City of Santa Fe



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Art in Public Places Committee Meeting Tuesday, April 26, 2011 **Tesuque Room** 2nd Floor, Santa Fe Community Convention Center 201 West Marcy 3:00-4:00 PM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes a. March 29, 2011
- V. Fiscal Report
- VI. **Old Business** a. New Mexico Centennial
- VII. **New Business**
- VIII. Adjournment

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MINUTES OF ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

APRIL 26, 2011

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Art in Public Places Committee was called to order on the above date by Michael Namingha, Chair at approximately 3:00 p.m. in the Tesuque Room, Santa Fe Community Convention Center, 201 West Marcy Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. Roll Call

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

Present:

Michael Namingha, Chair Cindy Graves Eric Griego, Vice Chair Nat Hesse Eileen Wells Geoffrey Gorman [arriving later] **Members Absent:**

Drew McDermott

Staff Present:

Debra Garcia y Griego

Others Present:

Julie Meister, Public Information Specialist for Convention Center Carl Boaz, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Garcia y Griego added a report on Economic Development.

Ms. Wells moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Griego seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - March 29, 2011

Ms. Wells moved to approve the minutes of March 29, 2011 as presented. Mr. Griego seconded

the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

5. FISCAL REPORT

Ms. Garcia y Griego reported that not much had changed since the last meeting. She continued to encumber the last of the PSA funds with \$9,000 remaining. Ten thousand was spent on furniture downstairs. The furniture in the back was doing fine but the furniture in front was getting lots of use. None was exceptional wear and tear but a small child sat on the beautiful dream catcher at a reception so we need to rebuild that part. The remaining funds will be for the pottery pieces downstairs. Some travel funds were used for professional contracts.

Mr. Hesse asked if the set up for the pot was going on. Ms. Garcia y Griego agreed.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. New Mexico Centennial

Ms. Garcia y Griego felt the discussion last time was helpful. She was thankful to Charmaine for good notes on it.

She wanted to clarify some misunderstandings. She understood the whole project would be set back one year to be unveiled on Memorial Day as an exhibit. She engaged in some research on public exhibits of temporary art and showed the results in slides to the Committee. She described each one as she displayed it.

Mr. Gorman arrived during this presentation.

She said there was some confusion about the Make A Tree project so she went back to Forestry. They were waiting for Arts in Public Places to get the information. She didn't see any others in the western U.S.

Chair Namingha said the time frame was his concern. By putting it off a year it would allow time to get it done.

Mr. Hesse thought the diversity of the project didn't come out of their own thought but it was asked of them. If she made a tree similar to this, he asked how it represented what they were asking.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said that was a good point. What she hoped was to challenge our artist to come up with something new - that was the point.

Mr. Hesse thought it seemed for artists that public art addressed the need of public art rather than their own ideas.

Mr. Griego thought what was most intriguing was the exhibit theme section. That was something she

was glad to see - not necessarily to limit them but to push them.

- Ms. Graves commented that it was not haphazard or piecemeal.
- Mr. Hesse said if they could stretch outside the comfort zone it was a public piece.
- Mr. Griego asked if in addition to the thousand dollar stipend for each artist there were any other costs for preparation of the site or the web site or if that would be donated.
- Ms. Garcia y Griego said the City had a really easy web site to work with. Chair Namingha is the media guy. Marketing folks usually come up with what is needed. There might be some installation costs but not much. As far as preparation of the site, it would be downtown and only so much could be put in the ground.
 - Mr. Hesse asked about who could be recipients.
 - Ms. Garcia y Griego said for the Make a Forest people it was important not to be institutions.
- Ms. Graves said most people were making one tree and then putting images on the web site to make a forest. She reminded them it was a centennial project but it had no reference to the centennial theme in a direct way.
 - Ms. Garcia y Griego said they appeared to be very committed to the environment.
 - Ms. Graves thought it would be nice to have one artist doing a community-wide project.
 - Mr. Griego asked if they were looking for a motion.
- Mr. Gorman said he was trying to get a handle on the mission of this committee. He was not sure how this tree will be taken into account How they could get people to come downtown to look at it. There was not much passion. He asked if the Committee was trying to find the artist to fit into this project if it was another "painted pony" project and whether it was a good fit for Santa Fé.
 - Ms. Wells asked if it would be an either/or situation Make a Forest or something else.
- Ms. Garcia y Griego said it was not. This committee has been happy to participate in the program and they were trying to conceptualize it.
- Mr. Gorman asked how much outreach was actually done. He had been a little involved over the years. The lumber industry in New Mexico had waste that went on. He wanted to see more of the specific information. Outreach to the community with this project was what he was talking about.
- Ms. Garcia y Griego noted that the City had an arborist and they were doing ongoing outreach programs with everything from hands on to tree planting to information sharing. She thought they could package some of it. She had the connections with that and also with Audubon and Watershed.

