

#### ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 29, 2013 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

#### City Councilor's Conference Room, City Hall

200 Lincoln Avenue 505-955-6707

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - a. November 27, 2012
- V. Fiscal Report
- VI. New Business
  - a. Presentation by Creative Santa Fe
  - b. Art on Loan Proposal: "Chasing Rainbow" by Rosa Silbert
  - c. Approval of 2013 Meeting Schedule
- VII. Old Business
  - a. Four Rooms on Siringo
- VIII. Project Update
  - a. SFC Leroy Petry Sculpture
  - b. Barrio la Canada
- IX. Other Business
- X. Adjourn

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## MINUTES OF THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE

#### January 29, 2013

#### 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 3:00 p.m. in the City Councilor's Conference Room, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Ave., Santa Fe, New Mexico.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Michael Namingha, Chair Drew McDermott Eric Griego, Vice Chair Cindy Graves

#### **MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Eileen Wells Nat Hesse

#### STAFF PRESENT:

Debra Garcia y Griego

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Creative Santa Fe presentation was postponed until the February meeting. Barrio la Canada was removed and information will be e-mailed to members.

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

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 27, 2012

Mr. McDermott moved to approve the November 27, 2012 minutes as presented. Mr. Griego seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

#### V. FISCAL REPORT

Ms. Garcia y Griego noted that the report is in the Committee's packet. She said the issue with the salary (not taken from the line item) would be resolved by the next meeting.

She said the lap top used for projecting images burned out and a cost share with other business units would be done and money would be moved.

Ms. Graves asked if under Salaries, there were savings from the vacancies. Ms. Garcia y Griego replied the split was only 20 percent of the Director's salary and is minor.

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Presentation by Creative Santa Fe-Postponed until February
- b. Art on Loan Proposal: "Chasing Rainbow" by Rosa Silbert

Ms. Garcia y Griego said Ms. Silbert is one of their favorite artists who has loaned three pieces for Salvador Perez. Ms. Silbert pulled a damaged piece and has a proposal for another piece in the same location. The new piece is made of horseshoes and would be mounted on the same wall and run lengthwise.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said there were always some concerns on maintenance and vandalism of Ms. Silbert's work but Ms. Silbert has been quick to take care of problems when they occur.

Ms. Graves moved to accept the "Chasing Rainbow" proposal. Mr. Griego seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

c. Approval of 2013 Meeting Schedule

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the packet has the schedule she submitted. The last part of 2012 the Committee met every other month and the new schedule goes back to a monthly schedule.

Ms. Graves noted a couple of the meetings she wouldn't be available. She asked if the meeting time could be changed to four instead of three o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Griego agreed the change would be better for him too.

Ms. Graves moved to approve the 2013 schedule and time change as amended. Mr. McDermott seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

#### **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

a. "Four Rooms on Siringo"

Chair Namingha asked members if members had an opportunity to look at the piece.

Mr. Griego said he passed by the piece but didn't get close.

The Committee discussed the art: the piece was closer to the street than thought; looks isolated; and is in terrible shape and with weather fluctuation would probably continue to deteriorate.

Ms. Garcia y Griego explained that at the last meeting the Committee was directed to look at the feasibility of repairing the existing piece. She said four options were on the table 1) to repair the existing piece 2) to pull the benches and replace 3) to demolish and 4) to contract with the artist for a new piece.

She said she was given the direction to pursue repair. She contacted a new person in the Facilities Division who told her that he said in 2004 that the piece should go.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the comment prompted her to pull the project file and she found that the project has always been problematic. CIP stated in October, 1999 that the problem was how the wall was initially constructed. The note recommended a short term solution but stated that the best long-term solution is to demolish the wall and rebuild.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the piece was dedicated in November 1996 and in October repairs had to be made to the concrete floor sections. She found four pages that documents communication between the Arts Commission, the artist, the Parks Department, Transit and CIP and other departments.

She said the first determination was in 1999, that the piece should be pulled out. The original RFP stated that the piece "should have lasting quality of workmanship and the materials should be a minimum of 20 years." She said a whole line of communication follows about how things never happened the way it should have.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she found it interesting that \$17,000 was set aside when the concept was approved and by the time the RFP went out the amount was up to 58,230 dollars.

She explained that up to \$300 was allotted for three artists to do maquettes but the committee chose Ms. Silbert and paid her \$900 to develop a proposal. The proposal took from November of 1995 until March of 1996 and included three trips to Santa Fe to meet with community members.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said Ms. Silbert proposed a base budget of \$58,150 but the piece required additional funds and resources that included \$8,000 for City plantings and irrigation as well as earth moving that was to be completed by the City.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said as recently as 2000, planting was discussed. She said what started as a \$17,000 project has ended up a cost to the City of almost 79,364 dollars.

Ms. Graves asked if the communication stopped in 2004.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she found a memo dated July 25, 2005 that indicates "broken tile, grout, and old sealer was removed and new tiles were installed and sealed." She said the next thing she has is Ms. Silbert's July communication asking that her name be removed from the piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said a City crew patched the concrete and stated in February, 2004 as "only a short term fix." She said the concrete was patched, tile was put on top and the piece was resealed. She said the issue isn't just about the tile; there have been issues with the concrete sidewalks. She and Chair Namingha noted that the sidewalks are okay but cracking which has been an issue since day one.

