

**ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2019 at 9:00 AM
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>
Committee Absent:	Councilmember Art Hall, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember Greg Brockhouse, <i>District 6</i>
Staff Present:	Lori Houston, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Debbie Racca-Sittre, <i>Director of Arts & Culture</i> ; Colleen Swain, <i>Director of World Heritage Office</i> ; Rhea Roberts, <i>Special Projects Manager</i> , Denzel Maxwell, <i>Executive Management Assistant</i> ; Alicia K. Beckham, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Kristina Zhao, <i>Sichuan House</i> ; Dave Terrazas, <i>San Antonio Botanical Garden CHEF Program</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Treviño called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the minutes from the January 22, 2019 Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee

Councilmember Viagran moved to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2019 Arts, Culture & Heritage Council Committee. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. A briefing on the City of San Antonio's United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Creative Cities Network - Creative City of Gastronomy program. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; Colleen Swain, Director]

Colleen Swain reported that on October 31, 2017, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated San Antonio a Creative City of Gastronomy, making the City part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN). She stated that there was an advisory group created to work on specific initiatives and that the group had developed the mission, vision, strategic priorities and guiding principles. She noted that the local initiatives included: Cultural Arts Destination in Downtown, preservation of cooking techniques, Foods & Recipes, and Culinary Trails. She added that the international initiatives were Film Festival, Chef in Residency Culinary Exchange Program, Living Heritage Symposium and World Heritage Festival.

Ms. Rhea Roberts provided an update on the Maverick Plaza Redevelopment and Programming. She stated that in 2016, Chef Johnny Hernandez was selected to open three restaurants in Maverick Plaza. She noted that the City and Chef Johnny Hernandez would partner on

programming and maintenance of Maverick Plaza. She added that Chef Hernandez would invest \$7.6 million in three restaurants.

Ms. Roberts stated that the City and Grupo La Gloria partnered to develop a plan for the three restaurants in Maverick Plaza. She noted that in 2017, City Council approved the Maverick Plaza Culinary Concept that Grupo La Gloria would contribute \$100,000 in public improvements and the City would contribute \$600,000 for programming for seven years. She noted that the construction of the public improvements and restaurants would be complete in 2021. She added that Maverick Plaza would be available to the public for special events.

Ms. Swain stated that the City had participated in the 15th Food & Tourism Festival of Chengdu. She noted that Chengdu provided funding for Kristina Zhao of Sichuan House and Dave Terrazas of the San Antonio Botanical Garden CHEF Program to represent the City of San Antonio and they won the competition. She noted that the City was invited to participate at the Macao International Gastronomy Forum which highlighted UNESCO opportunities and challenges. She provided an outlook on public-private partnership initiatives that outlined the Advisory Group's Guiding Principles. She added that the initiatives were to create a cultural and arts network that would develop business concepts and activities that interpret San Antonio's diverse culinary heritage.

Councilmember Viagran suggested that the World Heritage Office provide different samples of capirotada at the festivals during Lent. She highlighted the food and culture in San Antonio as an asset to the community. She stated that preserving the cooking and preparation of barbecue could be a part of Gastronomy.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if there was a website and if the events were advertised on the website. Ms. Swain stated that there was a website and that they were hiring staff to assist in marketing and branding to reach the community. She noted that the events were not posted online but that they have been effective by posting the events on social media, GetCreativeSanAntonio.com, and VisitSA.com.

Councilmember Viagran asked Mr. Terrazas to provide feedback on the 15th Food & Tourism Festival of Chengdu. Mr. Terrazas stated that there were 18 cities that accepted the invite to participate in the Festival and that the San Antonio Team winning submission was orange infused tacos.

Chairperson Treviño acknowledged the efforts everyone had applied to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

No action was required for Item 2.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberto C. Treviño, Chairman

Alicia K. Beckham
Office of the City Clerk