

Legislation Text

File #: 17-221, **Version:** 1

Presenter/Contact
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SUBJECT:

Approval of the Heritage Commission recommendations for allocating grant awards from hotel occupancy tax to various heritage organizations of the City and authorizing the City Manager to execute contracts with the aforementioned organizations for the purpose of disbursement and use of funding.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:

The City Secretary’s Office posted notice of the application process for hotel occupancy tax (HOT) grants via the City’s bulletin board, press release, the City website, and in the Herald-Zeitung; and made the application available for interested arts organizations in January. The Heritage Commission met on March 21, 2017, to review applications and make recommendations to the City Council.

ADDRESSES A NEED/ISSUE IN A CITY PLAN OR COUNCIL PRIORITY:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

City ordinance requires that 15 percent of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) collections be allocated to the “enhancement of arts and cultural organizations and programs”. Customarily these proceeds are divided equally between the Arts and Heritage Commissions, who then make recommendations to City Council on the disbursement of their respective halves of the funding. This year, \$281,583 was made available to the Heritage Commission based on 2016 HOT collections.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Heritage Commission voted unanimously for the allocation as listed in this table:

Name of Organization	2016 Award	2017 Request	2017 Recommendation
Heritage Society of New Braunfels	53,516.00	68,500.00	\$60,644.40
Historic Museums Association of New Braunfels	41,681.00	39,290.00	\$34,784.21
New Braunfels Conservation Society	62,217.00	62,000.00	\$54,889.82
New Braunfels Historic Railroad & Modelers Society, Inc.	59,691.00	56,840.00	\$50,321.57
Sophienburg Archives and Museum of History	68,512.00	91,428.00	\$80,943.00

TOTAL	\$285,617.00	\$318,058.00	\$281,583.00
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the recommended allocations for the heritage organizations as listed in the above table.