

**ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2017 at 2:00 PM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, B ROOM**

Committee Present:	Councilmember Roberto C. Treviño, <i>District 1, Chair</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Greg Brockhouse, <i>District 6</i>
Committee Absent:	Councilmember William “Cruz” Shaw, <i>District 2</i>
Staff Present:	Lori Houston, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Carlos Contreras, <i>Assistant City Manager & Interim Executive Director of Tricentennial</i> ; Debbie Racca-Sittre, <i>Director of Arts & Culture</i> ; Jeff Coyle, <i>Director of Government & Public Affairs</i> ; Colleen Swain, <i>Director of World Heritage</i> ; Ray Rodriguez, <i>Deputy City Attorney</i> ; Stephen Whitworth, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Tonya Baum, <i>Tricentennial Events Director</i> ; Jimmy LeFlore, <i>Public Art Manager</i> ; Dr. Alfonso Chiscano, <i>Tricentennial Commission Vice President</i> ; Lionel Sosa, <i>Tricentennial Commission Co-Chair</i> ; Brenda Pacheco, <i>Tricentennial Commissioner</i> ; Marisa Bono, <i>Mayor’s Office</i> ; Jay Podjenski, <i>District 1</i> ; Brencia Berry, <i>District 2</i> ; Mario Hune, <i>District 6</i> ; Shannon Oster-Gabrielson, <i>Executive Management Assistant</i> ; Cecily Hope Pretty, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Sarah Helmy, <i>Tribu</i> ; Jason Beltran, <i>Tribu</i> ; Kellen McIntyre, <i>Bihl Haus Arts</i> ; Rachel Brehm, <i>Centro</i> ; Jon Hinojosa, <i>Say Sí</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Treviño called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the minutes from the November 21, 2017 Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee meeting.

Councilmember Brockhouse moved to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017 Arts, Culture and Heritage Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Item 3 was addressed at this time.

3. A briefing to the Committee on Tricentennial updates on the New Year's Eve events, website, and the commemorative book.

Assistant City Manager Carlos Contreras stated that Tribu had been engaged as a subcontractor through KGBTexas but Tricentennial staff chose to work with Tribu directly to maintain and enhance the Tricentennial website.

Councilmember Viagran entered the meeting at this time.

Ms. Sara Helmy presented Tribu's redesigned Tricentennial website and demonstrated new dynamic features and functionality. She highlighted the addition of an Events Calendar and Social Media share options. She stated that Tribu would contract for updates and maintenance throughout 2018 and collaborate regularly with Tricentennial staff to add news, events, and features.

Councilmember Treviño suggested enhancing accessibility by enlarging text and translating the site into other languages. Mr. Contreras replied that the site would continue to be enhanced and edited for content and accessibility.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the timeline for the redesign. Mr. Contreras replied that prior to his tenure as Interim Executive Director it was planned for early 2018 but he chose to accelerate the process.

Councilmember Brockhouse asked of Tribu's history of involvement. Ms. Helmy replied that they had worked with KGBTexas since June 1, 2017 but the website redesign was a recent production. Mr. Contreras added that the original site was built by ITSD but KGBTexas had subcontracted with Webhead to design a second site. Councilmember Brockhouse asked if current site maintenance was part of a bidding process. Mr. Contreras replied that they wanted to contract directly with Tribu for continuity. Councilmember Brockhouse expressed concern with the subcontracting process and the potential lack of transparency in direct contract awards. Mr. Contreras replied that KGBTexas had followed a bidding process that allowed them to work with subcontractors. Councilmember Brockhouse asked for the details of that process and expressed concern that KGBTexas was not meeting expectations for deliverables.

Mr. Contreras invited members of the Tricentennial Commission to provide an update on the Commemorative Book and noted that they hoped to begin pre-sales in the near future.

