



**NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES**

**March 25, 2021 at 1:30 pm
National Hispanic Cultural Center
Online Zoom Meeting**

A meeting of the National Hispanic Cultural Center Board of Directors was held on Thursday, March 25, 2021, of the National Hispanic Cultural Center via online Zoom meeting.

I. Administrative Actions

Call to Order and Roll Call.....Matt Martinez

The meeting was called to order by NHCC Board of Directors Chairman Matt Martinez at 1:32 pm.

Board Members: Matt Martinez, Elizabeth Arencon, Vivian Cuadra, Holly Jane Barnet-Sanchez, Margie Huerta, Vaadra Martinez, NHCC Foundation Trustee Lou Anne Byrd and Executive Director Josefa Gonzalez Mariscal (non-voting, ex-officio)

The following Board Members were not present for the meeting: Anita Cordova, Annette Garcia, Bill Miera, and NHCC Foundation Trustee John Martinez.

Panelist: DCA Cabinet Secretary Debra Garcia y Griego, DCA Chair of Arts & Science Khristaan Villela, DCA Special Assistant to DCA Cabinet Secretary Jane Egan, DCA Marketing & Communications Manager Daniel Zillmann, NHCC Foundation Executive Director Roberta Ricci, NHCC Chair Emeritus Edward Lujan, Assistant Attorney General Robert Sanchez, NHCC Deputy Director Alberto Cuesy, NHCC Visual Arts Director Tey Nunn and NHCC Board Administrator Alicia Tenorio.

Attendees: NHCC Staff Valerie Martinez, Liza Alvarado, Jadira Gurule, Annette Lujan, Patricia Perea, NHCC Foundation Staff Melissa Armijo, and Albuquerque Journal Arts & Entertainment Editor Adrian Gomez.

Approval of Agenda.....Matt Martinez

Board President Matt Martinez called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Huerta made a motion to approve the agenda. Barnet-Sanchez seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Approval of January 21, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.....Matt Martinez

Martinez presented the January 21, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes, as contained in the Board materials.

Huerta made a motion to approve the January 21, 2021 minutes. Arencon seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

II. Business Items

New Business

- Presentation and Approval of Opera Southwest Lease.....Josefa Gonzalez Mariscal

NHCC Executive Director Josefa Gonzalez Mariscal presented the Opera Southwest Lease contained in the Board materials.

Byrd moved to accept the Opera Southwest Lease, Cuadra seconded, and it passed unanimously.

- Discussion of Public Comments at Board Meetings.....Matt Martinez

Martinez opened discussion with the Board to allow public comments at Board meetings.

Martinez asked Assistant Attorney General Robert Sanchez for his thoughts. Sanchez stated in Open Meetings Act it does recognize that a representative Government is dependent on an informed electorate, there is not a law that requires public input. Sanchez also stated he does know that the 5 other Boards he assists with allow public comment.

Martinez served as Mayor in Las Vegas and this was always a part of the agenda. Allowing public comment with parameters was very constructive. The Board members had a forum and would point them in the direction to get their concerns addressed. Martinez recommends we allow public comments and welcomes it.

Barnet-Sanchez stated she has recently been dealing with the Santa Barbara City Government as a member of a committee to save threatened murals in the city of Santa Barbara and she has been speaking via zoom as public comment to the City Council and the City Council had two ways of hearing public comments. In the meeting at the beginning, they allow public comments for 2 minutes and then at the end of a presentation they open up the floor for public comments that were relevant to that agenda item and then the various City Council members can respond, and it seemed very productive, a lot of communication between city council members and the public. Barnet-Sanchez thinks it is a great idea if we allow it with perimeters.

Chair Emeritus Lujan stated that the NHCC Board has always allowed public comment as an agenda item, he is not sure why or when it was taken off. Lujan believes it is always a good idea to allow it.

Huerta believes transparency is key, it is a good idea with parameters. When there are concerns in the community, it is important to hear them, and she highly supports public comment as well.