Chair Namingha said that most of the inlay work has popped off and Ms. Garcia y Griego added that the transit shelter has graffiti and communication between Transit and the artist has occurred about things that were added.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the artist was first to call the area a "park" (in her proposal) and in the artist's mind everything there was an Earth Work.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the issue is substandard concrete was used to make the underlying benches and is why they are falling apart. The artist's contractor poured the concrete and did the sidewalk work. She said it appears a lot of the companies are now out of business.

Ms. Garcia y Griego added the artist was concerned because the irrigation system was spraying the tiles, but the system design is flawed and makes it impossible to avoid water hitting the tile.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she was tasked with a notion to fix what is there and replace with tiles and that isn't feasible and hasn't been since 1999.

Mr. Griego said it doesn't make an argument to fix the piece or put more money into the wall and in his opinion the piece should be demolished and they should move on.

Ms. Graves said if anything is done it should be a new piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the smallest option is to fix but that was done time and again. The other end of the spectrum is to tear out the piece and have the artist do a new piece. She said from a procurement standpoint the Committee would have to go out again.

She said that leaves the two middle ground options: the artist's idea is gabion baskets and all agree the concrete isn't that good.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she asked the City Attorney if the guidelines allow money for re-landscape if the piece is demolished, but hasn't received a call back. She said they would have to work closely with Public Works on how the piece is pulled out and something would have to be done with the site.

Chair Namingha asked if the bus shelter would be kept.

Ms. Garcia y Griego thought everything would have to be torn out. She said the artist viewed everything as a piece of artwork and stated that in her proposal.

Ms. Graves asked the cost to get rid of the art piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the next option would take more effort to get a good sense of the costs to demolish the piece and/or rework what is there.

Ms. Graves said the contract states a 20 year life span. She asked if there is legal ramification if they don't address something being done to the piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego read the contract: "the agreement specifies that the City shall make the final decision whether, and to what extent, the work shall be repaired."

She said she understood the RFP becomes an addendum to the contract and everything in the RFP becomes a part of the contract. She said there are four points about material specifications; "permanence, high-quality structural and surface soundness, avoidance of excessive maintenance and repair costs, resistance to theft vandalism and weathering and lasting quality of workmanship and materials to be a minimum of 20 years." She said all could be argued were not met on the part of the artist.

Ms. Graves said this would be a good reference for the future of the program's legal responsibility to keep a piece, if not working. She said the fact that the artist took her name off the piece, says the artist doesn't claim ownership.

Ms. Garcia y Griego confirmed the Committee's direction for her is to 1) get rough costs and 2) get clarity on how the City could pay to rejuvenate the site.

Mr. McDermott asked if the goal was to get rid of decrepit public art and not replace with new art. He said the AIPP mandate is public art and if the pieces are too expensive to repair, why not put out an RFP for a new piece. He agreed the piece is too expensive to repair but thought it a lost opportunity to just take out a piece of public art.

Ms. Graves added particularly when money would have to be spent to do something to the site. She said one of her concerns is that the space is large. Mr. Griego suggested RFP specifications to fill the entire space.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the area is part of a City facility and the outreach element was to include students from Nava and Santa Fe High Schools. Ultimately the project was carried out with only Santa Fe High students.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said also great lengths were made to reach out to the surrounding community through a meeting with the artist. The meeting was advertised in several papers and mailings in surrounding areas and the sign in list had only six names.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said many of the people on the selection committee are in town. She offered to call them and ask about the piece and she would start looking at costs.

Ms. Graves suggested temporary pieces could be put in.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the logical thing was to discuss the things wrong with the project; no pedestrian traffic, no one hangs out there; and that the audience is more vehicular and the piece should be more visible. She said they could debrief on things that have come up through the process and draft the flip side of what they are looking for.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the proposals came in on the 16th of October and the committee met on the 24th and on the 20th a communication came from Rick Fisher. She said Mr. Fisher was concerned about how the budget was laid out and noted things to consider when earthworks is done. She said he identified a lot of concerns that were on the mark.

She said she wasn't sure why Mr. Fisher submitted the communication and it wasn't included in the timeline.

Mr. McDermott asked for a copy of Mr. Fisher's communication.

Ms. Graves said this is a nice case study. She said the issue could come up again and the Committee should figure out how to address the situation in the future.

Chair Namingha asked if anything was in place for review; how pieces come to their attention.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said for a long time she has said at the least, an intern should do an assessment on all of the art. She said Parks is good about reporting issues and some artists call, but the issue is more a manpower issue.

#### IX. PROJECT UPDATE

a. SFC Leroy Petry Sculpture

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the sculpture is done and is on hold because of the weather, but the contractors work when they can. She planned to meet the following day with Mayor Coss to discuss dedication plans; there are a couple of different ideas. Sandra Donner, the architect, would go with her to the meeting.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she heard everything from March to May and would let the Committee know.

Ms. Graves said St. Francis looked good and was cleaned up. Ms. Garcia y Griego replied the piece would need more attention at some point and would be given a place of its own.

#### X. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Garcia y Griego said there will be a fund-raising exhibit called Silver to celebrate the 25th anniversary on February 8<sup>th</sup> in the Community Gallery. She said the concept was push panel and all of the pieces would be 25 cm x 25 cm and priced at 25 dollars and artists would be anonymous.

Ms. Graves asked the status of Staff.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she is still in the process of hiring the admin assistant. An offer was made to one candidate who wasn't able to make it work and another qualified candidate would be asked.

She said the Director position closed on December 19, 2012 and interested parties are referred to Jim Luttjohann.

#### XI. ADJOURNMENT

Having finished their business the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Approved by:

Michael Namingha, Chair

Submitted by:

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer