

Minutes TEMPE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION December 15, 2020

Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) recorded at 6:00pm on December 15, 2020 and 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

City Staff Present:

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

Guest(s) Present:

None

(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 November 15, 2020 Commission Minutes

J. Stewart asked the commissioners to review an unapproved TACC minutes document dated November 15, 2020.

MOTION: Ginny Sylvester moved to approve the November 15, 2020 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes with amendments.
SECOND: Peggy Moroney seconded
AYES: Michael Bennett, Jeff Davis, Lisa Hobson, Maureen Kobierowski, Kiyomi Kurooka, Peggy Moroney, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Ginny Sylvester
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None
RESULT: Motion passed with an 9-0 vote
ABSENT: Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 3 – Update – Arts & Culture Division

- **Keith Burke**, Community Services Director, provided the following:
 - **Brenda Abney** has been appointed as the interim Deputy Director of Arts & Culture
 - Management is reviewing the Deputy Director job description prior to opening for recruitment
 - When recruitment begins, TACC, FTCA and other partners will be invited to be involved in the recruitment process

- **B. Abney** briefed about the Financial Analyst position currently in the recruitment process:
 - This new position for the Arts & Culture Division will help maintain fiscal transparency with the community and prepare financial reporting for the Arts & Culture Commission
 - The Financial Analyst will be working division-wide and will be essential in helping to manage budgets, revenue, and grants proactively and efficiently

Agenda Item 4 – Discussion: Tempe Sesquicentennial Activities

- **B. Abney** presented a brief history of Tempe leading to discussion about planned activities for the Tempe Sesquicentennial event:
 - Multiple departments within the City of Tempe will collaborate on a celebration event, currently scheduled for Sunday, November 7th, 2021 around Tempe Town Lake.
 - A date later in the year was selected to provide more time for a successful return to in-person events in light of the pandemic.
 - Events will include live stage performances, children’s activities, boating, yoga, artisan market, and opportunities for art making.
 - Tempe will create a webpage, www.tempe.gov/tempe150, to serve as a hub for all links, events and information regarding the sesquicentennial celebration.
 - In partnership with Downtown Tempe Authority and City of Tempe Communications Office, the first part of 2021 will be focused on communicating the event to the community through digital communication and physical signage (light poles, banners, flyers). A promotional video featuring Mayor Woods and City Council members is in production. It will be distributed to all media connections, through social media, and through the Tempe 11 YouTube channel.
 - The Tempe History Society, a non-profit organization, is planning activities based on Tempe “legends.” Twenty-four legends have been chosen and two will be featured every month, one living and one that has passed. The Tempe History Society also runs an online store that will offer many items related to Tempe’s history and the Sesquicentennial. Through their webpage, blog, and Facebook page, the History Society will be promoting the celebration in tandem with Tempe.
 - Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation has been planning tours for the Sesquicentennial celebration. Details include:
 - Volunteer actors are needed for live-enactment tours at the Double Butte Cemetery. Please email any recommendations to staff to be forwarded to the appropriate party.
 - One-hour historic boat tours will be offered on Tempe Town Lake.
 - Historic neighborhood tours may be offered in-person or virtually.
 - Hugh Hallman will conduct historic adobe home tours.
 - Tempe’s collection of historic properties may be available for open-house tours depending on the status of the pandemic.
 - **Ginny Sylvester** described the opportunity for Commissioners to get involved and take on a volunteer role at one of the celebration sites or activities.
 - **Michael Bennett** expressed a desire to coordinate events and volunteers with Arizona State University.
 - **Justin Stewart** inquired whether Neighborhood Services would be involved, specifically to aid in reaching out to neighborhood associations and neighborhood leaders who may have some Tempe history to share.
 - **Peggy Moroney** suggested
 - Reaching out to Tempe schools to involve students in the celebration.
 - Connecting with the staff and students who created the Salt River Stories app, an assemblage of student-written stories about people in the Tempe community.
 - **Maureen Kobierowski** requested an early link to the promotional video featuring the Mayor, as well as potential formation of a partnership with the ASU History Department to distribute the video in their e-newsletter. She also offered to contact staff in the ASU Art Department to find volunteer student actors for the Cemetery tours.
 - **Lisa Hobson** suggested heavy promotion at GAIN events that precede the November Sesquicentennial celebration.
 - Please send any additional ideas to Brenda: brenda_abney@tempe.gov

Agenda Item 4 – Discussion: 2021 TACC Retreat

- **Discussion of Topic ideas:**
 - Review AMS report
 - Assessing the progress on recommendations in the 2015 Arts & Culture Plan
 - Goals for the year and beyond
 - Update binders
 - Overview of TACC and Division activities
- **Commissioner comment**
 - A longer meeting works well in-person, but may not translate well virtually
 - Create pre-work/homework to be completed before the retreat
 - Hold the meeting in multiple smaller segments, or just a single shorter meeting
 - Welcome new members at first meeting, or new member orientation separate from the retreat
- Tentative retreat date is Wednesday, January 27th at 6pm. A Doodle Poll will be sent out to confirm.

Agenda Item 6 – Election and Approval: 2021 TACC Chair and Vice-chair

J. Stewart asked the commissioners to approve electing Justin Stewart for Chair, and Jeff Davis for Vice-chair of the 2021 Tempe Arts & Culture Commission.

MOTION: Lisa Hobson moved to approve the election of Justin Stewart and Jeff Davis.

SECOND: Ginny Sylvester seconded

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

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

RESULT: Motion passed with an 9-0 vote

ABSENT: Michael Rohd

Agenda Item 7 – Program Reports

- **A. Public Art** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/publicart.
- **B. History Museum** – Current events can be found in the written report and at www.tempe.gov/museumevents.
- **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 9 – Commission Members Announcements

- Commissioners shared local arts & culture events and happenings in which they have participated.
- Many said, 'thank you' to Kiyomi Kurooka for nine years of service with the Municipal Arts Commission and the Arts & Culture Commission.

Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items

- Clark Park Garden
- Danelle update from Rob Moore, including ASU design class results
- Sesquicentennial update

Agenda Item 11 – Adjournment

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm**