

**ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2018 at 1:30 PM
PLAZA DE ARMAS, CULTURE COMMONS**

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 William “Cruz” Shaw, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember Greg Brockhouse, <i>District 6</i>
Staff Present:	Lori Houston, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Roderick Sanchez, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Debbie Racca-Sittre, <i>Director of Arts & Culture</i> ; Colleen Swain, <i>Director of World Heritage</i> ; Shanon Shea Miller, <i>Chief Preservation Officer</i> ; Shahrzad Dowlatshahi, <i>Chief Protocol Officer</i> ; Cory Edwards, <i>Deputy Historic Preservation Officer</i> ; Michael Sindon, <i>Assistant Director of Economic Development</i> ; Lisa Biediger, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Alma Lozano, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Claudia Guerra, <i>Cultural Historian</i> ; Denzel Maxwell, <i>Executive Management Assistant</i> ; Cecily Hope Pretty, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Johnny Hernandez, <i>Grupo La Gloria</i> ; Pieter Sypesteyn, <i>Third Coast Kitchen</i> ; Susan Kaars-Sypesteyn, <i>Third Coast Kitchen</i> ; Ryan Salts, <i>LaunchSA</i> ; Dr. Steve Nivin, <i>Consultant</i> ; Krystin Ramirez, <i>Kaufman Killen</i> ; Mimi Quintanilla, <i>Quintanilla Schmidt Consulting</i> ; John Butchkosky, <i>Citizen</i> ; Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, <i>Citizen</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Treviño called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the minutes from the October 16, 2018 Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee

Councilmember Brockhouse moved to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2018 Arts, Culture & Heritage Council Committee. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Overview of the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Creative Cities Network and briefing on San Antonio’s Creative City of Gastronomy program

Colleen Swain stated that the World Heritage Office had worked with community partners since April 2016 to develop and implement a World Heritage Work Plan. She noted that a private group approached the City in 2017 seeking support to apply for the UNESCO Creative Cities Network as a City of Gastronomy. She stated that the unique features of the San Antonio region

contributed to the development of cuisines distinct from any others in the southern United States. She noted that San Antonio was granted designation as a Creative City of Gastronomy on October 31, 2017. She stated that participation in the Creative Cities Network allowed cities to share and gain knowledge that would contribute to sustainable development. She provided an overview of UNESCO's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She stated that the designation allowed San Antonio to have a stronger voice at the international level to leverage resources in support of creativity and sustainability. She noted that responsibilities associated with network participation included implementation of activities aligned with UNESCO's strategic framework, mandatory reporting every four years, and regular communication via the network. She provided an overview of the Advisory Group and noted the identification of local and international initiatives to pursue. She highlighted accomplishments, future goals, and past and future gastronomy-related events. She noted that a gastronomy component was added to several local cultural events such as the Living Heritage Symposium, World Heritage Festival, Distinction in the Arts Awards, and San Antonio Film Festival. She highlighted earned media value resulting from Visit San Antonio's efforts to market the City of Gastronomy designation. She stated that staff was in the process of implementing working groups to focus on communication and marketing; programming; education; and research.

Councilmember Shaw entered the meeting at this time.

Ms. Swain stated that staff would develop funding models and would provide quarterly reports to stakeholders to ease the UNESCO reporting process that was required every four years.

Chairman Treviño thanked Ms. Swain for the presentation and invited Chef Johnny Hernandez to speak.

Chef Hernandez thanked the City for its support and noted the importance of highlighting local culinary talent to the world. He stated that the culinary industry had many positive impacts on the community and stressed the importance of collaboration to maximize benefits from the UNESCO designation.

Councilmember Shaw excused himself from the meeting at this time.

Chairman Treviño asked of efforts to ensure connectivity so culinary destinations in San Antonio were accessible to all. Ms. Swain replied that staff was working to develop Culinary Trails to connect and highlight local culinary businesses in an accessible way.

Councilmember Gonzales expressed support for beginning culinary education early and for changing the stigma that food service was not a desirable sector. She asked of considerations of affordability in leveraging the designation and highlighting local businesses. Ms. Swain replied that the Culinary Trails could be utilized to highlight affordable, legacy businesses. Councilmember Gonzales suggested more culinary festivals to increase gastronomic exposure at an affordable price.

Councilmember Viagran expressed the importance of the CDGs and noted that the designation allowed San Antonio to participate as an international culinary player. She expressed support for highlighting legacy businesses and asked of providing materials to help them tell the story of their food or location. Ms. Swain replied that the communication and marketing group could

investigate same. Councilmember Viagran requested updates from staff following international experiences to discuss what occurred and if any new ideas could be implemented in San Antonio's strategies.

Chairman Treviño invited Chef Pieter Sypesteyn to speak.

Chef Sypesteyn spoke of his experience blending the culinary cultures of the Gulf Coast and noted the importance of giving back to the local community.

Ms. Swain recognized all in attendance who contributed to San Antonio's City of Gastronomy program to date.

No action was required for Item 2.

3. Staff briefing on Viewsheds Initiative and current proposal for Woodlawn Lake

Shanon Shea Miller stated that the Viewsheds Initiative began as a result of a Council Consideration Request (CCR) from Councilmembers Sandoval and Shaw. She noted that the scope of the CCR included investigation of sites for Viewshed Protection and the Unified Development Code (UDC) amendments that would be required to initiate same. She stated that initial sites identified for potential Viewshed Protection were the San Fernando Cathedral, Tower Life Building, Hays Street Bridge, and Woodlawn Lake. She noted that staff wished to amend their previous recommendation of said sites based on additional stakeholder input. She stated that there was no threat to San Fernando based on existing developable land and there was not sufficient community consensus regarding the Tower Life Building to pursue changes at this time. She noted that Viewshed Protection was intended for buildings and was not the best tool for the Hays Street Bridge or Woodlawn Lake. She stated that staff wished to pursue other Overlay District options at Woodlawn Lake in collaboration with District Offices 1 and 7. She noted that the Hays Street Bridge was part of the Downtown Design Guide and would be reviewed for other protection options in the near future. She recommended approval of a resolution to develop a Zoning Overlay District with building design standards in proximity to Woodlawn Lake. She noted that if the resolution was approved by City Council, a public process to design the solution would follow.

Councilmember Brockhouse moved to support a resolution to develop the proposed Zoning Overlay District. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion.

Councilmember Brockhouse expressed support for the process used to revise the recommendations and thanked staff for designing a solution that was the best fit for the specific conditions of Woodlawn Lake rather than implementing broader requirements.

Councilmember Viagran asked if Viewshed Protection could be utilized in the future if not implemented at this time. Mrs. Miller replied that it would remain an option in future cases or if conditions changed at the originally recommended sites. Councilmember Viagran asked if development at Kallison Square would threaten the Viewshed of San Fernando Cathedral. Mrs. Miller replied that it would not.

The motion to support the resolution carried unanimously by those present.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberto C. Treviño, Chairman

*Cecily Hope Pretty
Office of the City Clerk*