

# Agenda

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## ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 28, 2013

4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

City Councilors' Conference Room

200 Lincoln Avenue

505-955-6707

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Presentations
  - a. El Parque/DeVargas Park by Creative Santa Fe
  - b. SWAN (Southwest Activity Node) Park—Public Art Opportunities by Surroundings Studio
- V. Approval of Minutes
  - a. March 26, 2013
- VI. Fiscal Report
- VII. Project Update
  - a. SFC Leroy Petry Sculpture
  - b. Seven Archangels
  - c. Barrio la Canada
- VIII. Other Business
- IX. Adjourn

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

**May 28, 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 4:00 p.m. in the City Councilor's Conference Room, City Hall, 100 Lincoln Ave Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Michael Namingha, Chair  
Cindy Graves  
Eric Griego, Vice Chair  
Nat Hesse

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Eileen Wells (excused)  
Drew McDermott

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Debra Garcia y Griego

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chrissie Scarpetti, Surroundings Studios  
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda Item IV b. was moved first on the agenda.

The agenda was approved by consensus.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS (Revised Agenda Order)**

b. SWAN (Southwest Activity Node) Park-Surroundings Studio Public Art Opportunities

Ms. Scarpetti said she represented Surroundings, the landscape architects who are doing a schematic design for a new park on the South side of town called the Southwest Activity Node Park (SWAN.) The name of the Park will most likely change according to the City Project Manager, Mary McDonald.

Ms. Scarpetti said she met several weeks ago with Ms. Garcia y Griego to discuss possibilities. The Park is planned to be built in three phases and she would show Phase one today. The site is 40 acres with a multipurpose artificial turf field, native turf lawn, picnic shelter, basketball court and parking.

Ms. Scarpetti said the play area seems the most opportunity for public art. The intended use is envisioned as inclusive for children with physical, mental and/or social disabilities as well as their parents, caretakers and well bodied children to be able to play with equal accessibility. The perimeter is fenced and has three access/gateways for parents control over children. The playground would have some off-the-shelf play features but also the opportunity to use recycled materials in a sculptural play area like a spiral mound or a maze.

She said the gateway features have the same possibility for public art and could be sculptural with vines or not. She said the gateway could be incorporated with fencing along the front façade of the play area and be expressive and playful and possibly tie the two elements together.

She said the third item discussed was a sculptural play element such as a mound or maize that could be interpreted by an artist.

Ms. Graves asked about the usage of the park. Ms. Scarpetti said the intent is a full build out regional park. She said the Tierra Contenta area is underserviced as far as parks. Ragle Park and the MRC are other regional parks.

Ms. Scarpetti said in the first phase this park would be similar to Ragle Park. There is a perimeter path that could be used for jogging and an area intended for pedestrian use, as well as a future pedestrian connection to the Chamisa Trail.

Mr. Namingha asked if bike racks could somehow be included.

Mr. Griego said an art piece in the loan program could be used at the entrance and the pad could be put in place now.

Ms. Scarpetti said a permanent art piece that somehow incorporates signage was an idea.

Ms. Graves said where the parking area is would be where everyone goes. She said the signage and the art piece would have to be big on the major thorough fare. She thought it would be better on the side where people could see it.

Mr. Griego asked if there is an allocated budget for the piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she wanted to have Surroundings present to the Committee to give them a sense of the project. They could then discuss ideas and budget, if interested.

She said areas the Committee could partner with the project budget and match funds could be the bike racks or the entryway feature; fencing would also be a good opportunity to leverage some of the project budget. She said when talking about the entryway piece, the cost is \$180,000-\$200,000, which is significant and neither the project, nor the AIPP program has at this point.

The Committee discussed the entryway and pieces for the gateways.

Ms. Scarpetti said it would be good to have something creative in the gateway or in the playground area.

Ms. Garcia y Griego explained she became involved when Ms. McDonald contacted her about a water tank. She said they discussed painting the tank as a mural piece and from a staff standpoint, wasn't compelling and would set them up for long-term maintenance issues.

She met with Ms. McDonald and they talked about other ideas. The shade structures were discussed as a possibility, but they agreed could be bought off the shelf inexpensively. She has interest in artist designed playgrounds, but the Committee has discussed the issues of liability.