Martinez suggested if the Board members all approve, we'll look into adding it as action item in the next meeting. Martinez asked Sanchez if he is willing to work with the Board to add and develop some parameters. Sanchez stated he would love to help with this, and to decide to add input to specific items or general comment. Barnet-Sanchez stated she would love to help with this as well. Martinez, Sanchez

and Bernet-Sanchez will discuss further in a zoom meeting and then add as an action item for the next Board meeting. All Board members approved.

IV. Reports

DCA Cabinet Secretary ReportDebra Garcia y Griego

DCA Cabinet Secretary Debra Garcia y Griego began her report by mentioning a few brief updates. The maintenance of NHCC Art Museum is coming along great, hopeful to open museum again in April. Garcia y Griego gave an update on Legislative Bill. DCA operating budget is looking to get back some funding to museums and historic sites. In terms of facility funds, SB-70 which is the Public Project Revolving Loan Fund passed and awaiting the Governor's signature if signed that will provide \$5 million for the Department of Cultural Affairs infrastructure fund. The Capital Outlay which is HB-285 also awaiting Governor's signature it includes just under \$7.5 million for DCA directly including \$6 million in statewide funds. When Legislative Bills are passed and signed, we will send out a final accounting. Nick Schiavo will also meet with each Division to see how DCA is going to allocate funds. Staffing is minimal to keep with public health order. Martinez asked if Garcia y Griego can introduce her staff. Garcia y Griego introduced her staff attending the meeting: Jane Egan, DCA Liaison to Boards and Commissions, Khristaan Villela, DCA Chair of Arts & Science, and Daniel Zillmann, DCA Marketing & Communications Manager.

NHCC Foundation ReportRoberta Ricci

NHCC Foundation Executive Director Roberta Ricci began her report by thanking everyone who participated in the virtual Maravilla theme reveal that took place on March 11. The event was highly successful. Foundation had just over 350 views and over 130 people participated in the cocktail hour. Ricci thanked the Center for providing their programming to showcase. They delivered over 100 gift bags to participants for helping and supporting them. Foundation is still accepting sponsorships if anyone is interested, please visit NHCC Foundation website for more information. They are excited to honor the United States of America this year, especially because Maravilla lands on September 11th, and this will be a way for us to connect and unite everyone. They are planning Maravilla as a hybrid event, currently looking at having it at the Hyatt Regency downtown depending on the public health order. The Foundation was approved for its second payroll protection program loan, they are extremely excited about that as it will help with Foundation operating costs. Ricci also reported that the Foundation has submitted a total of 12 grants totaling \$185,000 of support. The Foundation is currently hiring for a Development & Membership Manager. The posting is on the Foundation website if anyone is interested. Ricci thanked NHCC Chair Emeritus Edward Lujan for all his help especially with memberships. He sent personalized handwritten letters to all lapsed members. Ricci also thanked Dr. Margie Huerta who has also been helping the Foundation so much. Huerta mentioned she is extremely excited to volunteer with the Foundation and it has been a valuable experience. Huerta also highly encouraged Board members to become NHCC Foundation members.

NHCC Executive Director ReportJosefa Gonzalez Mariscal

NHCC Executive Director Josefa Gonzalez Mariscal began her report by stating the New Mexico Mutual Welcome Center is finished. They are going to have a walk through with the CEO of New Mexico Mutual on April 2nd. He is finishing his term as CEO and would like to visit before he leaves.

NHCC will open the New Mexico Mutual Welcome Center later in the year with a grand opening reveal with New Mexico Mutual at that time. Another interesting project they are working on is the Acequia planter that is along the walkway between the New Mexico Mutual Welcome Center and the Art Museum. With NM Arts and Art in Public places, the Foundation and DCA they have \$65,000 for this project. They will begin creating a committee to help with the selection of art.

The Bosque Gallery along the Bosque trail will get a new exhibit soon. In collaboration with the Instituto Cervantes, they are bringing to New Mexico, PhotoESPAÑA Exhibit on April 8th. In Spain, during the pandemic PhotoESPAÑA made a call for people to take photos from their balconies, which will be featured in this beautiful exhibit.

NHCC is getting a new ticketing system Tessitura, which will be launched April 28th. They will use the system in the Art Museum at first because all other venues are closed. Our internal team has been working hard with Doug Patinka and his team on implementing it. Gonzalez Mariscal commended internal staff for all their hard work on this transition.

