



Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

CITY CLERK DEPT
2025 SEP 25 AM8:21

MAYOR

Renard U. Johnson

Museums & Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)

Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 4:00 PM

Microsoft Teams Meeting

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL

District 1

Alejandra Chávez

District 2

Dr. Josh Acevedo

District 3

Deanna M. Rocha

District 4

Cynthia Boyar Trejo

District 5

Ivan Niño

District 6

Art Fierro

District 7

Lily Limón

District 8

Chris Canales

CITY MANAGER

Dionne Mack

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 4:04 PM MST.

Roll Call: Done by Laura Valdez

- **Members Present:** Valeria Contreras, Bianca De Leon, Anne M. Giangiulio, Lucio Glenn, Marlene Gonzalez, Vanessa Tena, Laura Valdez, and Isabel White.
- **Members Absent:** Patrick Hernandez-Cigarruista, Carlos Loweree III, Pamela Prieto Montoya, Christopher Olivares, Jose Salas and Maria Zampini.
- **Consecutive Absences:** None
- **Others Present:** Ben Fyffe, Claudia Cardoza, Saul S. Flores, Carolyn Yañez Jesus Quintanilla, Adrian Guzman, Sebastian Ribas-Normand, Erica Marin, Eddie Hayes, Mariana Briceno, Quetzaly Segovia, Ramon Contreras, Bernadette Ramos, Michael Reyes, Alyssa Turrieta.

Public Comment: None at this time.

1. Approval of Minutes:

- Laura Valdez called for a motion to approve the minutes for the May 15, 2025, MCAAB meeting.
- Bianca De Leon made a motion to approve, and Vanessa Tena seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; Valeria Contreras abstained; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

2. Discussion and Action on FY26 Cultural Funding Program Award Recommendations:

- Presentation by Carolyn Yañez, Cultural Development Coordinator.
- Board discussion on funding categories (Operating Support, Arts Activate, Artist Incubator).
- Total recommended funding: \$260,000 for 28 awardees.
- Anne M. Giangiulio made motion to approve, and Marlene Gonzalez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; Valeria Contreras abstained; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

3. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of History Deaccessions:

- Presentation by Mariana Briceno, Museum Registrar.

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- 11 items recommended for deaccession due to lack of provenance, poor condition, or duplication.
- Valeria Contreras made motion to approve, and Isabel White seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

4. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of History Accessions:

- Presentation by Quetzaly Segovia, Museum Curator.
- Proposed gift of up to 1,000 Mexican folk-art items (to be phased in through 2026).
- Lucio Glenn made motion to approve, and Marlene Gonzalez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

5. Discussion and Action on the Appointment of Angel Bataller to the Public Art Committee:

- Presentation by Adrian Guzman, Public Arts Project Associate.
- Marlene Gonzalez made motion to approve, and Laura Valdez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

6. Discussion and Action on the Appointment of Maya Sanchez to the Public Art Committee:

- Presentation by Adrian Guzman, Public Arts Project Associate.
- Lucio Glenn made motion to approve, and Marlene Gonzalez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; Valeria Contreras abstained; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

7. Discussion and Action on the Mexican American Cultural Center Artist-In-Residence (A.I.R.) Program Guidelines:

- Presentation by Ramon Contreras, Exhibits Coordinator.
- Program details: three-month residencies, \$8,000 stipends, community engagement requirements.
- Anne M. Giangulio made motion to approve, and Laura Valdez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

8. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Deaccessions:

- Presentation by Bernadette Ramos, Museum Registrar.
- Items recommended included damaged trunks, furniture, and duplicate items.
- Isabel White made motion to approve, and Anne M. Giangulio seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

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9. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Accessions and Acquisitions:

- Presentation by Michael Reyes, Museum Senior Curator.
- Members Choice Acquisition 2025: *Spare* by Mariana Olague, oil on canvas, \$15,000 (funded by the Lipscomb Foundation Endowment).
- Anne M. Giangiulio made motion to approve, and Marlene Gonzalez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

10. Discussion and Action for the Loan of *Spare* by Marianna Olague to the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture:

- Presentation by Michael Reyes, Museum Senior Curator.
- Exhibition: Soy de Tejas, October 4, 2025 – January 11, 2026
- Anne M. Giangiulio made motion to approve, and Laura Valdez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed.

11. Museum Reports: Museum of Archaeology, Museum of Art, and Museum of History:

- **Museum of Archaeology:** Increase in attendance, successful summer camps, upcoming Dia de los Muertos programming, new exhibits (*Living Desert Inscriptions at Hueco Tanks, Tourism & Pueblo World*).
- **Museum of Art:** Over 60,000 visitors this fiscal year, 20,000+ Instagram followers, \$50,000 Art Bridges grant, closure for HVAC renovations Oct. 2025 – early 2026, off-site community programming planned.
- **Museum of History:** Attendance up 20% year-over-year, upcoming exhibit *Mountain of Gold: East & Southeast Asian History*, continued community yoga, mural workshops, and collaboration with MACC for *Viva México* celebration.

Adjournment of Meeting: Valeria Contreras made motion to adjourn meeting and Marlene Gonzalez seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 PM MST.

Approved for content by:

Claudia Cardoza, Assistant Director

Respectfully submitted by:

Saul S. Flores, Administrative Assistant

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