Ms. Scarpetti said play features with sculptural elements are generally done by a designer/manufacturer that creates the product and carries the liability. She said if an artist designed the piece, they would have to stay within the safety guidelines and have no moving parts or sharp edges and would have to adhere to fall heights, etc. She said parameters would need to be set to ensure the artist met the safety guidelines.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Park has been designed to be multi sensory, which is a big movement in playgrounds. The diagram shows a design to return-to-nature based play and there is a sense of working at the macro, but also the micro level for children.

She said in thinking about the fence and what was done by Aaron Craig on Botolph Road and Susan Link on Alameda; both pieces have a broad view and an up-close view.

Ms. Scarpetti said that the gateway threshold is the focal centralized activity place is great and it is next to the picnic structure and the large cottonwood tree. That would carry through pedestrian and possibly jogging traffic and be an active area.

Ms. Graves said with runoff, there would be options and shouldn't be hard to grow trees. She has been reading about the High Line Project in New York which incorporates a lot of art pieces and is friendly to an all age group audience and uses recycled materials. She suggested the Committee look at something similar, because of the linear park idea and to create an environment that meanders from one thing to another and incorporates the art.

Mr. Griego liked the mound idea. He said there is potential for art within the play area that could be sculpted; a simple maze with different heights and paths, etc. Ms. Scarpetti added there is a "challenge" course basically meant for toddlers that could have something sculptural.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Committee appears interested. She thought it would be worth meeting with Ms. McDonald and Ms. Scarpetti again.

Ms. Scarpetti said construction would start in November of this year and complete in 2014 by mid to late summer.

Ms. Graves said the timelines would need to be discussed. She said for a public art project there is the RFP to go out and proposals, etc. and multi tiered decision-making; and it is already June.

Ms. Scarpetti said there might be grant money from inclusive play organizations. She thanked everyone for their time.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she would look at the High Line Project and get the information together and the Committee could meet in June.

#### **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 26, 2013**

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**Mr. Griego moved to approve the March 26, 2013 minutes as amended. Mr. Hesse seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

#### **VI. FISCAL REPORT**

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Fiscal Report has not changed, although she moved travel money around. She was invited to go the Executive Leadership Forum for AFTA (Americans for the Arts) in September.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said to interpret, if members had been reading about the City's financial situation: one issue was the CIP fund. She said it appears the City's bonding capacity could be severely impacted until to 2018 or so, because of the Debt Service and the shortfall of Revenue to Expenses. There were measures taken to fix the \$3 million shortfall in the fund, but there are still issues with the City Debt Service and the Finance Department would develop a debt service plan.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the City may be entering another phase where bonds would not be done as projected and that would impact the AIPP project money. She wanted the Committee to be aware of that when making decisions about where to spend money.

Mr. Hesse asked if that would impact hiring someone in Ms. Garcia y Griego's previous position.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the job description has been revised and a request to advertise was issued, but she is not sure the status since the City Manager left. She said there are interest at all levels for the position to be filled. She hoped the revised job description would capture everything the position would end up doing.

## **VII. PROJECT UPDATE**

### **a. SFC Leroy Petry Sculpture**

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the unveiling is scheduled Monday, June 24 at 10 a.m. and the invitations are still out regarding national participation. The Boys and Girls Club has planned a nice reception afterwards and local restaurants would donate breakfast burritos and a local band would play. A group of veterans on motorcycles would be escorts.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the install is scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> and there has been a lot of community involvement. Roger Lambrow donated crane service and Southwest Traffic Control has donated their services.

Mr. Hesse asked if the problem was solved on how to raise the statue. Ms. Garcia y Griego said that was resolved with an additional pin length and a "pedestal" flagstone ring. She thought that looks even better.

### **b. Seven Archangels**

Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Committee approved Jose Lucero to work on the archangels. Facilities met with Mr. Lucero on how the pieces would be re-anchored into the ground. They gave him suggestions on products to use and rods inside the trees. Mr. Lucero is working on the pieces and once completed they would be returned to the location they came from.

She said the Committee should continue to get the message out that the process will extend the life of the pieces, but the pieces would not be permanent.

