

# ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

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MINUTES – February 9, 2015

## **Call to Order:**

Tanya Biemi called the meeting of the Arts and Humanities Commission to order, at 5:04 PM, at the Oscar Yrun Community Center, 3020 E. Tacoma Street, Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635.

## **Opening Remarks:**

Tanya Biemi greeted the commission and shared their warm best wishes for recording Secretary, Susana Soto's upcoming surgery. Tanya Biemi shared this profound quotation: "*Art is the only way to run away without leaving home.*" – Twyla Tharp.

## **Roll Call: Quorum: (6 Members Present)**

Members Present: Tanya Biemi, Chair  
Renaë Humburg, Vice Chair  
Elizabeth Horning  
John Marvin  
Angel Rutherford  
Virginia Thompson  
Elizabeth Henley – Associate  
Michael Rosen - Associate  
Alesia Ash – City Council Liaison

Members Absent: Norman Wigton  
Lee Elaban – City Staff Liaison

Others Present: Mayor Rick Mueller

## **Acceptance of the Agenda:**

Renaë Humburg made a motion to accept the agenda. Elizabeth Horning seconded the motion. No discussion - vote was unanimous (0-6); the Agenda for February 9, 2015, was accepted. No further discussion.

## **Acceptance of the Minutes:**

Renaë Humburg made a motion to accept the Minutes, of January 12, 2015. Virginia Thompson seconded the motion. No discussion - vote was unanimous (0-6); the Minutes for January 12, 2015, were accepted. No further discussion.

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## **Call to the Public:** Mayor Rick Mueller – City of Sierra Vista

Mayor Mueller expressed an effort to attend each commission's meetings, at the start of the year, especially because there is new City Council members assigned to the commissions. Mayor Mueller apologized to the commission for his delay in attending; he had attempted to be present at last month's meeting, as he had prior commitments which created a conflict. Mayor Mueller expressed an interest in being available, to the commission and its members, to answer questions or address any concerns. Mayor Mueller gave his support to Council Member Alesia Ash and expresses his confidence in her abilities. There was a short discussion between Mayor Mueller and Council Member Ash. Mayor Mueller thanked the commission for the work and efforts on the annual Mayor's Arts and Humanities Awards event, of which he had heard a lot of great comments about the award event, and how much he appreciates the commission's dedication to the event. No further discussion.

## **Old Business:**

### **1. Report of MAHA – R. Humburg**

Renae Humburg, Chair of the Sub-Committee for the MAHA shared with the commission the article in the local newspaper was excellent and all comments from attendees of the event were positive. Tanya Biami thanks Mayor Mueller for his appreciation of the commission on the MAHA event and directed praise towards Sub-Committee for the MAHA Chair, Renae Humburg. Renae Humburg also expressed her thanks and appreciation to commission recording Secretary, Susana Soto, for her efforts and professionalism of the annual MAHA event. Renae went on to share the efforts made in the preparation and of the preliminary event needs were the easiest she had experienced, in the past five years. Renae Humburg also thanked the commission for asking her to chair the Sub-Committee and she considers it an honor. All expressed their enjoyment of the event and how it has always been special to the commission. No further discussion.

### **2. Report of Youth Arts Festival – V. Thompson, E. Henley & Sub-Committee**

Tanya Biami shared with the commission the Sub-Committee members, Virginia Thompson, Elizabeth Henley, Liz Horning and

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herself have been working on preparations for the Youth Arts Festival 2015, which is to be held on February 28, 2015.

Virginia Thompson, chair of the Sub-Committee, shared they had put out a call for donations of crafting materials and supplies for the event, with flyers and boxes placed throughout the city for collection. Virginia Thompson stated they have also placed a call out for volunteers for the event; they are hoping for 30 volunteers. Anyone over age 16 is encouraged to volunteer; those interested can contact Virginia Thompson, who is always taking a schedule of availability time slots, so those volunteers who cannot attend the whole day event can still volunteer within a time slot. Virginia Thompson asked the commission to review the poster she is preparing for publication of the event; she asked if the commission had an official logo. Aside from the official City of Sierra Vista logo, Secretary, Susana Soto informed there was an Arts and Humanities Commission logo which she will email to Virginia Thompson. *\*See Attachments – Youth Arts Festival poster (Secretary – to email the City of Sierra Vista and Arts and Humanities logos to Virginia Thompson for the publication)*

Elizabeth Henley, Sub-Committee member, discussed the need for refreshments to be provided during the breaks, for volunteers, commission members and others participating in the event. Elizabeth Henley asked any persons interested in bringing refreshments in quantities to serve approximately 40-50 people, to contact her. A brief discussion among the commission about specific event activities continued.