Mr. Lionel Sosa stated that the Commemorative Book would be hardbound with several images on the cover as approved by the Tricentennial Commission. He noted that the book's title would be *300 Years of San Antonio and Bexar* and would contain contributions from 30 authors. He stated that the interior design would be illustration-heavy and bring together multiple components of San Antonio's history and culture. He noted that the physical copy would be priced at \$29.95 and the digital version at \$19.95 with a dynamic online component for people to add their own stories.

Ms. Brenda Pacheco provided an overview of the book's development. She stated that the Commission wished to be inclusive and sought both published and non-published contributors. She noted that the entire Commission had been involved in identifying potential authors. She

stated that content development had been in process since January 2017 and the pieces would be edited to ensure cohesion with style and theme as well as factual accuracy.

Councilmember Treviño asked of public accessibility to the book. Mr. Sosa replied that it would be available at major bookstores and online. He added that the Commission was working on a distribution system to make it more widely available to wholesale partners. He added that the book was to be published May 2, 2018 and a celebratory book signing with all the authors would occur on May 5, 2018 with all the authors. Councilmember Treviño asked of distribution to local school districts. Mr. Sosa replied that they would be asking for donations to ensure the books were available to students. Councilmember Treviño stated that he would make a public call to secure those donations.

Councilmember Gonzales asked of the inclusion of oral history. Ms. Pacheco stated that oral histories had been collected as part of the curatorial process.

Councilmember Treviño asked of recent and upcoming changes to the Tricentennial Commission's members and processes. Mr. Contreras distributed packets of previously requested information to the Committee regarding staff and finances and noted the appointment of new Commissioners as well as the selection of Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson as the Commission President. He stated that the search for a permanent Tricentennial Executive Director would begin in early 2018 and noted that the Commission and Executive Committee would be meeting more regularly to keep current and restructure Subcommittees as needed. Councilmember Treviño asked of current and future staffing needs. Mr. Contreras replied that two staff members were full-time Tricentennial employees and the rest were a combination of temporarily assigned City staff, shared Finance Department staff, contractors, and VISTA volunteers. He noted that it would require more examination of 2018 events to determine if current staffing levels were appropriate but he would likely need administrative support due to expiring contracts.

Councilmember Gonzales exited the meeting at this time.

Councilmember Treviño asked if a larger staff would be necessary. Mr. Contreras replied that he preferred to contract out as much as possible to experts rather than build internal staff and hiring challenges may lead to the use of a loaned Executive Director for 2018. Councilmember Treviño asked that updates continue regarding needs and what City Council could do to assist.

Councilmember Viagran expressed concern with gaps in deliverables for current contracts and asked of the use of City funds to pay contractors. Mr. Contreras replied that funding for contractors came from multiple sources and he would provide that information at a later date. Councilmember Viagran asked for a report on the status of deliverables, a list of subcontractors, and an attendance report for Tricentennial Commissioners. She requested that Commissioners have a role in the selection of a permanent Executive Director. Mr. Contreras replied that the Executive Committee would lead the search but the selection would require approval by the full Commission.

Councilmember Brockhouse expressed concern that KGBTexas had received payment for an inadequate Tricentennial website prior to Tribu's involvement and requested that payment be recouped if that were the case. Councilmember Treviño asked that Committee discussions not

disparage previous work performed for the Tricentennial. Councilmember Brockhouse replied that his interest was in good stewardship of taxpayer dollars and responsible budgeting.

No action was required for Item 3.

2. A briefing and possible action on the Cul-Tú-Art Plan.

Councilmember Brockhouse exited the meeting at this time and a quorum was lost.

Ms. Debbie Racca-Sittre presented on the Public Art component of the Cul-Tú-Art Plan. Discussion ensued regarding community collaboration and engagement.

No action was taken on Item 2.

4. Future items for discussion.

Assistant City Manager Lori Houston stated that the January 2018 meeting would address Arts Funding and a Tricentennial update.

No action was required for Item 4.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberto C. Treviño, Chairman

*Cecily Hope Pretty
Office of the City Clerk*