

Minutes TEMPE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION May 19, 2020

Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) recorded at 6:00pm on May 19, 2020 held in a virtual meeting via Webex.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Michael Bennett
Jeff Davis
Lisa Hobson
Maureen Kobierowski
Kiyomi Kurooka
Peggy Moroney
Jennifer Song
Justin Stewart – Chair
Ginny Sylvester
Aaron Thacker – Vice-chair

City Staff Present:

Brenda Abney, Manager-Visual Arts & Culture
Joy Higgins, Management Assistant-Arts & Culture Division
Eileen May, Managing Director-Tempe Center for the Arts
Ralph Remington, Deputy Director-Arts & Culture Division
Keith Burke, Director – Community Services
Rebecca Blume Rothman, Tempe Public Art Director
Maja Aurora, Arts Engagement Director

Guest(s) Present:

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Michael Rohd

Call to Order

- **Justin Stewart**, TACC Chair, called the TACC meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

- None

Agenda Item 2 - Approval of the February 18, 2020 Commission Minutes

J. Stewart asked the commissioners to review an unapproved TACC minutes document dated February 18, 2020.

MOTION: Lisa Hobson moved to approve the February 18, 2020 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes with amendments.

SECOND: Jennifer Song seconded

AYES: Michael Bennett, Jeff Davis, Lisa Hobson, Maureen Kobierowski, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Ginny Sylvester, Aaron Thacker

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

RESULT: Motion passed with an 10-0 vote

ABSENT: Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 3 – 2020 Presentation: Tempe/Mesa Streetcar Study

- Joy Higgins, Management Assistant for Arts & Culture, introduced the list of recommended 2020 Tempe Arts & Culture Award recipients and the category for each. Awardees were selected based on significant impact to arts and culture in Tempe. Recommended award recipients and categories are:
 - Cultural Connector-A Claire Slattery
 - Community Impact-Callie Shutters

- Artistic Trailblazer-Ron May
- Engaged Educator-Paige Reesor

J. Stewart asked the commissioners to approve the recommended recipients of 2020 Tempe Arts & Culture Awards.

MOTION: Aaron Thacker moved to approve the recommended recipients of 2020 Tempe Arts & Culture Awards
SECOND: Michael Bennett seconded
AYES: Michael Bennett, Jeff Davis, Lisa Hobson, Maureen Kobierowski, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Ginny Sylvester, Aaron Thacker
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None
RESULT: Motion passed with an 10-0 vote
ABSENT: Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 4 – Commission Chair Briefing

- J. Stewart briefed the commission on the current state of artists and arts & culture venues. Details include:
 - Due to COVID-19 repercussions local artists have a greatly diminished ability to secure income earning work, and arts & culture venues have been shuttered. Artists have sought unique and innovative ways to earn money and bring art forward.
 - The members of the Arts & Culture Commission can be stewards for the affected creative community by networking information about new opportunities and advocating for funding to federal, state, and local government representatives.
 - Please share any artist opportunities with Brenda and Joy so that they may share the information among the commission and help spread the word.

Agenda Item 5 – Department and Division Update

- Keith Burke, Community Services Director
 - Tempe is in the process of evaluating city facilities according to the safety standards stated in the Governor’s State Order.
 - Community Services is working through budget reduction projections based on the 10% budget reduction called for by Ken Jones, Tempe CFO, and Andrew Ching, Tempe City Manager.
 - Community Services is staying in contact with the community through virtual programming, videos, and events with great success. Staff are developing alternate options for those large events and programs typically held in the fall.
 - The City Manager’s Office has assembled a Reopening Task Force that surveyed employees for their opinions on what would be needed to safely return to the workplace.
 - K. Burke will keep TACC informed of any future developments.
- Ralph Remington, Deputy Director of Arts & Culture
 - Many performing arts institutions are cancelling shows and seasons due to Covid-19, and determining when is the safest time to open. TCA is currently looking at bringing programs back in the spring. All departments are strategizing reopening procedures.
 - Working remotely has created opportunities for City of Tempe to learn how to be productive without in-person meetings, thus resulting in a reduced carbon footprint and time savings due to less staff travel between city facilities.
 - Reopening will require safety measures such as mask wearing, social distancing, and stricter limits on capacity and attendance.

Agenda Item 6 – Program Reports

- **A. Tempe Center for the Arts** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempecenterforthearts.com.
 - Virtual programming, such as Draw-a-Thon and EDGE Concert Series, will carry TCA through the Fall while further planning is made for future programs, productions, and events.
 - Have kept in close contact with clients to rebook events with higher safety guidelines.
- **B. Arts Engagement** - Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/arts and www.tempe.gov/ednaarts.

- Arts in the Parks has been streaming on Facebook Live via /tempecityarts from 6-8pm. The last event happens on Wednesday, May 20th.
- 28 teaching artists at the Edna Vihel Arts Center have recorded videos relating to their classes. Two videos are released each week.
- Two categories of Tempe Arts Grants just closed: the Museum Series and the Tempe Creatives Series. Arts organizations have been creatively finding ways to reach the community in ways that do not involve in-person events.
- **C. Public Art & Galleries** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/publicart and www.tempe.gov/tcagallery.
 - Currently in the selection process for an artist for a project at the West Side Multi-generational Center.
 - The public art project at the McClintock underpass of the Rio Salado Pathway should be complete by late June or July.
 - IN FLUX Cycle 9 project installations have been pushed out to accommodate the extra time needed for artists to fabricate sculptures.
 - Currently in the final stages editing stages of the Tempe Pre-qualified Artist List. It will go into publication and be posted soon.
 - Look for in-depth interviews with artists on the TempeCityArts Instagram and Facebook pages.
- **D. History Museum** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/museumevents.
 - Curators have continued to research for future exhibits and in response to community requests.
 - Museum social media posts have had many views and posts.

Agenda Item 7 – Commission Members' Announcements

- Commissioners shared their own recent activities and projects.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

- Major event planning, such as the Tempe Sesquicentennial
- Sharing resources available to the community

Agenda Item 9 – Adjournment

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:24pm**

Prepared by: Joy Higgins

Reviewed by: Brenda Abney