

Minutes TEMPE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION May 8, 2019

Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) recorded at 6:30pm on May 8, 2019, within the Tempe Public Library Conference Room, 3500 S Rural Road, Tempe, 85282.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Michael Bennett
Anthony Johnson
Maureen Kobierowski
Kiyomi Kurooka – Vice-chair
Kelly Nelson
Justin Stewart
Ginny Sylvester
Aaron Thacker – Chair

City Staff Present:

Brenda Abney, Manager-Visual Arts & Culture
Eileen May, Manager-Tempe Center for the Arts
Maja Aurora, Arts Administrator-Arts Engagement
Julie Akerly, Arts Specialist-Arts Engagement
Joy Higgins, Administrative Assistant-Arts & Culture Division

Guest(s) Present:

None

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Lisa Hobson
Peggy Moroney
Michael Rohd

Call to Order

- **Aaron Thacker**, TACC Chair, called the TACC meeting to order at 6:33pm.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

- None

Agenda Item 2 - Approval of the April 10, 2019 Commission Minutes

A. Thacker asked the commissioners to review an unapproved TACC minutes document dated April 10, 2019.

- **MOTION:** Maureen Kobierowski moved to approve the April 10, 2019 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes with amendments
- **SECOND:** Kelly Nelson seconded
- **AYES:** Michael Bennett, Anthony Johnson, Maureen Kobierowski, Kiyomi Kurooka, Kelly Nelson, Justin Stewart, Ginny Sylvester, Aaron Thacker
- **NAYS:** None
- **RESULT:** Motion passed with an 8-0 vote
- **ABSENT:** Lisa Hobson, Peggy Moroney, Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 3 – Presentation: Arts Engagement Update

- **Julie Akerly**, Arts Engagement Specialist, presented results for 2019 [Arts in the Parks](#) programming. Details are found in Document A, attached and include:
 - Arts in the Parks is an Arts Engagement program with support from Neighborhood Services and Parks. The program is initiated by and programmed with residents to reflect the identity and values of each park's community.

- In its second year the program visited 6 parks and had 2,750 attendees. The program involved more residents in the planning process, receiving input from 1,345 residents and involved 74 Neighborhood and Homeowner's Associations.
- The program also included 5 Tempe schools, 4 community partners, and support from 11 city programs including Public Art, Edna Arts, Tempe Playlist, Kid Zone, and Play Mobile.
- **Maja Aurora**, Arts Engagement Administrator, presented information about [Arts Engagement](#) programs. Most project details can be found in the written report. Additional details include:
 - Distributed brochure for the [Edna Arts](#) Summer Camps, which are managed by [Dani Godreau](#), Arts Engagement Coordinator. Children aged 6-12 can attend daytime camps with activities including movement, theater, visual arts and ceramics. Camps run from June 3-August 2, 2019. Adult arts classes are also available during the summer months.
 - [Arts Grants](#) are available to non-profit organizations who want to create arts programs within the city limits. Last year the city funded 31 arts organizations in three categories: TCA Excellence Grants, Community Arts Grants, and Arts Festival Grants. For the coming grant cycle, three TACC volunteers are needed to each participate in a grant panel to read through grant applications and cooperatively determine recommendations for grant recipients and grant values. If you would like to serve on a grant panel in mid-June contact [Maja Aurora](#). Please direct others who may be interested to www.tempe.gov/ArtsGrants to fill out an interest form.
 - [Tempe Playlist: Saturn Sessions](#)
 - Tempe Playlist has received grants from the Arizona Commission on the Arts/Herberger Institute of Art and Design's Arizona Creative Communities Institute for two years in a row. These grants first funded the creation of two podcasts of south Tempe musicians and poets, and recently has brought those artists to perform in the community. The first event was held at Changing Hands Bookstore on April 29, 2019 and included artists from Compadre High School, Marcos de Niza High School, Corona del Sol High School, and a professor from ASU. Additional performances are being scheduled for the coming months.
 - The Tempe team for this program is comprised of Aaron Thacker representing TACC, Gayle Shanks from Changing Hands Bookstore, Maggie Fountain, the Arts Liaison for Tempe Union High School District, Artist Samuel Pena, and Maja Aurora from City of Tempe.
 - Tempe Playlist has recently been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) which will help fund additional podcasts of south Tempe artists. This is the first NEA grant the City of Tempe has received for community arts programming.
 - The astronaut graphic on the Orbit buses are a part of the marketing and visibility of the Tempe Playlist: Saturn Sessions program, literally serving as vehicles for the arts.

