



**Minutes  
TEMPE MUNICIPAL ARTS COMMISSION  
September 14, 2016**

**Minutes of the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission (TMAC) recorded at 6 p.m. on September 14, 2016, within the Tempe Library Board Room, 3500 S Rural Road, Tempe, AZ, 85282.**

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Deborah Bair  
Susan Bendix  
Celina Coleman – Chair  
Anthony Johnson  
Kiyomi Kurooka  
Charlie Lee  
Kelly Nelson  
Celeste Plumlee  
Robert Moore

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Christine Cirillo-Ching  
Hilary Harp – Vice Chair  
David Lucier  
Aaron Thacker

**City Staff Present:**

Maja Aurora, Arts Coordinator – Arts Grants, Public Art,  
Art in Private Development  
Ralph Remington, Deputy Director of Arts & Culture  
Joy Higgins, Administrative Assistant

**Guest(s) Present:**

Gary Slater, Artist for Fairfield Inn & Suites – Art in  
Private Development  
Les Partch, Architect for Fairfield Inn & Suites- Art in  
Private Development

**Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order**

- **Celina Coleman**, TMAC Chair, called the TMAC meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances**

- None

**Agenda Item 3 - Approval of the August 10, 2016 Commission Minutes**

- **Celina Coleman** asked the TMAC members to review an **unapproved TMAC minutes document dated August 10, 2016.**
- **MOTION:** Kelly Nelson moved to approve the August 10, 2016\_Tempe Municipal Arts Commission Meeting Minutes as is.  
**SECOND:** Robert Moore seconded.  
**DECISION:** Approved as presented.

**Agenda Item 4 – Chairperson’s Report**

- **Celina Coleman** requested that TMAC members respond to a Doodle Poll in which they state which of the commission qualifications they fill (ie. artist, Tempe Resident, etc.). These results will be tabulated to determine recruitment strategies for the composition of the 2017 commission.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Arts and Culture Deputy Director’s Report**

- **Ralph Remington, Deputy Director of Arts & Culture**, updated the TMAC with the following:
  - Ralph Remington and Luis Ruiz, Cultural Facilities Manager, attended the Western Arts Alliance (WAA) Conference in late August for network building and talent scoping.
  - *Disruption Festival* at the Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA) is scheduled for March 2017. This event will feature play reading, musical acts, and an in-house directed play in a mini-series format. *Disruption Festival* is intended to become an annual event.
  - Based on the Arts and Culture Plan and due to limited space availability, TCA users’ agreements and contracts are being reevaluated for future seasons.
  - Two Arts Administrator positions will be posted in the coming weeks; Public Art and Arts Engagement. These positions will report to Ralph Remington.
  - TCA Food and Beverage Coordinator position will be posted by the end of the week. TCA food and beverage planning will be moved in-house, and feature contracted chefs and bartenders for events. This position will report to Luis Ruiz.
  - January 2017 will feature Western POP at the TCA and Gallery at the TCA. The concept started out to be only at the Gallery, but has grown to include a mini film festival that aims to deconstruct Westerns (movies) and examine racism and xenophobia. The event features the exhibition and the movies *Searchers*, *the Hateful Eight*, and *Unforgiven*.
  - *Tempe City Council Strategic Priorities*, released in August 2016, ties to the Arts and Culture Plan through the “Quality of Life” and “Strong Community Connections” sections.
  - The vacant land adjacent to the TCA is currently planned for development with the Maricopa Community College Biomedical Campus. The campus plans to include spaces for arts and culture offerings through the City of Tempe including classrooms, studio space, and shop space. Bringing all of the City’s arts offerings to the TCA campus allows for more collaboration within the department, and improves efficiency.  
<http://www.tempe.gov/Home/Components/News/News/6574/>

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Fairfield Inn & Suites, Art in Private Development Presentation**

- **Les Partch, Architect**, discussed the design of the Fairfield Inn & Suites located at 2222 S Priest Drive. The 5-story hotel sits on 2.2 acres on the NWC of Priest Drive and Fountainhead Parkway. The minimum art investment for the development is \$27,713.88 for 62,077 SF at the 2016 rate of \$0.44/SF. The materials of the hotel’s exterior draw on those featured on other buildings within the Fountainhead Development, and create high visual interest. Slater’s artwork will be installed near the SE corner of the building where there is high visibility by all types of commuters.
- **Gary Slater, Artist**, described the sculpture of two 14 foot columns of weathered steel, with sections of inlaid, stacked orange glass. The patterns will be staggered to create a more unique visual appeal. The columns will be stabilized by internal steel plates that continue down below grade. The sculpture will sit about seven feet back from the adjacent sidewalk and be illuminated by 7-8 lights.
- **Commission members** expressed appreciation for the Southwest landscape inspiration, the ability of the moving sun to interplay with the inlaid glass, and that the sculpture will be viewable from some hotel rooms.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Review Draft City Code Changes**

- **Maja Aurora, Arts Coordinator**, presented the newest draft to the City Code for the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission's powers and duties. Discussion included:
  - New draft included condensed points edited by the City Attorney's office.
  - Additional suggested edits included term limits, adding consistent language for arts and culture along with advising.
  - TMAC members appreciate that the broad scope listed in the draft powers and duties could provide the flexibility to do what is needed. While at the same time, members are concerned that the broad scope could be leave them open to conflicting interpretation.
  - All edits will be evaluated and edited into the final draft. The final draft will be reviewed by TMAC before being presented to City Council.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Liaison Opportunities and Reports**

- **Kelly Nelson, Public Art Docent Liaison**, described the Public Art Bike Tour that she and Rob Moore are planning with Maureen DeCindis, a Parks, Recreation, Golf, and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board member.
  - The draft route will loop through Tempe Town Lake and Downtown Tempe Neighborhoods.
  - Please forward any suggestions as the exact route and public art stops are still being determined.
  - The Public Art Bike Tour will run in conjunction with Bike Month (April) and partner with the Transportation Division.
  - Helmets are required to ride, age limits have not been determined.
- **Rob Moore, Public Art Map Liason**, is designing a third public art map that will focus on the Mitchell Park, Wilson Art & Garden, and Maple Ash Neighborhoods along with the ASU collection.

#### **Agenda Item 9 – Commission Members' Announcements**

- **Anthony Johnson** would like for the COT to provide a public wall for the community to paint on without a permit.

#### **Agenda Item 10 - Adjournment**

- The next Tempe Municipal Arts Commission (TMAC) meeting will be held at 6pm on October 6, 2016 at Tempe Public Library Board Room, 3500 S Rural Road, Tempe, AZ 85282
- **Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.**

Prepared By: Joy Higgins

Reviewed By: Maja Aurora, Ralph Remington