Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) recorded at 6 pm on November 14, 2018, within the Tempe Center for the Arts Carter Lounge, 700 West Rio Salado Parkway, 85281.

(MEMBERS) Present:
Deborah Bair
Anthony Johnson
Kiyomi Kurooka
David Lucier – Chair
Peggy Moroney
Kelly Nelson
Aaron Thacker – Vice-chair

(MEMBERS) Absent:
Charlie Lee
Jacque Tobias

City Staff Present:
Brenda Abney, Managing Director of Cultural Arts
Eileen May, Managing Director of TCA
Joy Higgins, Administrative Assistant-Arts & Culture Division
Maria Laughner, Program Manager-Economic Dev.
Ralph Remington, Deputy Community Services Director
Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner

Guest(s) Present:
None

Call to Order

- David Lucier, TMAC Chair, called the TMAC meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

- Ralph Remington thanked the commission for their continued support of arts and cultural programming and for the passage of the Arts & Culture Tax.

Agenda Item 2 - Approval of the October 10, 2018 Commission Minutes

- David Lucier asked the TMAC members to review an unapproved TMAC minutes document dated October 10, 2018.
- MOTION: Kelly Nelson moved to approve the October 10, 2018 Tempe Municipal Arts Commission Meeting Minutes with amendments to verbiage in Agenda Item 3.
- SECOND: Peggy Moroney seconded. Motion passed on a 7-0 vote.
- AYES: Deborah Bair, Anthony Johnson, Kiyomi Kurooka, David Lucier, Peggy Moroney, Kelly Nelson, Aaron Thacker
- NAYS: None
- ABSENT: Charlie Lee, Jacque Tobias

Agenda Item 3 – Presentation: Urban Core Master Plan, Ambika Adhikari

- Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner for Community Development, presented updated information about the Urban Core Master Plan. Details include:
  - The intent of the Urban Core Masterplan is to “create a comprehensive and unified development blueprint for Downtown Tempe and the Urban Core that is prosperous, sustainable and cohesive.”
  - The master plan area encompasses about 6.5 square miles of the downtown area. The area site within the confines of the 101/202 freeways on the north and east, Hardy Drive on the west, and the rail line on the south.
Consultant firm SOM (Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP) was hired in October 2017 for the construction of a master plan. [https://www.som.com/](https://www.som.com/)

Tempe is growing at a rapid pace which requires a formal development plan for the urban core to be implemented.

The masterplan will help identify areas with potential growth opportunity (vacant areas, underutilized areas, etc.)

To accommodate Tempe’s growth, much attention is paid to strategizing where high-rise housing/commercial developments can be permitted, and greater diversity of housing options and affordability. Through research and community feedback, building height zones were established so that single-family communities do not become crowded in by adjacent towering buildings. Conversely, specific zones will provide the needed height and high-density for the expanding population and business establishment. Guidelines will include open spaces and varying building heights to allow for views and light.

Other major areas of study and plan include parking, open spaces, and transit friendliness.

Final public outreach for the masterplan will likely be in January 2019. Approval presentation of the plans is projected for May-June 2019.

More details about the Urban Core Masterplan can be found at [www.tempe.gov/urbancore](http://www.tempe.gov/urbancore).

Comments from TACC members include:

- Commission members expressed concern for the tallest of planned building heights but were overall appreciative that Tempe invested in this master plan project.
- Inclusion of greenspace should be a priority when considering high-density housing.
- Commission members would like for staff to look into updating the Art in Private Development Ordinance to include multi-family housing and to ensure that arts and culture are prevalently built into or supported by large, future developments.

**Agenda Item 4 – TACC Annual Report**
- Deferred until December meeting

**Agenda Item 5 – Arts in the Parks, Maja Aurora**
- Maja Aurora, Director of Arts Engagement, provided updates on the Arts in the Parks projects planned for spring 2019. See the attached “Document A” for details.
- If you would like to be a part of the planning committee for your park, please contact Julie Akerly, Arts Specialist. julie_akerly@tempe.gov
- Public art by four artists will be included in events at four parks. These are managed by Rebecca Rothman, Director of Public Art. rebecca_rothman@tempe.gov
  - Erin Sotak: Papago Park
  - Dog Ear Theatre Productions: Scudder Park
  - Ann Morton: Goodwin Park
  - Bobby Zokaites: Clark Park
- [www.tempe.gov/artsintheparks](http://www.tempe.gov/artsintheparks)

**Agenda Item 6 – Program Reports: Written reports provided.**

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

**Agenda Item 7 – 2019 Commission Chair Nomination**
- Kiyomi Kurooka nominated Deborah Bair for Chair and Aaron Thacker for Vice-chair.
Agenda Item 7 – Commission Members’ Announcements/Future Agenda Items

- **Aaron Thacker:**
  - Attended downtown music meeting hosted by Councilmember Joel Navarro.
  - Tempe Playlist: Saturn Sessions is posted. Visit the city website to listen and download the playlists, and to learn more about the diverse artists featured. [www.tempe.gov/tempeplaylist](http://www.tempe.gov/tempeplaylist)

- **Debbie Bair:**
  - Visited the Churchill, a shopping/dining venue made up of recycled shipping containers.
  - Learned much about public art while in Egypt. An Egyptian museum will open in 2020.

- **Kelly Nelson:**
  - Nathan Bennington, the artists who attended the October TACC meeting as a member of the public, just completed new artwork on the east side of the Danelle Plaza building.
  - Served on the School Arts Grants panel. There are some impressively dedicated people wanting to provide arts experiences to local students.

- **Peggy Moroney:**
  - Served on the Vibrant City Grant panel.
  - Served on the INFLUX 8 selection panel. Impressed by the variety of artists and the process of selecting artists with five other cities/organizations.

- **David Lucier:**
  - Reminded TACC members that attendance is crucial to knowing projects and issues in the arts. Please be sure to notify Brenda Abney or Joy Higgins if you cannot attend a meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Adjournment

- Next meeting: December 12, 2018; location to be determined.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Prepared By: Joy Higgins
Reviewed By: Brenda Abney