



## **Minutes TEMPE MUNICIPAL ARTS COMMISSION May 20, 2009**

Minutes of the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission (TMAC) recorded at 6 p.m. on May 20, 2009, in the Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA) 201 Lounge, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe, AZ.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Linda Sleight, Chair  
Betsy Fahlman, Vice Chair  
Doris Parker Chamberlain  
Nikie Crawford  
Nancy Goren  
Barbara Hanigsberg  
Kate Hanley  
Shirlee King  
Richard Strange  
Frank Williams

**City Staff Present:**

Kathy Berzins, Deputy Community Services Manager  
Tom Canasi, Community Services Department Manager  
Eric Iwersen, Senior Transportation Planner  
Elizabeth Lagman, Public Art Specialist  
Dan Miller, Senior Museum Curator  
Rachael Peterson, Cultural Services Division Administrative Assistant  
Adrienne Richwine, Deputy Community Services Manager  
Maja Switzer, Arts Administrator

**MEMBERS) Absent:**

Robert Bortfeld  
Ed Coyoli  
Judy Ellison  
Donna Goyette

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to order**

- Linda Sleight called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the April 15 Commission Minutes**

**MOTION:** Betsy Fahlman moved to approve the minutes.  
**SECOND:** Shirlee King seconded.  
**DECISION:** Minutes approved.

**Agenda Item 3 – Cultural Services Director's Report**

- Adrienne Richwine introduced Tom Canasi, city of Tempe (COT) Community Services Manager, and welcomed him to the meeting.
- T. Canasi reported that he is retiring from the COT effective June, 2009.
- T. Canasi introduced Kathy Berzins and announced that upon his retirement, Berzins will serve as the Interim Community Services Department Manager. Canasi added that Berzins has 28 years of experience working in several capacities within the COT; Canasi

further reported that Berzins is committed to serving the public and has a deep appreciation for the arts and cultural programming.

- K. Berzins expressed that she looks forward to working with the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission (TMAC); Berzins acknowledged the COT Community Services Department's vision to create a cultural synergy among its facilities and services and stated that with the help of COT staff, she intends to work towards fulfilling the vision.
- T. Canasi provided the commission with an update regarding the status of the vision; Canasi reported that the Tempe Historical Museum Renovation Project is well-underway and that the Tempe Public Library Renovation Project is set to begin on June 22.
- T. Canasi further announced that Teri Metros, COT Deputy Community Services Manager – Library, is set to retire effective June, 2009. Canasi explained that the Cultural Services Division and the Tempe Public Library will unite under the direction of Adrienne Richwine, COT Deputy Community Services Manager – Cultural Services Division.
- A. Richwine reported that she looks forward to working with Berzins; Richwine stated that the service model at the Tempe Public Library will change upon completion of the Tempe Public Library Renovation Project to include updated technology.
- Frank Williams inquired about the renovation status of the Edna Vihel Center for the Arts; T. Canasi stated that he would like the Vihel Center Renovation Project to be included in this year's bond election. Canasi explained that the Edna Vihel Center for the Arts houses the COT Art Instructional Program and offers cultural programming to youth and adults.
- Linda Sleight, TMAC Chair, congratulated K. Berzins and A. Richwine; Sleight further congratulated T. Canasi and thanked him for his dedicated service to the city of Tempe.
- A. Richwine announced that the city of Tempe Public Art/Art in Private Development (AIPD) Program was acknowledged and featured in a Panache Partners publication titled, City by Design Phoenix.
- A. Richwine invited the commission members to view the COT Art Instructional Program flyer in their meeting packet; Richwine further invited the commission members to attend the following receptions scheduled to celebrate the visual and performing arts works of youth participating in the Young Actors Theatre (YAT) and/or the Young Artists Studio (YAS) programs:
  - June 25: YAS Session I Reception (7:30 p.m., Edna Vihel Center for the Arts)
  - July 16: YAT Performance, Reception (7:30 p.m., Edna Vihel Center for the Arts)
  - July 23: YAS Session II Reception (7:30 p.m., Edna Vihel Center for the Arts)
- A. Richwine announced that the following events are set to take place:
  - May 25: Arizona Academy of the Performing Arts (AAPA) Memorial Day Celebration (4 p.m., Tempe Beach Park)
  - May 27: Lakeshore Jazz – Judy Roberts & Friends (8 p.m., TCA Lakeside)
  - June 16: Performance with a View – Close Enough String Band (9:30 a.m., TCA Lakeside)
- A. Richwine encouraged the TMAC members to attend Walk-In Wednesdays Open Mic Night with Walt Richardson set to take place at 7 p.m. in the TCA Lounge.
- A. Richwine further encouraged the TMAC members to join Friends of TCA; Richwine reported that Friends of TCA, in conjunction with LakeShore Music, will begin a series of chamber music in the TCA Lakeside Room from 3 to 5 p.m. every Sunday afternoon in July.