Agenda Item 4 – Discussion: Tempe Arts & Culture Award Review

- **Joy Higgins**, Administrative Assistant, initiated a discussion about the planning and realization of the first Arts & Culture Awards. Details and feedback include:
 - 22 nominations were received, the selection panel recommended five recipients and five categories of award.
 - March 13, 2019, TACC approved the recommendations.
 - Recipients were notified by mail and email of the Tempe Arts & Culture Awards and the award ceremony to happen at the State of the Neighborhoods event on April 13th.
 - Tempe staff completed all administrative work to prepare for the event. Three weeks proved a short amount of time to prepare, along with other regular work duties.
 - Award certificates were designed by a city graphic designer and signed by Mayor Mark Mitchell. Award frames were painted by a local artist.
 - Planning for future years:
 - Categories are best left open so that they can be customized to the award recipients.
 - The selection panel can be given access to review nominations ahead of the meeting.
 - Marketing for the next call for nominations may include:
 - Photos and more description in the press release.
 - Flyers to hand out at GAIN Night, neighborhood events, public meetings, etc.

- Announcement in Tempe Today (water bill flyer), TCA programs, and other printed newsletters.
- Adjusting the timeline back one month will allow adequate time to plan and prepare. Dates for the 2020 awards can be scheduled as follows:
 - Call is open from December 2019-January 2020
 - Selection panel meets the week of February 5
 - TACC approves selections on February 12
 - Administrative work through March, and completion of all details prior to the State of the Neighborhoods event in April

Agenda Item 5 – Presentation: 2019-20 Season Programming for Tempe Center for the Arts

- **Eileen May**, TCA Manager, delivered announcement of the [TCA Presents 2019-2020 Season](#). Details include:
 - TCA has begun offering subscription packages with resident artist companies. Any three shows purchased as a mix & match bundle will be discounted by 25%.
 - *Dutchman* by LeRoi Jones, October 4-19
 - Blue Note 80th Anniversary Celebration, November 16th
 - *Flight*, January 17-February 1
 - Tito Puente Jr with the Rico Monaco Band, February 15
 - *Oleanna* by David Mamet, March 13-18
 - Coolio & Rob Base, March 21
 - Joan Osborne/The Weepies, April 4
 - The TCA can provide Arts & Culture Commissioners with free or complimentary tickets. Contact [Joy Higgins](#) if you're interested.

Agenda Item 6 – Program Reports: Written reports provided.

- **A. Public Art & Galleries** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/publicart and www.tempe.gov/tcagallery.
- **B. History Museum** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/museumevents.
 - The Tempe History Museum Community Room will be the location for City Council meetings from July 31, 2019 - Jan 31, 2020 while council chambers are under construction.
- **C. Tempe Center for the Arts** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempecenterforthearts.com.
- **D. Arts Engagement** - Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/arts and www.tempe.gov/ednaarts.

Agenda Item 7 – Commission Members' Announcements/Future Agenda Items

Ginny Sylvester

- We3 concert at the THM was fabulous. Couples were ballroom dancing in the aisles.

Kiyomi Kurooka

- A friend will be performing in [Eroica with Ballet Arizona](#) at the Desert Botanical Garden on May 24th.

Kelly Nelson

- Love the [Kyllan Maney](#) artwork on the Edna Vihel Arts Center. It would be great to see this type of project continue and rotate with other artists in years to come. <https://influxaz.com/>

Michael Bennett

- Appreciating the art of [Robert Fathauer](#), a retired physicist who builds geometric forms in clay: polyhedrons, forms found in nature, and knots.
- Friend Paul Miller, known as [DJ Spooky](#), will be performing at ASU on May 9-10.

Justin Stewart

- Has attended two artist meetup groups in the past month:
 - Tempe Artist Meetup organized by Kendra Sollars at Delante Coffee.
 - Carly Danger, writer for YabYum, hosts an Arizona meetup once per month with artists, promoters, and bloggers to see how they can help each other network.
- Will be doing a live electronica DJ set at Yucca Taproom Wednesday, May 15th.
- Final Friday event, [Tempe Art-a-Gogh-Gogh](#) (TAAGG) at Danelle Plaza on Friday, May 31st.

Maureen Kobierowski

- Saw [David Sedaris](#) at the Orpheum, great show!
- Attended a comedy show at Tempe Center for the Arts and enjoying more shows there.
- Sat on an artist selection panel for the lobby space of the Edna Vihel Arts Center.
- Happened upon the Tempe Playlist performance at [Changing Hands Bookstore](#), it sounded amazing!

Aaron Thacker

- TACC recess will happen July-August.
- Attended the APS PIO Symposium on May 3rd at the Heard Museum. Was impressed by the closing speaker, [Tania Katan](#), who is an amazing and inspiring speaker. She is the author of *Creative Trespassing*, a book to help people include creativity in all aspects of life.

Agenda Item 8 –Adjournment

Next meeting: June 12, 2019, FABRIC, 132 E 6th Street, Tempe 85281.

The Arts & Culture Commission will not meet during July and August.

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.**

Prepared by: Joy Higgins

Reviewed by: Brenda Abney

Unapproved