- Mr. Gorman wondered how they could get something like outreach to traditional Hispanic artists working a tree or contemporary art. He asked if she had specific outreach strategies to specific artists to make sure they got this application. Ms. Garcia y Griego agreed.
 - Ms. Graves asked if the gallery downstairs would connect with this project in some way.
 - Ms. Garcia y Griego was sure there were ways to do that.
 - Ms. Wells thought this was interesting. It was something "out there" and being done elsewhere.
 - Mr. Griego agreed. It was an opportunity for Santa Fé to participate among other US cities.
 - Chair Namingha said they wanted to see other New Mexico cities participating.
- Mr. Gorman asked if there was any other way to sweeten the pie and if there were any limitations on size.
 - Ms. Garcia y Griego didn't see any limitations within reason.
 - Mr. Gorman thought about giving them more recognition since some projects might be very temporary.
- Ms. Wells moved to approve the proposal. Mr. Hesse seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Griego reiterated that the key factor was being able to push the artist to think outside the box. The kick off tree was a key factor in that project.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Economic Development Proposal Presentation – Julie Meister

Ms. Meister, public specialist at the Convention Center, shared a proposal for economic development with the Committee. Her work at the Convention Center included public projects; work on poster projects; mayor's awards and others.

Ms. Meister said the temporary storefront art project was happening in San Francisco and had been very successful. It was becoming more popular as vacancies arose. She felt it was a perfect fit for Santa Fé.

She would do a call from both property owners and artists and try to match vacant storefronts with quality foot destinations. She was working with Economic Development staff on it. It would enhance the community just by having displays in vacant windows. Santa Fé was getting a higher vacancy rate and it would be good to address it before tourist season.

Interested property owners could participate by doing applications on line. It would be a 90 day installation but could be removed quickly if the owners rented their space. It would call attention to their property. The call for artists would be to do a project that would increase foot traffic.

It is strictly for downtown installations. They could be interactive; engaging - to make people want to go see it.

The Economic Division liked it so much that they wanted us to start with 4-5. And get them in place before the height of the tourist season. They are funding this project with a \$500 stipend for the artists.

She talked with Simon Brackley from the Chamber and he gave his blessing to it.

Ms. Wells thought it was exciting.

Ms. Meister had the proposals and press releases ready and the funding was there.

Chair Namingha asked her if she wanted AIPP to help make selections.

Ms. Meister said she was leaving it up to the Committee.

Mr. Gorman asked if they would use recommendations from a selection committee to ensure quality. Ms. Meister agreed.

Chair Namingha asked how she would select the display properties.

Ms. Meister said she walked around and contacted some of them. One is where Café de Paris was in Burro Alley. They could have a party there; a reception; a time when the Lensic had an event going on.

Mr. Griego asked if space would be blocked off for the display (interactive comment).

Ms. Meister explained that they would just take over the window.

Mr. Griego asked if a backdrop would have to be installed.

Ms. Meister said that would be up to the artist.

The Committee brain stormed some ideas for interactive content.

Mr. Griego asked if she was looking for approval from the Committee.

Ms. Garcia y Griego clarified that they didn't need formal approval but merely to give feedback.

Ms. Graves asked if the property owner would be part of the jury or if choices would be offered to the owner.

Ms. Meister thought the art would have to be matched with the property owner. They should be offered the choice to agree or not. She just wanted the Committee's feedback as they went along.

The Committee expressed their approval for the project.

Chair Namingha thanked Ms. Meister for the presentation.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Approved by:

Michael Namingha, Chair

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz, Stenographer