

Minutes

TEMPE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

February 18, 2020

Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) recorded at 6:00pm on February 18, 2020, in the Becton Dickenson Navajo Conference Room, 850 W Rio Salado Parkway, 85281.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Jeff Davis
Lisa Hobson
Kiyomi Kurooka
Peggy Moroney
Jennifer Song
Justin Stewart – Chair
Aaron Thacker – Vice-chair

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Michael Bennett
Maureen Kobierowski
Michael Rohd
Ginny Sylvester

City Staff Present:

Brenda Abney, Manager-Visual Arts & Culture
Joy Higgins, Management Assistant-Arts & Culture Division
Keith Burke, Director – Community Services
Rebecca Blume Rothman, Tempe Public Art Director
Eric Iwersen – Transit Manager

Guest(s) Present:

Matt Jensen – The Boyer Company
Matthew Moore – Artist, Ryne Studio
Deron Lozano – Project Manager, Valley Metro

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 December 17, 2019 Commission Minutes

J. Stewart asked the commissioners to review an unapproved TACC minutes document dated December 17, 2019.

MOTION: Peggy Moroney moved to approve the December 17, 2019 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes with amendments.

SECOND: Aaron Thacker seconded

AYES: Jeff Davis, Lisa Hobson, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Aaron Thacker

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

RESULT: Motion passed with an 7-0 vote

ABSENT: Michael Bennett, Maureen Kobierowski, Michael Rohd, Ginny Sylvester,

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of the February 3, 2020 Commission Retreat Minutes

J. Stewart asked the commissioners to review an unapproved TACC Retreat minutes document dated February 3, 2020.

MOTION: Jeff Davis moved to approve the February 3, 2020 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Retreat Minutes

SECOND: Lisa Hobson seconded

AYES: Jeff Davis, Lisa Hobson, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Aaron Thacker
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None
RESULT: Motion passed with an 7-0 vote
ABSENT: Michael Bennett, Maureen Kobierowski, Michael Rohd, Ginny Sylvester

Agenda Item 4 – 2020 Presentation: Tempe/Mesa Streetcar Study

- Eric Iwersen, Tempe Transit Manager, gave a brief background about the Tempe/Mesa Streetcar Feasibility Study. Points include:
 - Currently under construction, the three-mile Tempe Streetcar project should be complete and operational by spring of 2021.
 - The current feasibility study, a year-long gathering of data and public opinion by City of Tempe, City of Mesa, and Valley Metro, looks at where future extensions to the current three-mile system would be most beneficial. From this study a list of priority corridors was determined.
 - Currently unfunded, the study provides information to seek Federal, regional, and Tempe funding.
 - There are art elements at all Tempe Streetcar stop locations, with much involvement by the Tempe Public Art team. It is expected that any future extensions would include public art elements. Tempe Transportation Division and the Tempe Arts and Culture Division continue to strive for good partnerships on transit projects.
- Deron Lozano, Project Manager – Valley Metro, gave current information about the Tempe/Mesa Streetcar Feasibility Study results. Points include:
 - City of Tempe, City of Mesa, and [Valley Metro](#) created the study to determine the best potential extensions to the current routes of Tempe Streetcar.
 - The study budget of \$600,000 was co-funded by the cities of Tempe and Mesa.
 - The area studied ranges from Priest Drive in Tempe to Country Club Drive in Mesa, and Rio Salado Parkway to Baseline Road. Mesa is interested in connecting the Fiesta District via Streetcar.
 - At the beginning of 2020, the study reached a Tier 2 level, which involves quantitative, in-depth analysis of best selected extensions. The next step in the process is to seek recommendation for future regional transit funding and City Council approval.
 - Tier 2 Evaluation Criteria includes: mobility improvements, access opportunities, potential environmental impacts, land use/economic development potential, costs, and efficiencies.
 - Tier 2 Evaluation Preliminary Results outlines five feasible routes within Tempe and Mesa. It was important to select routes that would complement current transit options, not duplicate or conflict with them. See Attachment A for a visual diagram.
 - Next steps include:
 - Final detailed analysis of prioritized corridors
 - City Council recommendation in mid-2020
 - Regional Transportation Plan
 - Prop 400 E
 - Valley Metro, City of Tempe, and City of Mesa take into consideration the local demographics when determining the most useful routes. They prioritize options that would serve lower socio-economic and car-free household areas.
 - Park & Ride locations will be determined once the study moves into project management.
 - Commissioner comment:
 - The Rio Salado West corridor would be a great connection from ASU and Downtown Tempe to Tempe Center for the Arts. The distance is too long for most people to walk, especially when temperatures are high. Transportation between Gammage Auditorium and TCA provides an important cultural connection for the community.