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#### **Agenda Item 4 – Chairperson’s Report**

- Linda Sleight, TMAC Chair, announced that a New Boards and Commissions Orientation Session is scheduled to take place at 6 p.m. on June 30 in the Tempe Learning Center (TLC) Classroom at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road. Sleight encouraged the TMAC members to contact Rachael Peterson, Cultural Services Division Administrative Assistant, via email message if they want to attend.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – New Business**

- No new business.

#### **Agenda Item 6a – Public Art/AIPD Committee**

- Betsy Fahlman, Committee Chair, introduced Eric Iwersen, COT Senior Transportation Planner.
- E. Iwersen presented the commission members with images related to the Crosscut Canal Multiuse Path Phase II Project. Iwersen reported that the path runs from Evelyn Hallman Park to Moeur Park and through Papago Park. Iwersen further reported that visual artist Mary Lucking was selected to fulfill the public art element of the project; Lucking is partnering with E group to create three artist-designed bridges along the path.
- Kate Hanley praised E. Iwersen for his leadership in connecting COT transportation features with art elements; Hanley stated that projects similar to the Crosscut Canal Multiuse Path Phase II create citizen interest in public art.

**MOTION:**     **Shirlee King moved to approve the Crosscut Canal Multiuse Path Phase II public art elements as presented.**

**SECOND:**     **Kate Hanley seconded.**

**DECISION:**   **Crosscut Canal Multiuse Path Phase II public art elements approved as presented.**

- B. Fahlman introduced Dan Miller, COT Senior Museum Curator.
- D. Miller presented the commission members with a PowerPoint presentation related to the Tempe Historical Museum Renovation Project. Miller reported that the renovation will allow for updated technology, a children’s interactive experience, an updated multipurpose/community room, exterior entry enhancements and exhibit hall enhancements.
- D. Miller stated that Weddle Gilmore Architects worked in conjunction with Gyroscope, Inc., a museum development firm, to design the updated museum; Miller further stated that artist Russell Rock and architect Jeanine Centuori of UrbanRock Design are partnering with Gyroscope, Inc. and Weddle Gilmore to integrate public art elements into the renovation project.
- B. Fahlman presented the commission members with UrbanRock Design’s proposed art element titled, “Looking through the Past.” Fahlman reported that the proposed element features 20 objects specific to Tempe history that are set to be displayed on 4’ x 6’ signs that will be approximately three feet off of the ground.
- Elizabeth Lagman stated that the proposed signs meet COT curbing standards; Lagman added that three signs will be placed in front of the museum along Southern Avenue; one sign will be placed near the entrance to the Edna Vihel Center for the Arts and the final sign will be placed near the Pyle Adult Center as visual teasers, leading the public to the museum’s exterior entry enhancements. Lagman further reported that the signs will receive Dupont coating as a means to make them graffiti-proof.

- **MOTION:** Kate Hanley moved to approve the proposed Tempe Historical Museum Renovation public art elements as presented.
- **SECOND:** Shirlee King seconded.
- **DECISION:** Tempe Historical Museum Renovation public art elements approved as presented.

**Agenda Item 6b– Grants Committee**

- Nancy Goren reminded the commission members that the 2009 – 2010 COT Arts Grants Award Recommendations will be on the agenda as an action item for the TMAC meeting taking place at 6 p.m. on July 8 in the TCA 201 Lounge.
- N. Goren reported that the committee's recommended funding calculations for the 2009 – 2010 arts grants total approximately \$150,000.

**Agenda Item 6c– Communications/Advocacy Committee**

- Frank Williams reported that the Communications/Advocacy Committee met; Williams stated that the committee's staff liaison, Mary Fowler, Cultural Services Division Management Assistant, is in the process of creating the committee's May meeting minutes document.
- F. Williams announced that the committee is drafting a social media plan to notify members of the public about COT art-related programming and services; Williams highlighted the following areas of advocacy discussed by the committee:
  - COT Special Events
  - Friends of TCA
  - Film Festival (proposed collaboration with Arizona State University and the Tempe Community)
- Shirlee King expressed that she'd like to see the committee connect the homeless population to art-related programming and services within the city of Tempe.
- Barbara Hanigsberg reported that the next Communications/Advocacy Committee meeting is scheduled to take place at 11:30 a.m. on June 2 in the Tempe Public Library's Connections Café, 3500 S. Rural Road.
- B. Hanigsberg stressed the importance of continuing to notify the public about Tempe's art-related programming and services; Hanigsberg stated that the committee intends to reach out to younger populations via social networks (Facebook, Twitter and Blogspot).

**Agenda Item 6d– Facilities Committee**

- No report.

**Agenda Item 7 – Commission Member's Announcements**

- No announcements.

The next TMAC meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on July 8 in the TCA 201 Lounge, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe, AZ.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**

Prepared by: Rachael Peterson

Reviewed by: Adrienne Richwine

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Authorized Signature  
Position/Title