Gonzalez Mariscal mentioned as she has reported to all the NHCC Board, NHCC Foundation Board and the Executive Committee that on February 14th they had an incident in Performing Arts building due to inclement weather, they had a water pipe break in the entrance, the damage was not too significant due to internal staff being able to contain quickly. It is still in the process of getting worked on and will soon have damage repaired.

The following day they had another pipe break in the Visual Arts building, right above the maintenance office, which caused flooding in the Art Museum, they immediately contacted 2 companies to extract the water, therefore the water did not sit long. The VA staff have been working extremely hard helping in any way they can. Once repairs are complete, Art Museum team will change current exhibit before reopening. Gonzalez Mariscal will let Dr. Tey Nunn, Visual Arts Director talk more about the flood in her Visual Arts report.

NHCC had the honor of having the First Second Gentleman of the United States, Doug Emhoff visit the Center. The purpose of his trip was to promote the American Rescue Plan. He held a Forum to listen to working women of New Mexico. There were only 4 women in the Forum, a teacher, a nurse, a small business owner, and a Latina woman who is the Executive Director of a non-profit organization that helps immigrant woman who have experienced domestic abuse. He was going to listen to what these womens' struggles and hopes are. We also walked Mr. Emhoff to the vaccination clinic where he asked, "why is it important that we are holding the clinic at the NHCC?" Gonzalez Mariscal expressed to him that apart from doing a public service while being paid by taxpayers while we are closed, it also encourages trust from the community.

Board President's Report Matt Martinez

Board President Matt Martinez stated that he will give the Board President report before the Visual Arts Program Report, and then turn meeting to Board Vice President Margie Huerta because he has an appointment and must leave meeting after his report.

Martinez began his report by thanking everyone for being present today for Board meeting. Martinez mentioned once the Board can meet in person again, he would like to schedule a joint Board meeting between the NHCC Foundation Board and the NHCC Board. He stated that we look to the Foundation for so much support and he hopes we can start working closer with them. The Foundation Board is looking at a long-term Strategic Analysis and we need to do the same thing soon.

Lastly, Martinez gave the meeting to Vice President Huerta to finish.

Visual Arts Program Report Tey Nunn

Visual Arts Director Tey Nunn began her report by discussing the flood that took place in the Visual Arts Museum. The flood reached almost the entire museum and into the Collections area. Nunn asked the Board to really appreciate the Visual Arts team, because what they did was extraordinary, and they really need to be valued.

They had a miracle story happen during the flood in the Collections. A beautiful trastero contemporary piece that the Board approved in January 2021, was the only piece that was on the floor and when they rushed in to see the piece it was safe and dry, everywhere else in the Collections had water but that little area with the trastero was dry. They are going to market the piece as "the miracle trastero".

Visual Arts team is very thankful to Secretary Garcia y Griego for sending a team from Natural History to come help. The Performing Arts team really helped as well.

There will be a new exhibit when the museum opens hopefully on April 23, the new exhibit will be Mira, Mira On the Wall, it is currently a virtual exhibit but now it will be physical and in a socially distanced manner to give guests space to enjoy. In the Community Gallery, which is funded by the Kellogg Foundation, they will have an exhibit that will feature artists from the Spanish Market. The Spanish Market is not sure how they will have the market this year, so we will collaborate with the Spanish Market community to get them out there and seen. The big exhibit coming up later this year will be an exhibit on Latino futurism and science fiction, which is also funded by the Kellogg Foundation.

They applied last May 2020 for a NEH Digitization grant over \$300,000, which would allow them to digitize the entire Collections. They will find out by April 15th. In partnership with the University of Minnesota Chicano Studies Program.

Byrd asked if Nunn could email the Board the names of the Visual Arts staff and email addresses. Nunn stated she will.

Huerta thanked all the Visual Arts staff on behalf of the Board.

IV. Adjournment

Vice President Huerta called for a motion to adjourn.

Barnet-Sanchez made a motion to adjourn, Byrd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Board President  Date 3-25-21

Board Secretary  Date 3/25/21