### **c. Barrio la Canada**

Ms. Garcia y Griego the project is moving along and Paula Castillo would start work in June. Most of the materials are in and the pieces that needed fabricating have been done. Engineering will get drawings to Ms. Castillo for how the pieces would be attached.

She said at the last meeting the Committee approved Fear Collector and another loan from William and Joseph. She and Mr. Hesse met with the artist who agreed to make the suggested changes, however the Arts Commission thought even with the changes, the piece would not be safe. The other piece is scheduled to go to the Convention and Visitor's Center.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said a humorous solution was brought forward by Axle on a stump that disappeared. A proposal was submitted with a sign that said: "Exhibit temporarily off display," but the motion to approve failed for lack of a second.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she sent an encouraging letter to Axle Contemporary.

Ms. Graves asked about the Grygutis piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said it is not much further, except that Facilities said they would help remove the piece. They suggested put that be on a list of future projects and landscaping would be needed. She thought Facilities is anxious to see the piece removed.

She said the Committee was interested in doing another project, however cost would be prohibitive by the time the piece is removed and the area re-landscaped and a new piece commissioned. She said that would be a large ticket item and adjacent to areas where there is already public art.

Ms. Graves said the project could be a good case study of what to do when that happens.

Mr. Hesse asked if the intern could be given instruction to research the information. Ms. Garcia y Griego said she has done that.

Ms. Graves said costs are involved and it is not easily done and there is not much in the guidelines about de-accessioning. She went on the Registrar's Committee Listserv and there are 2 to 3 inquiries a week regarding de-accessioning.

#### **IV. PRESENTATIONS (continued) (Revised Agenda Order)**

##### **a. El Parque/DeVargas Park by Creative Santa Fe (Revised Agenda Order)**

Mr. Ryan Brobrick said he represented Surroundings Studios and would present the progress on the three images commissioned. The images are taken from the ground and looks at built progress in DeVargas Park, as well as proposed ideas. He passed around two images and said an aerial would come later.

Ms. Garcia y Griego explained that Creative Santa Fe approached Surroundings and the City about the issue of connectivity between Guadalupe and downtown. A big event is planned on June 21 in the park with a rodeo parade led by skateboarders and a light project, etc.

She said the City contracted Creative Santa Fe through the Trails and Parks Fund who contracted with Surroundings to do renderings that show construction details and public art opportunities.

The Committee discussed the renderings.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said this is informational; she wanted the Committee to be informed, especially since some ideas will involve public art. The Park would open on the 21<sup>st</sup> and a skate board park, Ramada and some trail work has been done. The mission is to show the possibilities with the renderings and make them available for public comment at the event.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she is managing the contract and has asked that the City get a report and a copy of the public comments. She wanted the Committee to be aware of the discussion, if asked.

Ms. Graves was concerned about the usability for pedestrian traffic. She said if use is geared toward skateboarders that could intimidate some people. She has seen that downtown and there are often comments that it is not tourist friendly.

Chair Namingha added there was also an issue of people brought from outside, for jobs.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said regarding Ms. Graves comment about the multimodal use, particularly, the skate board use; the intent is to help activate the area and have people be less afraid and to be more conducive to businesses. That is a corridor for businesses and they are trying to encourage retail and restaurant usage and if people feel uncomfortable, they wouldn't go to the area.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she thought Creative Santa Fe received a lot of support from merchants, particularly on the Guadalupe side. Ms. Graves added the parking is horrible parking and you *have* to use a pedestrian walkway to get there.

#### **VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

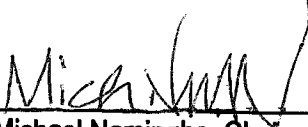
Ms. Garcia y Griego said the Committee should plan a tentative June meeting.

She said that Rachel, the Princeton intern would arrive in July and be here for eight weeks. In addition there would be two interns coming through a UNESCO program from China: Zoe and Zimme. She said she currently has Zoe working on international and thought she would enjoy the research on the Highline Project.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

*Having finished their business the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.*

Approved by:

  
Michael Namingha, Chair

Submitted by:

*Charmaine Clair*

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer