



Agenda

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ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Main Post Office, Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 326

120 South Federal Place

505-955-6707

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. July 31, 2012
- V. Fiscal Report
- VI. Report Chair
 - a. Proposed revision to meeting schedule
- VII. Old Business
 - a. "Four Rooms on Siringo" Maintenance/Restoration
 - b. "La Acequia" Maintenance
 - c. Loan Program: Request for Renewals
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Casa Linda Neighborhood Project.
- IX. Project Update
 - a. SFC Leroy Petry Sculpture
 - b. Santa Fe Trails Bus Shelters
 - c. Barrio la Canada
 - d. "Watershed" St. Francis Dr./Zia Rd
- X. Adjourn

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five (5) working days prior to meeting date

SUMMARY INDEX
ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE
September 25, 2012

ITEM	ACTION	PAGE(S)
I. CALL TO ORDER		
II. ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved	1
IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES July 31, 2012	Approved	1
V. FISCAL REPORT	Discussed	2
VI. REPORT FROM CHAIR		
a. Proposed revision to meeting schedule	Approved	2
VIII. OLD BUSINESS		
a. "Four Rooms on Siringo" Maintenance/Restoration	Discussed	2-5
b. "La Acequia" Maintenance	Approved	5-6
c. Loan Program: Request for Renewals	Approved	6
VII. NEW BUSINESS		
a. Casa Linda Neighborhood Project.	Discussed	6
IX. Project Update		
a. SFC Leroy Petry Sculpture	Discussed	7
b. Santa Fe Trails Bus Shelters	Discussed	7
c. Barrio la Canada	Discussed	7
d. "Watershed" St. Francis Dr/Zia Rd	Discussed	7
X. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned at 4:20 pm	8

**MINUTES OF THE
ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE**

September 25, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Arts in Public Places Committee was called to order on the above date by Chair Michael Namingha at approximately 3:30 p.m. in the Main Post Office, Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 326, 120 South Federal Place, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Namingha, Chair
Eric Griego, vice Chair
Cindy Graves (arrived later)
Nat Hesse
Eileen Wells

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Drew McDermott

STAFF PRESENT:

Debra Garcia y Griego

OTHERS PRESENT:

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Garcia y Griego asked that the Minutes be tabled until members could read them and there was no Fiscal Report for this meeting.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 31, 2012- Postponed

V. FISCAL REPORT- There was none.

VI. REPORT FROM CHAIR

a. Proposed Revision to the Meeting Schedule

Chair Namingha proposed that meetings be scheduled every other month.

Ms. Wells moved to revise the meeting schedule to every other month as presented. Mr. Griego seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Graves entered the meeting at this time.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

a. "Four Rooms on Siringo" Maintenance/Restoration Discussed

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she mentioned the major repairs at the last meeting on Four Rooms on Siringo. She said there were original issues with the concrete and the piece has been an ongoing maintenance problem. She said she was contacted by Barbara Hunt who proposed to replace the wall structures with Gabion baskets like the Rail Yard that would be fairly maintenance free.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the existing bench work would be removed and replaced with the Gabion baskets, the tiles would be refurbished and a landscape plan would be developed. The construction company that did the Rail Yard estimated about \$50,000 to replace the Gabion baskets. She said possibly another \$10,000 would be needed for Ms. Hunt's time.

Ms. Graves asked the cost to remove the piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she doesn't have that estimate and wanted the Committee's thoughts before going in that direction. She said there is a lot of concrete to pull out and remove and a lot of landscaping and the cost would be a significant amount of money. She offered to have CIP get estimates if the Committee wanted to look at the cost to pull the concrete out.

Mr. Hesse asked the cost of the original project.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said it was quite a few years back and restoration would probably be more than the original cost. The commission at the time was the largest done by the City and Ms. Hunt is very well known within the public art field as a prolific public artist.

Chair Namingha asked if projects had been pulled before.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the only de-accessioning had been an earthwork by Charlene Peters in Alta Park that was pulled because of security issues. The work wasn't completely de-accessioned because it was filled in and re-landscaped.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the point of major repair work has been reached with some of the collection. This was one of the older pieces and she guessed the amount would be about \$60-\$70,000 because the estimate for \$50,000 was just for the baskets; but that does include pulling out the old. She said additional work and money would be needed to refurbish the tiles and landscaping.

Ms. Graves asked the amount currently in the fund. Ms. Garcia y Griego replied it is slightly less than four hundred thousand dollars.

The Committee discussed the Gabion baskets; mesh enclosures with rock. Ms. Garcia y Griego said this would make the piece look very different but is the same artist and honors the history of the old piece.