Virginia Thompson shared with the commission the Sub-Committee currently has 7 individual artists, 2 groups, and 21 volunteers working the Youth Arts Festival event.

Tanya Biarni shared with the commission the events publication efforts and contact, to include Judy Hector – PAO, City of Sierra Vista, the posters distribution to the area school and public schools district office and encouraged all commission members to assist in getting the word out about the upcoming event. Council Member Alesia Ash commented about Fort Huachuca Accommodations Schools getting the information and any contacts. Angel Rutherford shared with the commission she would contact the local newspapers to be sure they received the event information. No further discussion.

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## **3. Field trip to Tucson Art Museum - J. Marvin**

John Marvin reported to the commission he has made contact with the museum and has asked for a tour of the facility for the group, to be conducted at 11:00 am and to take about 45 minutes. A brief discussion on the field trip, day's itinerary to include lunch plans, was discussed among the commission.

Virginia Thompson shared she was the official driver of the city vehicle (van) provided for the field trip. Virginia Thompson encouraged those attending the field trip to be at the Oscar Yrun Community Center (OYCC) for pick up at 9:00 a.m., to bring cash for lunch and expendables, and to wear their Arts and Humanities name tags. Virginia requested those going on the field trip to give her their name and phone numbers for emergency purposes and requested John Marvin ask the museum for any reserved parking. No further discussion.

## **New Business:**

### **1. Strategic Planning ideas to present to City Council - L. Elaban and T. Biami**

Tanya Biami and Council Member Alesia Ash, with reference to the Mayor's letter, expressed to the commission the need to collect 3 -4 highest priority ideas/projects to the City Council for the Strategic Plan. Council Member Alesia Ash stated it will map out the commission's priorities for the next 2 years, a road map of sorts. The deadline is 3/15/15, for the drafting of recommendations to present to the City Council (at a later date/which is in late March). Mayor Mueller also discussed the outline of discussions for the Strategic Plan sessions. A brief discussion among the Mayor Mueller, Council Member Alesia Ash and the commission continued, with encouraging statements concerning high priority creative projects, within the next 2-5 years, especially if they fit within the Arts and Humanities Mission Statement, which impacts the greater community.

The commission members continued a discussion, at length, of ideas and comments for recommendations to the City Council.

Tanya Biami advised the commission they would have a Work Session, on 3/9/15, at 5:00 pm, at the OYCC to discuss, prepare

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and finalize the commission's recommendations to the City Council for the Strategic Plan. The Work Session scheduled would cancel the Arts and Humanities regularly scheduled meeting for March 2015. No further discussion.

## **2. Commission terms expiring - T. Biami**

Tanya Biami advised the commission that some terms of its members were expiring, June 2015. Any commission member who is interested in re-applying for 2 year terms, please let Secretary, Susana Soto, know of their interest and she will provide you the form to be completed and submitted to the City Clerk's Office. Any commission member vacancies that become open, Tanya Biami strongly encouraged the commission's Associate Members to also re-apply to become voting commission members and fill the vacancy. The Associate Members to the Arts and Humanities Commission were praised by the commission and especially given thanks by Tanya Biami and Renae Humburg. No further discussion.

## **City Council Liaison Report: Alesia Ash**

Alesia Ash shared with the commission her discussion of the Strategic Plan and branding, earlier, covered most of her report, however, she encouraged any commission members who haven't seen or taken the public survey that is out to do so. The link for the survey will be open to the public. A brief discussion continued among the commission. No further discussion.

## **City Staff Liaison Report: Lee Elaban – None**

## **Call to Commission: Nelson Mandela Film flyer – T. Biami**

Tanya Biami passed out a flyer re: Nelson Mandela film, honoring Black History Month, part of Cochise College's Multicultural Film Series, varies times, dates and location of showings. No further discussion.

## **Adjournment:**

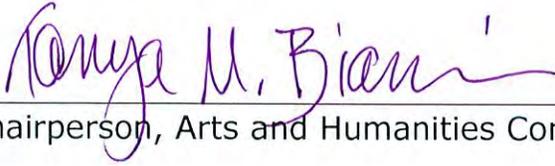
The next Arts and Humanities Commission Meeting is to be held, on Monday, April 20, 2015.

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The Arts and Humanities Commission Work Session is to be held, on Monday, March 9, 2015. The meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.



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Chairperson, Arts and Humanities Commission