City Art Board Meeting
April 9, 2019

The following are minutes for the meeting of the City Arts Board Committee held at 10:00 a.m. on April 9, 2019 at City Hall, 700 N. Main St., Las Cruces, NM on the second floor in Las Cruces Conference Room 2007A.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Rebecca Courtney, Chair
Ricardo Gonzales, Vice-Chair
Susan Frary, Secretary
Meg Freyermuth
Edward Schmitt
Robin Hutchins
Susan McNeill

OTHERS PRESENT:
Greg Smith, City Councilor
Lynn Gallagher, Quality of Life Director
Garland Courts, Operations Manager, City Museums
Lorenzo Zepeda, Art Program Coordinator
Jenny Reyes, Recording Secretary
Claudia Chavez, Parks and Recreation Programs Manager
Cathy Mathews, Parks and Recreation Landscape Architect
Margaret Bernstein, LCAA

I. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

II. APPROVAL MARCH 12, 2019 MEETING NOTES

It was moved and seconded to approve the March 12, 2019 meeting notes. Motion approved unanimously.

III. STAFF UPDATE

- Lyn Gallagher, Quality of Life Department Director
- Claudia Chavez, Parks and Recreation Programs Manager - EBID Acequia Tile Project
- Cathy Mathews, Parks and Recreation Landscape Architect - Calle Abuelo Neighborhood Park update
- *Pride* Sculpture
• City Hall Planters

Lyn Gallagher is excited to be the new Quality of Life Director.

Claudia Chavez reported that an expanded bid was requested to include all parties involved in the Acequia Project and the amount each party would be responsible for to include tile on all four sides of the EBID concrete enclosure. The Art Board amount would be $3,200 on the new bid. Board Members are excited to see the entire structure beautified with handmade tile from ALMA on all four sides. It was moved and seconded the Art Board's contribution will be $3,200 for the EBID project in the front of City Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

Cathy Mathews reported that the sculpture being considered for Calle Abuelo Neighborhood Park was made by Peter Wolf Toth who did the sculpture in Apodaca Park also. The artist used Douglas fir for the sculpture and has given the City permission to restore and use the sculpture. One quote for restoration services is $5,000 from Reclaimed Splinters. There has been no reply from NMSU regarding restoration. The public input meeting regarding plans for the park and sculpture was March 29th and attendees agreed that the City's current plans for the park and sculpture are good. The project is anticipated to begin in late April or early May and be completed in late July. Parks and Rec will construct a plinth for the sculpture from concrete. The plinth will be approximately 18 inches tall and 6 inches larger in diameter than the sculpture. The sculpture will be secured to the plinth with steel brackets which will also keep the sculpture elevated so water will not ruin the bottom of it. Edward Schmitt suggested contacting Karen Dean for a quote on the restoration of the sculpture. It was moved and seconded that funding from City Art Board funds be authorized up to but no more than $5,000 to pay for the restoration of the sculpture with the understanding that it will be installed in a public park, in a public space. Motion passed unanimously.

Cathy Mathews reported that the City Hall planters will be planted with agave by the end of the summer.

Lorenzo Zepeda reported that the Pride sculpture's base will be stained and sealed by the next Art Board meeting. The El Paso tour was a success and the survey is posted on the City website and it has been publicized.

IV. DISCUSSION

• Garland Courts/Lorenzo Zepeda
  o City Hall Art Project
  o Public Art Master Plan
  o PAMP elements
Lorenzo Zepeda discussed the CaFE call for the City Hall art project. He will contact the art selection committee members to set up an appointment to get training for how to use CaFE. All of the Board Members will receive training on café, as well, to be prepared for upcoming art commission projects. Lorenzo stated PIO announced the public art master plan survey on Hot Topics on the City website, the museum system has sent out over 2,000 postcards with the survey email link, and the museum Facebook page has also announced the survey. During Via Partnership’s last visit on March 27, they collaborated with the Branigan Cultural Center on a presentation called What’s Your Las Cruces to ask local artists what they see as the future of public art in Las Cruces. The tour of public art in El Paso was a success.

Rebecca Courtney discussed the El Paso Public Art Master Plan with its themes, specific funding sources list, and other features. Pages were handed out regarding evaluation criteria, how to work with developers, public-private partnerships, working with the Arts and Culture District, working with local artists, and division of duties and procedures within the City departments. Since Via Partnership created the El Paso plan, review of these pages will give insight to programs, projects and procedures that Las Cruces might employ. Via Partnership personnel tentatively plan to return to Las Cruces during the week of May 13th.

V. BOARD COMMENTS

Garland Courts has provided a subscription for the Art Board with Americans for the Arts which will include two staff members and unlimited committee members. Lorenzo might attend the conference in Minnesota.

Ricardo Gonzales is sad to be leaving the Art Board at the end of his term and offers to help on committees whenever he can. He will remain on the Board until his replacement is named. He hopes that a younger person will be chosen and thanks everyone on the Board for a great time.

Edward Schmitt had no comments.

Robin Hutchins enjoyed the tour in El Paso very much.

Meg Freyermuth said the communication regarding the What's Your Las Cruces panel was confusing and more publicity regarding activities would be nice. Promotion of the Art Ramble has flagged. She would like to attend the ACD meeting tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. in the Branigan Cultural Center classroom. Ms. Freyermuth feels that the art aspect of the Space Festival was not properly promoted, as well. There was discussion among Board Members about helping promote activities throughout the City and finding other City and private sources to use their activity calendars and improve communications with other organizations.
Susan McNeill enjoyed the tour of El Paso. She was impressed with the cooperation of art and architecture.

Susan Frary is concerned about giving positive feedback to property owners when they do something artistic on their own property to help encourage participation.

Councilor Smith commented about people in the community not feeling that public monies should be "wasted" on art activities and pieces. Board Members discussed possible ways to reduce the percentage of people who feel that public art is a waste of time and money.

Lyn Gallagher felt that a robust strategic plan will help community members see that there will be return on investment. Ms. Gallagher stated the Art Board Minutes might be one source of promoting the arts.

Rebecca Courtney reported that Doña Ana Arts Council is creating an artist registry for the local artists. They meet the last Friday of every month, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. and are welcoming input. The Dona Ana Arts Council has posted the City Hall Call for Artists on their website. The Sun News and the Bulletin will post the call, also. The City Art Board currently has a Strategic Plan, Res. 16-043 that Via Partnership has referred to and that can be used to collaborate with other City departments and outside groups for art projects.

VI. NEXT MEETING MAY 14, 2019

VII. ADJOURNMENT

[Signature]

Chairperson