Ms. Wells asked if the piece was very visible.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said not from the street. She said the piece is intended as a pedestrian piece but she isn't sure pedestrian traffic is really there and the facility isn't highly visited.

Mr. Griego asked if the concrete (removed) could be utilized as the filler.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the concrete is the root of the problem and she thought that wouldn't have the same aesthetics. She said the concrete is crumbling because it wasn't the right mix of chemicals and there would still be that issue of the rock crumbling.

Mr. Griego said another thought was not to do as large a piece; do the square piece in that style and re-think the landscaping.

Mr. Hesse said the artist wouldn't want her name on the piece if only half of it.

Ms. Graves said the Committee is looking at a piece 25 years old. The program is getting to the age where the initial pieces would need maintenance and the need for a maintenance fund has been discussed. She said this is inevitable and would continue to happen and this case is almost like a case piece of how to deal with the issue.

Ms. Wells said this is a very expensive case piece.

Mr. Griego asked if there is an alternative process; something nice but not top-of-the-line in expense.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said Ms. Hunt put the restoration of the current piece on the table. She said given the issues of the concrete she thought the Committee would still be looking at tearing out the concrete and re-pouring, which is still costly.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said Ms. Hunt put three options on the table: 1) remove the piece completely 2) restore the existing piece or 3) restore for a more long-term, less maintenance intensive way.

Ms. Garcia y Griego noted that Ms. Hunt has stated that the City didn't do the maintenance but Ms. Garcia y Griego said there has been a lot of maintenance and the concrete has fundamental issues.

Mr. Griego said the existing piece is 12 x 18 and Ms. Hunt proposed 24 x 18; he asked if the piece could be cut and that would cut material cost in half.

Chair Namingha asked the original intention of the piece in terms of the collection.

Ms. Garcia y Griego explained the piece was built when Siringo Road facility was constructed and she thought the City saw the space as an opportunity. The project was one of the first pieces in the collection outside of the downtown area and that is still a valid argument; they would be getting rid of one of the larger pieces outside of downtown.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she could get answers so the Committee could have a basis for comparison and get back to them at the next meeting about the questions of the creative re-use of the concrete; doing a smaller piece and the cost of removal.

Mr. Hesse said refurbishing the piece would take away one half to one third of the piece. He said he wasn't a big fan of the piece and a lot of people don't even know it's there.

Mr. Griego asked if they could communicate with the artist what the Committee discussed and that the Committee recognizes the significance of the piece; ask if something could be done in the likeness of the original piece. Ms. Wells added ask if there is room for negotiation.

Ms. Graves said from an artist standpoint she thought that was asking the artist to do another piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said Ms. Hunt is a successful public artist and a savvy businessperson and she could discuss that with her. She said Ms. Hunt had put a lot of effort into the estimate and has done a significant amount of work already for free, to make this work.

Ms. Graves said she wondered what other programs have done on their aging commissions.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the question comes up on the public art network list serve several times a year and everyone has a different approach. She thought the other public art committees have the exact same discussion.

Ms. Graves said a separate fund for maintenance would be ideal.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Committee should keep in mind there is provision to deal with extraordinary circumstances, but the Committee tends to get by with routine. She said the Committee should be sure they talk with the Public Works Committee about their decision and that would be some of the timeliness because it does hold up the Committee's capacity to do new pieces. She thought, unless the Committee, tells her otherwise, they need to take care of what is on the ground first before new things are acquired.

Ms. Graves said the Committee should think about that when they get money each year and set three percent in a special account to have money for maintenance on an ongoing basis.

Ms. Garcia y Griego cautioned the Committee about money that is sitting. She said Staff always has a certain amount of money set-aside for maintenance and the Committee might consider the cash available as "rainy day cash" because of the four or five maintenance issues. She said maintenance might be what the Committee should focus on for the next few years.

Ms. Wells said maintenance could be looked at sometimes not as a disaster, but as an opportunity before maintenance becomes crucial.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said to Ms. Wells point, the Committee has talked about how old pieces could be reinvigorated so the community would feel reinvested. She said this piece will be a very different piece and look different. There could be a rededication and this is an opportunity to do new landscaping more in keeping with what the City now does.

Ms. Graves asked if the artist could incorporate Santa Fe High School students. That would bring the public back into the piece, make it more contemporary, and give another generation ownership.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she thought that was discussed and she would ask the artist. She asked the Committee to e-mail her if there were other questions.

b. "La Acequia" Maintenance

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Committee had seen the pictures of the damage and she has been working with the artists to get an estimate. She said the artists propose three tiers of repairs that range from five to ten thousand dollars. Five thousand dollars would repair the most obvious damage and those which pose the immediate structural issues and damages; eight thousand dollars would also replace the surface damage to the tiles and the \$10,000 would repair all of the damage, replace the tiles and be a basic re-do.

