



COUNCIL MINUTES

November 2, 2000

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on November 2, 2000 at 7:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Jim Davidson
Bill Jaffa
Dennis Kavanaugh
Pat Pomeroy
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Neal Beets
Barbara Jones

1. Review items on the agenda for the November 6, 2000 Regular Council meeting.

All the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff with no formal action taken.

2. Discuss and consider a recommendation regarding a proposal by the Maricopa County Sport Commission (MCSC) to have the Valley of the Sun host the 2005 Goodwill Games, and to include the City of Mesa as a primary site for aquatic-related events.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson stated this is a preliminary step in a long process and staff recommends proceeding at this time. He stated that other cities throughout the country will compete for the Goodwill Games and said that this is a good first step for the City of Mesa in this regard.

It was moved by Councilmember Kavanaugh, seconded by Councilmember Whalen, that staff's recommendation regarding a proposal by the Maricopa County Sport Commission (MCSC) to have the Valley of the Sun host the 2005 Goodwill Games, and to include the City of Mesa as a primary site for aquatic-related events, be approved.

Carried unanimously.

3. Discuss and consider the recommendation of the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee concerning the design of the Center and authorizing staff to proceed with construction documents.

The members of the Council stated that they have reviewed the report and recommendations from the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Design Committee concerning the design of the Center and are ready to authorize staff to proceed with construction documents.

It was moved by Councilmember Jaffa, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that the recommendations of the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee concerning the design of the Center be approved and that staff be directed to proceed with construction documents.

Mary Jo Whalen, Chairman of the Committee, said that the Committee is presenting three requests to the Council at this time. First, approval for the design and direction to staff to proceed with construction documents, second, approval of three public art projects for the site and third, a name change for the center. She stated that the Design Committee voted unanimously on October 11, 2000 in support of the proposals and have also received approval from the Downtown Development Committee and the Museum and Cultural Board. Ms. Whalen said that the Committee is recommending that the name of the complex be changed to "Mesa Arts Center."

Ms. Whalen introduced staff present from the architectural firm BOORA Architects, Inc., and members of the Committee present at the meeting to the Council. Ms. Whalen also introduced Rick Phannensteil of Kitchell Corporation, the Committee's Project Manager.

Members of the architectural firm of BOORA Architects, Inc. highlighted a brief presentation on the project for the members of the Council. Mr. Phannensteil also addressed the Council and discussed budgeting and scheduling issues. (See Attachment.)

The members of the Council spoke in support of the proposal and thanked the members of the Committee for their hard work and efforts.

Carried unanimously.

4. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

- a. Board of Adjustment meeting held October 10.
- b. Crime Prevention Advisory Board meeting held October 18.
- c. Design Review Board meeting held October 4.
- d. Housing and Human Services Advisory Board meeting held October 24.
- e. Museum and cultural Advisory Board meeting held October 11.
- f. Parks and Recreation Board meeting held October 17.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Carried unanimously.

5. Hear reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

There were no reports to discuss at this time.

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

General Development Committee meeting – Immediately following this meeting

Executive Session – Immediately following the General Development Committee meeting

Monday, November 6, 2000 – 5:45 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

7. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

8. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

9. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

KENO HAWKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 2nd day of November, 2000. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2000

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: October 16, 2000
TO: City Council
THROUGH: Mike Hutchinson, City Manager
THROUGH: Debra Dollar, Deputy City Manager
FROM: Wayne Korinek, Community Services Manager
SUBJECT: Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design, Project No. 99-70
City Council District No. 4

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council on the proposed design for the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center.

It is recommended by the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee to approve the design development phase and direct staff to proceed with the construction documents phase of the project. It is also recommended by the Design Committee and the Museum and Cultural Advisory Board that the name of the complex be changed to "Mesa Arts Center."

Background

In July 1999, Council approved the program, schedule and budget for the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center, and directed staff to proceed with schematic design. The schematic design, addressing the overall site layout, the building configurations, orientations and relationship to open spaces, and a conceptual landscape plan, was unanimously approved by Council on February 22, 2000. During design development, the architect consultant team worked collaboratively with the Design Committee, user groups and citizens to develop the detailed design of the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center.

The project mission statement describes the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center as a downtown landmark that unites performing and visual arts into the integrated cultural "heart" of Mesa. The Center will be visible, accessible and inviting to the diverse community of Mesa, and it will expose users and patrons to a rich variety of arts presentations, performances and education programs.

The Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center design provides space needs for all of the user groups involved with the project. This community facility of nearly 180,000 square feet in three buildings is located on the southeast corner of Center and Main Streets and includes the following:

Theater Building

- 1600-seat Lyric Theater
- 550-seat Repertory Theater
- 200-seat Playhouse Theater (shelled)
- 100-seat Studio Theater/rehearsal
- Back of house technical support areas

Mesa Contemporary Arts (formerly Galeria Mesa)

- Galleries
- Back of House prep and collection storage
- Public space: Lecture Hall and Meeting Room

Mesa Arts Center Replacement

- Visual and performing arts studios
- Administrative offices

Opportunities for Commercial Support and Community Spaces

The Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee voted unanimously at their October 11 meeting to recommend to Council approval of the design for the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center. The Museum and Cultural Advisory Board voted unanimously to recommend to Council approval of the concepts for the three incorporated public art projects at their October 11 meeting; the Design Committee concurred at their October 11 meeting. Both the Museum and Cultural Advisory Board and the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee voted unanimously, September 27 and 28, respectively, to recommend to Council approval of "Mesa Arts Center" as the name of the complex.

