

Minutes TEMPE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION December 17, 2019

Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) recorded at 6:00pm on December 17, 2019, in the Tempe Center for the Arts Carter Lounge, 700 W Rio Salado Parkway, 85281.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Maureen Kobierowski
Peggy Moroney
Kelly Nelson
Justin Stewart
Ginny Sylvester
Aaron Thacker – Chair

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Michael Bennett
Lisa Hobson
Kiyomi Kurooka – Vice-chair
Michael Rohd

City Staff Present:

Brenda Abney, Manager-Visual Arts & Culture
Ralph Remington, Deputy Director – Arts & Culture Division
Eileen May, General Manager – Tempe Center for the Arts
Joy Higgins, Management Assistant-Arts & Culture Division
Keith Burke, Director – Community Services
Donna Kennedy, Director – Economic Development
Maria Laughner, Program Manager – Economic Development
Josh Roffler, Sr. Curator – Tempe History Museum
Amanda Nelson, PIO – Transit
Rebecca Blume Rothman, Tempe Public Art Director

Guest(s) Present:

Jennifer Song, Anndee Rickey, Freda Rothermel, David Khoo

Call to Order

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

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

- None

Agenda Item 2 - Approval of the November 20, 2019 Commission Minutes

A. Thacker asked the commissioners to review an unapproved TACC minutes document dated November 20, 2019.

MOTION: Ginny Sylvester moved to approve the November 20, 2019 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes.

SECOND: Kelly Nelson seconded

AYES: Anthony Johnson, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Kelly Nelson, Justin Stewart
Ginny Sylvester, Aaron Thacker

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

RESULT: Motion passed with an 7-0 vote

ABSENT: Michael Bennett, Lisa Hobson, Kiyomi Kurooka, Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 3 – 2020 Arts & Culture Commission Chairs

- A. Thacker asked the Commission to approve the election of Jason Stewart as Chair and Aaron Thacker as Vice-chair for 2020.

MOTION: Kelly Nelson moved to approve the election of Jason Stewart as Chair and Aaron Thacker as Vice-chair for Tempe Arts & Culture Commission for 2020.

SECOND: Peggy Moroney seconded

AYES: Anthony Johnson, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Kelly Nelson, Justin Stewart, Ginny Sylvester, Aaron Thacker

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

RESULT: Motion passed with an 7-0 vote

ABSENT: Michael Bennett, Lisa Hobson, Kiyomi Kurooka, Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 4 – Presentation: Streetcar update

- Josh Roffler, Sr. Curator at Tempe History Museum, and Amanda Nelson, Transportation Public Information Officer, gave an update on the progress of Tempe Streetcar. Details include:
 - 14 stops along the route will include public art and history panels depicting images of the area.
 - Final funding from the Federal Transit Administration has been received.
 - Majority of the trackwork on Mill Avenue has been completed over the summer while students were out of school.
 - Transportation is collaborating with the Tempe History Museum to develop the content, look, and feel of the history panels. Historic Preservation staff and commission, community stake holders, and members of the tribal community have all been involved.
 - Goals for the panels:
 - Images are tied to the location of each station
 - Showcase the Tempe History Museum archives
 - Create a visual display with little text
 - Include a diversity of people, perspectives, and time periods
 - Have fun!

Agenda Item 5 – Presentation: IDEA Campus Update

- Donna Kennedy, Economic Development Director, and Maria Laughner, Economic Development Program Manager gave an update on the progress of IDEA Campus. Details include:
 - Innovation, Discovery, Education and Art (IDEA) Campus
 - Full development completion is believed to be within 10-15 years.
 - All tenants must be technology or biology related, combined with the arts.
 - There will be a series of open spaces along the pathway for public use and to host activities such as art shows, markets, weddings, and other events.
 - Working with a hotel group developer for a high-end boutique location.
 - Eileen has been working with the hotel to brainstorm ideas on how to incorporate art features and create synergy between the new development and the TCA.
 - Amenities may include a rooftop penthouse restaurant, a high-end restaurant, and possibly a rooftop bar.
 - The buildings in the development will not all look alike. Each tenant will have the ability to customize their building design.
 - This major employment area will bring more patrons to the TCA.
 - Parking agreements are being completed for patrons and employees of the City of Tempe.
 - Boyer is working with Matt Warren and Jay Atherton on public art designs.
- Keith Burke, Community Services Director, explained that the plan to attach another city building (TCA annex) to the garage as a space for classrooms and studios was too costly to move forward with. The City is focusing budget on repairing and updating current facilities before construction of new ones.
- Commissioners expressed their dismay that the public is losing a much-needed amenity with the cancelation of the Arts & Culture Annex that would have been attached to the new parking garage. Arts & Culture programs are well attended by the community, and the current condition and size of Edna Vihel Arts Center is poor and insufficient.
- Commissioners expressed their concern that the arts component of IDEA campus has been diminished with the absence of the TCA annex addition.

- Parking will be open January 15th. The garage will initially have 820 spaces. Night and weekend parking will be at a reduced rate for patrons. A temporary lot will remain available until the second garage is constructed in the future.

Agenda Item 6 – Discussion: January Retreat date/location

- A Doodle Poll will be sent out with date and time options in late January/early February.

Agenda Item 7 – Deputy Director’s Briefing

- Ralph Remington, Deputy Director of Arts & Culture/Producing Artistic Director of TCA, discussed the following:
 - AMS, a theater consulting firm, has been conducting research for Tempe Center for the Arts and the Arts & Culture Division for over a year. They have been looking at business practices, holding focus groups, and sending out surveys. Current findings will be presented to staff tomorrow.

Agenda Item 8 – Program Reports

- **A. Tempe Center for the Arts** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempecenterforthearts.com.
- **B. Arts Engagement** - Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/arts and www.tempe.gov/ednaarts.
- **C. Public Art & Galleries** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/publicart and www.tempe.gov/tcagallery.
- **D. History Museum** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/museumevents.

Agenda Item 9 – Commission Members’ Announcements

Ginny Sylvester:

- Attended a production of The Nutcracker in December.

Peggy Moroney:

- December 20-21st is the last weekend the Petersen House will be open for the holiday season.
- Attended “Meet Danelle” event.

Kelly Nelson:

- This is Kelly’s last meeting as an Arts & Culture Commissioner. She expressed a “thank-you” for the experience and is excited for the future of Tempe Arts & Culture and the Commission.

Justin Stewart:

- Attended “Meet Danelle” event and enjoyed seeing the diversity of people that came through.
- Represented local arts leaders with Evan Liggins during a discussion panel for the Tempe Leadership Arts & Culture Day on December 6th.

Aaron Thacker:

- Represented the Tempe Arts & Culture Commission and the Tempe Playlist project for the Tempe Leadership Arts & Culture Day on December 6th.

Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items

- Arts & Culture Awards

Agenda Item 11 – Chairperson’s Briefing

- A. Thacker expressed gratitude and enjoyment of his experience as the Chair of the Tempe Arts & Culture Commission for 2019. “Service is an important part of what we do.”

Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment

Next meeting: January retreat date and location to be determined with Doodle Poll results.

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

Prepared by: Joy Higgins

Reviewed by: Brenda Abney

Unapproved