

Regular Meeting

**ARTS & HUMANITIES COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
510 E. FLORENCE BOULEVARD, CASA GRANDE, AZ 85122  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2015**

**A. Call to Order:**

Chairman Benitez called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

The following members were present:

Debbie Benitez  
Jeannette Rhodes  
Seprina Packard  
Stacey Seaman  
Jonathan Voyce

The following members were excused:

Erica Herman  
Gloria Smith

Also present:

Remilie S. Miller      City Clerk  
Anna M. Valenzuela    Deputy City Clerk

**B. Minutes:**

Member Packard moved to approve the regular minutes of June 3, 2015. Member Voyce seconded the motion was carried unanimously.

**C. Reports:**

**C.1 Update on Grant Opportunities**

City Clerk Miller relayed that the Arts and Humanities Commission was awarded \$10,000 from the Gila River Indian Community – Proposition 202 for the Commission’s Mini Grant Program.

City Clerk Miller stated that the Mini-Grant funds will be used to assist Casa Grande Teachers in incorporating Arts into the STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) education program. Ms. Miller advised that she would forward the Mini-Grant application, forms, schedule, and notice of publication to the Commission for review and would formally present it to the Commission during the August 5, 2015 meeting for approval.

City Clerk Miller further relayed that Gila River Indian Community is scheduled to meet August 31, 2015 to finalize the award of the grant to the City of Casa Grande Arts and Humanities Commission sometime in September or October 2015.

**D. Unfinished Business**

**D.1 Update on Possible Opportunity for Selling as Fundraiser the Commission’s Prize-Winning Paintings from the Previous Plein Air Event.**

Chairman Benitez reported that she spoke to Mr. Jim Olson regarding auctioning the Commission’s prize winning paintings at the Western Trading Post. Chairman Benitez reported that Mr. Olson is willing to auction 2 – 3 paintings at his monthly auction. Chairman Benitez relayed that Mr. Olson was open on auction date (s).

City Clerk Miller advised that Deputy City Clerk Valenzuela contact Member Smith and former Member Regis Sommers to price the paintings to be auctioned.

Member Rhodes suggested the Commission wait until visitors return in the winter in order to optimize the chance of selling the paintings. City Clerk Miller suggested that the Commission auction 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners, and auction the Best in Show paintings when the winter visitors return to Casa Grande.

City Clerk Miller relayed that the Clerk's Office would contact Mr. Olson from Western Trading Post to begin planning the event.

Member Voyce relayed that per prior Commission discussion, various avenues would be used to sell the paintings such as at the Bravo Reception, and possibly at a reception at Member Rhodes residence. Member Voyce further relayed that all the Commission's functions need to be used in order to raise funds.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that she would check with Mayor Jackson to see if it would be permissible for the Commission to hold a Silent Auction.

Member Packard moved to approve the auctioning of three (3) prize winning paintings. Member Rhodes seconded the motion was carried with a 5-0 voice vote.

## **D.2 Discussion and Approval of the Guidelines for the Commission's Bravo Award Program**

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City Clerk Miller relayed that based on the Study Session, now is the time to approve the following items:

- Bravo Award Application
- Timeline
- Judging

Ms. Miller and the Commission reviewed the Bravo Award Guidelines. The following items were decided upon:

- Put To Be Determined (TBD) on the blank line for the date in the
- Location will also show To Be Determined (TBD)

Chairman Benitez moved that the forms be accepted with the changes that were discussed. Finalization will take place at the meeting of August 3, 2015. Member Seaman seconded the motion carried with a 5-0 voice vote.

In response to Member Voyce' question regarding seeking in-kind donations, City Clerk Miller advised that some donors will want to know the value that will be placed on their donations.

Member Seaman relayed that she would assist Member Voyce in managing this project.

The Commission discussed the Bravo Award amount and/or whether a plaque or other gift would be presented.

Chairman Benitez moved that a monetary award of \$500 and a plaque be awarded to the Bravo Award Recipient. Member Voyce seconded, the motion, and was carried with a 5-0 voice vote.

**E. New Business:**

**E.1 Presentation and Discussion Regarding Workshop for Ten Minute Play**

Member Seaman offered a presentation regarding a Workshop for a Ten Minute Play.

Member Seaman discussed the following:

City of Casa Grande  
Arts & Humanities Commission  
10-Minute Play Proposal

**PROPOSED TIMELINE**

October 17th	10-Minute Play Writing 101 (2 hr. workshop)
Oct 26	Writing Workshop #1
Nov 9	Writing Workshop #2
Nov 23	Writing Workshop #3
Dec 4	Plays Due
Dec 7-11	Review Plays
Dec 14-18	Notify Finalists
Jan 18	Director/Actor/Writer Workshop (Rehearsal Kickoff)



Chairman Benitez conveyed that the Ten Minute Play and the Workshop are both under the same umbrella.

City Clerk Miller advised that she would put the Call to Artist for the Workshop on the Agenda for the Commission's next meeting for discussion and vote, and that she would rely on the expertise and assistance from Members Voyce and Seaman to create the Call to Artist.

City Clerk Miller relayed that she would check with the Parks and Recreation Department for available classroom space for events.

Member Voyce expressed his appreciation to Member Seaman for the work she did on the proposal and the template she provided to the Commission.

**F. Public Comments: None**

Chairman Benitez called for public comments. No comments were offered.

**G. Adjournment:**

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:54 p.m.

  
Debbie Benitez  
Chairman