Discussion

The Design Team, consisting of BOORA Architects, Inc., DWL Architects + Planners, Inc., Martha Schwartz, Inc., landscape architects, Auerbach and Associates, theatre consultants, and McKay, Conant Brook, acousticians, conducted a series of six design development planning meetings, April through October. Participating in those meetings were the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee. In addition, over 200 arts, business and citizen stakeholders were invited to provide input.

Design development of the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center consisted of detailed architectural design, landscape design and public art. Architectural design detail included interior materials such as color palettes, wood samples, flooring, restroom features, upholstery samples, metal finishes, etc.; and the layout and specific needs of performing and visual arts classrooms, back of house spaces, gallery back of house and exhibition spaces, public areas, and administrative offices. Architectural design detail also included exterior materials such as masonry samples, paint colors, glazing samples, metal finishes, and samples of shade fabrics.

Architectural Design

The proposed exterior materials for the buildings at the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center are comprised of five primary materials: cast in place concrete, masonry, metal, glass and stucco. The materials were selected for their regional significance. The colors proposed for the buildings are representative of Arizona's rich desert and canyon environment, and are judiciously used as a dramatic accent to the neutrals of the concrete and

masonry. The architect team believes that the approach of strong colors is in keeping with the use of the project and the desire for a strong visual impact.

The Theater Building interiors are defined by colors from Arizona's natural palette in concert with the exterior colors: Purples, blues and reds in the Lyric Theater complement a rich, light-colored wood, woodbacked theater seats, and copper railings. Greens are predominant in the "garden room" Repertory Theater. Shades of ochre in the Playhouse Theater are punctuated with reds and purples in a playful atmosphere. A palette of dark reds sustains the Studio Theater. Mesa Contemporary Arts features bamboo flooring, skylights in each of the galleries, and wood and natural materials in the Lecture Hall. Each of the Mesa Arts Center Studios is tailored to the needs of the respective visual or performing arts discipline, with colors primarily in blue and violet tones.

Landscape Design

Landscape design detail included the refinement of proposed plant materials and water features. The Shadow Walk interior "garden oasis" is defined by a graceful arc of trees running north to south, punctuated with an arroyo, gardens, public gathering places and informal performance areas. The proposed arc of trees running north to south throughout the project is a combination of a variety of trees which includes citrus trees, Italian Cypress, Canary Island Pine, Acacia trees and Palm trees. An arroyo runs the length of the exterior of the theater lobbies, with its source a sculptural "water cloud" near Main Street. "Water tables" are located in the garden at the corner of Center and Main and in selected interior sites.

Ground materials in the Shadow Walk include several types of stone. The main pedestrian walk that runs north to south through the site will be paved in a golden quartzite, with a similar sparkle in the stone used at the building entries. Other paving materials include colored concrete and stabilized decomposed granite.

Public Art

Design development also included the addition of incorporated works by public art artists. Three artists were selected from a nationwide distribution of a Request for Qualifications: Beth Galston from Massachusetts, Catherine Widgery from Massachusetts, and Ned Kahn from California. The three artists have been working with the Design Team to integrate three public art projects in the design development phase. Ms. Galston is working on colored glass elements for the MAC west corridor environment; Ms. Widgery is working on integrated designs for the theater lobbies/garden terrace areas; and Mr. Kahn is creating wind-activated shade screens for the theaters.

The design development phase also consisted of initial discussions regarding signs and graphics for the project. During the planning and design of the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center it has become apparent that the current name is cumbersome to say and difficult for people to remember. Consequently, a subcommittee was formed of representatives from the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee and the Museum and Cultural Advisory Board to review the name. The subcommittee recommended the name "Mesa Arts Center," because the project represents the new home for, and an expansion of, the existing Mesa Arts Center, honoring the tradition of a successful and valued institution. As such, it is already familiar, and is easier to say and remember.

Alternatives

City Council may choose to require revisions in the design prior to approval. The Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee considered no alternative to approval of the design.

Fiscal Impact

The budget for the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center, approved by City Council July 13, 1999, is \$90M. The project is on budget.

Concurrence

The Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center design was reviewed by the Museum and Cultural Advisory Board on October 11, 2000, and they agreed with the design as presented. The project also received approval from the Downtown Development Committee, September 28. The Museum and Cultural Advisory Board and the Design Committee agreed with concepts for the three incorporated public art projects at their respective October 11 meetings. The Museum and Cultural Advisory Board and the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center Design Committee also agreed to changing the name of the project to "Mesa Arts Center," at their September 27 and 28 meetings, respectively.

Gerry Gerber, Arts and Cultural Director

Debra Dollar, Deputy City Manager

Wayne Korinek, Community Services
Manager

Mike Hutchinson, City Manager