Brian Kennedy

**District 2**  
Dr. Josh Acevedo

**District 3**  
Cassandra Hernandez

**District 4**  
Joe Molinar

**District 5**  
Isabel Salcido

**District 6**  
Art Fierro

**District 7**  
Henry Rivera

**District 8**  
Chris Canales

**CITY MANAGER**  
Dionne Mack

Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Location
December 19, 2024	Online	Microsoft Teams
No Meeting per Ordinance – January 2025		
February 20, 2025	In-Person	El Paso Museum of Art (EPMA) 1 Arts Festival Plaza El Paso, TX 79901
March 20, 2025	Online	Microsoft Teams
April 17, 2025	In-Person	Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) 201 W. Franklin Ave. El Paso, TX 79901
May 15, 2025	Online	Microsoft Teams
June 19, 2025	In-Person	El Paso Museum of History (EPMH) 510 N. Santa Fe St., El Paso, TX 79901
No Meeting per Ordinance – July 2025		
August 21, 2025	Online	Microsoft Teams
September 18, 2025	In-Person	El Paso Museum of Archaeology (EPMArch) 4301 Transmountain Rd. El Paso, TX 79924
October 16, 2025	Online	Microsoft Teams
November 20, 2025	Online	Microsoft Teams
December 18, 2025	Online	Microsoft Teams
No Meeting per Ordinance - January 2026		

Ben Fyffe- Managing Director, Quality of Life  
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department  
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