Agenda Item 5 – Update: IDEA Campus, Art in Private Development

- Rebecca Blume Rothman, Tempe Public Art Director, gave a brief background about the Art in Private Development project planned for the IDEA Campus adjacent to Tempe Center for the Arts.

- [Art in Private Development Guidelines](#)
- Tempe Public Art assisted the Boyer Company with the artist selection process. A former Arts & Culture Commissioner and a member of a Tempe business served on the selection panel. A TACC member also served as a liaison in the project design review process.
- Matt Jenson, a partner with the Boyer Company – contracted designers for IDEA Campus, gave an overview of the IDEA Campus approach to Art in Private Development.
 - Multi-phased projects, such as IDEA Campus, make it possible to pool resources and create larger, more impactful art installations.
 - The overall site is 18 acres with future plans for a hotel, a second parking garage, four office buildings, and a smaller central building to possibly house a restaurant(s).
- Matthew Moore, Ryne Studio artist, described his artistic process for the IDEA Campus installation concept.
 - With architect and designer Jay Atherton, Moore's creative partner, the focus was to engage the Rio Salado and think about the local history from native cultures to present day.
 - It is important for the artwork to respond to the IDEA Campus development as well as the local environment.
 - As a farmer, Moore studies and integrates subjects of agriculture, encroachment, advocacy, the history of rivers and water use, and how we deal with living in the desert.
 - The meander of a river is shaped over time by nature and by the people who live near and use the river. Effort was made to understand the evolution of the Rio Salado in a sculptural way.
 - The four monolithic sculptures will be three-dimensional representations of the historical perspective of the changes in the river's edge. Two-dimensional snapshots in time of the meander of the river are layered to create three-dimensional, monolithic forms that undulate.
 - The sculptures will be 18' wide by 7' tall cast concrete segmented monoliths with LED up lighting. Signage about the project will accompany the sculpture installation site.
 - Installation will happen by May 1, 2020.

Agenda Item 6 – Program Reports

- **A. 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 kicks off at Harrelson Park on Saturday, February 22 at noon.
- **B. Public Art & Galleries** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/publicart and www.tempe.gov/tcagallery.
 - Highline Canal opening took place on February 8th.
- **C. History Museum** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/museumevents.
 - A new panel exhibit in the Community Room at the Tempe History Museum, *The African American Experience in Tempe*, is in partnership with the African American Advisory Committee.
- **D. Tempe Center for the Arts** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempecenterforthearts.com.

Agenda Item 7 – Commission Members' Announcements

- **Aaron Thacker**
 - Tempe Playlist artists have been included in the Arizona Commission on the Arts' AZ Creative Voices podcast series. Azarts.gov
- **Justin Stewart**
 - Attended Arts Congress at the State Capital to advocate for arts funding in Arizona.
 - Attended an EDGE performance by House of Stairs at Tempe Center for the Arts. It was a great performance.
- **Ginny Sylvester**
 - Jake Early is installing a mural at Broadmor Elementary School.
- **Jennifer Song**
 - Saw the Ansel Adams photography exhibition at Phoenix Art Museum. The museum is always enjoyable.

- **Jeff Davis**
 - WEAVE exhibition is currently installed at Tempe Center for the Arts. The opening reception was held on Friday, January 24th.
 - Davis' artwork is featured in an exhibition at the Found:re Hotel in Phoenix. The opening will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020.
- **Peggy Moroney**
 - Enjoyed an EDGE performance and is very impressed by the TCA Gallery's WEAVE exhibition.
 - Estel Hackett will be present at the Hackett House during Hayden's Ferry Days.
- **Staffer Joy Higgins**
 - Tempe artists and father/son duo Such Styles and Champ Styles have an art exhibition opening at the Vision Gallery in Chandler on Friday, February 21, 2020.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

Agenda Item 9 – Adjournment

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

Prepared by: Joy Higgins

Reviewed by: Brenda Abney

Unapproved