

Minutes TEMPE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION September 15, 2020

Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) recorded at 6:00pm on September 15, 2020 held in a virtual meeting via Webex.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Michael Bennett
Jeff Davis
Kiyomi Kurooka
Peggy Moroney
Jennifer Song
Justin Stewart – Chair
Ginny Sylvester

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Lisa Hobson
Maureen Kobierowski
Michael Rohd

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 Community Services Director-Arts & Culture Division
Keith Burke, Community Services Director
Maja Aurora, Director of Arts Engagement
Rebecca Blume Rothman, Director of Public Art

Guest(s) Present:

Bill Blake, Director of AMS Planning & Research

Call to Order

- **Justin Stewart**, TACC Chair, called the TACC meeting to order at 6:07pm.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

- None

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

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

MOTION: Jennifer Song moved to approve the August 18, 2020 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes with amendments.
SECOND: Peggy Moroney seconded
AYES: Michael Bennett, Jeff Davis, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Ginny Sylvester
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None
RESULT: Motion passed with an 7-0 vote
ABSENT: Lisa Hobson, Maureen Kobierowski, Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 3 – Presentation: Recommendation Plan – AMS Planning & Research

- Bill Blake, AMS Planning & Research, presented a synopsis of the Arts & Culture Division Operational Recommendations. The presentation covered mandates, history, operating model, organizing to operate as a cohesive division, projected results, and recommended steps to accomplish growth. This presentation will be given to Tempe City Council on October 1st.
- Commission comments include:
 - What are the pros and cons of Arts & Culture becoming a department of its own?

- Moving the division up to a department may streamline the planning and approval process.
- Will the commission have access to the specific recommendations?
 - The recommendations will be shared with the Arts & Culture Commission once AMS have completed the draft and it has been submitted for inclusion in the October 1, 2020 City Council agenda packet.
- What will be the role of TACC with the plan?
 - As implementation happens staff will regularly report progress to and seek advice from the Arts & Culture Commission. The role of the commission, as an advisory body to City Council, includes measuring the success of the division.
- What is the basis for the impressive growth projections?
 - Extrapolating what and how A+C has been doing, as well as modeling after peer organizations. By expanding the staffing model and improving efficiency, the current success of the Arts & Culture Division will multiply.
- What is the nature of the October 1 Council meeting?
 - To seek council input and a blessing to initiate the plan.
- Will there be metrics to evaluate the value of the implementation of the recommendations?
 - The public will be surveyed based on the mandates established for the division.
- Send any additional thoughts to Joy at joy_higgins@tempe.gov. Information will be forwarded to AMS.

Agenda Item 4 – 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.
- **B. Public Art & Galleries** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/publicart and www.tempe.gov/tcagallery.
- **C. History Museum** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/museumevents.
- **D. Tempe Center for the Arts** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempecenterforthearts.com.

Agenda Item 5 – Commission Members' Announcements

- Friends of Tempe Center for the Arts is working to building an online store to serve as the art shop for TCA. All items listed for sale were created by local artists.
- Tempe History Preservation Foundation has been planning tours and events for Tempe's Sesquicentennial. The City of Tempe and Tempe History Society is planning a community festival at Tempe Beach Park for November 7, 2021.
- An improvement needs assessment is underway for the Tempe Double Buttes Cemetery. One donor has already been confirmed.
- Michael Bennett had a role in a collaboration with ASU Center for Science and the Imagination and Zocalo, a partner group based in LA. The event celebrated the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ray Bradbury. 800 people registered for the virtual event.

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

- Equity in Action
- AMS recommendations and content
- Annual Report
- Arts & Culture workflow

Agenda Item 7 – Adjournment

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:19pm**

Prepared by: Joy Higgins

Reviewed by: Brenda Abney