She said the artists did a site visit and have existing tile for the project.

Chair Namingha asked if known when the vandalism occurred.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she didn't know. The park is in and out of police activity and had been quiet for a long time. The piece had early issues with vandalism and in the meantime the neighborhood has re-mobilized and the park is on the list to get video cameras and lighting.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the mid range repair made sense to her of issues that would cause further structural damage and things that would eventually need repair. She said that was in the eight thousand dollar range and given that this is an estimate, to anticipate each of the estimates going up. She recommended the Committee get this project done before the piece has more issues.

Ms. Graves asked if this would have to go before the Commission. Ms. Garcia y Griego replied that the Commission was told about the maintenance issue and would be advised that the Committee is moving forward.

Ms. Graves asked if things would look piecemeal to replace some of the tiles.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said an advantage is that the artists have the tile in stock that was made for the project. She said there could be a slight variation, but the artists' want the piece to look as good as it could.

Mr. Hesse said why not go to the \$10,000 and fix the piece right and let the artists make it what it was; that is only a two thousand dollar difference.

Ms. Wells moved to approve the repair of Las Acequia. Ms. Graves seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

c. Loan Program: Request for Renewals

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the following pieces have expired in the loan program and need to be renewed or removed:

- Cathy Aten's *Renaissance*; the earthenware pyramid at the Convention Center
- Gary Bealls, white straps piece in front of the library
- Jeffrey Gorman's deer at the Convention Center
- Dean Howell's *Slow Time into Space* at Entrada Park
- Dan Namingha, piece in the lobby of the Convention Center
- Fred Prescott's Steer, behind City Hall
- Greg Robertson's, *Visage Passages*
- Rosa Silbert's *Integrity of Diversity*

Ms. Wells moved to approve the renewal of the above-mentioned pieces. Ms. Graves seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Casa Linda Neighborhood Project

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she wants to give the Committee a heads up about a neighborhood driven donation of public art. She was contacted by former Councilor Rosemary Romero who lives in the Casa Linda neighborhood. An artist in the community wants to design and donate a piece for a small traffic circle in the neighborhood and preliminary steps to clear that have been taken with traffic engineering and the community is working with the artist on the design.

IX. Project Update

a. SFC Leroy Petry Sculpture

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Petry sculpture is being cast and bids on construction should go out in the next couple of days. She said Surrounding Studio did a lovely job designing the space with constraints of archaeology, ADA, ancient lighting and irrigation.

She said lighting is up for discussion; Mr. McDermott made a motion to incorporate lighting but she has found there isn't a good source. She said and Parks is having trouble with vandalism of light fixtures that include some public art pieces. She said the final discussions are taking place to decide if lighting is feasible. Part of the problem involves the lack of a good power source and the trenching needed between two sites of archaeological significance.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said solar is part of the discussion but the problem is there would be a nicely lit path to a dark sculpture; as well as the vandalism issue.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said that *Fat Happy* left on Sunday.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she looked at *St. Francis* in place since 1978 and hasn't been waxed or cleaned and she would have that done for 500 dollars.

b. Santa Fe Trails Bus Shelters

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Santa Fe Trails bus shelters are in prototype process. Photos were shown. She said the powder coating would add layers and the holes would be smaller and holes would be punched as opposed to laser.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the biggest shelter has nine panels and adjustments were made for benches and signs and the project hasn't cost anything. The Committee may be asked to pick one design but the hope is to do a mix of the two designs; the more traditional design and the refined basket design were chosen.

c. Barrio la Canada

Ms. Garcia y Griego said Paula Castillo is moving along at Barrio la Canada and the nameplate issue has been resolved. Ms. Castillo hasn't been back in touch so there wasn't additional information.

d. "Watershed" St. Francis Dr/Zia Rd

Ms. Garcia y Griego said Bobby Bezold's piece "Watershed" would be dedicated next Thursday, October 4, at four o'clock at the tunnel and refreshments would follow. Ms. Garcia y Griego said she would attend and it would be fantastic if a member of the Committee could attend to talk, if called upon.

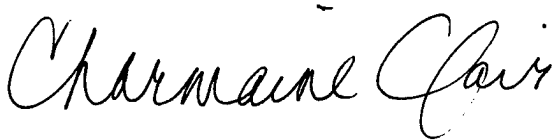
X. ADJOURNMENT

Having finished their business the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Approved by:

Michael Namingha, Chair

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charmaine Clair". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer