



# Agenda

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DATE 3/18/15 TIME 10:59am

SERVED BY Anna Blyth

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## ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 26, 2015  
City Councilors' Conference Room  
200 Lincoln Avenue  
505-955-6707  
5:00 PM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - a) August 13, 2013
- V. Introductions
- VI. Reports and Updates
  - a) Orientation Packets: committee list, meeting dates, ordinance, Arts Commission Overview, Arts, Culture, and Creativity Agenda
  - b) Overview of the Art in Places Program
    - a) Art on Loan Program & Current Loan Brochure
    - b) Current Permanent Art in Public Places Collection
    - c) Current Art in Public Places Projects
    - d) April Meeting
- VII. Adjourn

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**CITY OF SANTA FE**  
**ART IN PUBLIC PLACES**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015**

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**MEETING MINUTES  
FOR THE  
CITY OF SANTA FE  
ART IN PUBLIC PLACES**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Art In Public Places was called to order on this date at approximately 5:00 p.m. at the City Councilor's Conference Room, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

**Members Present**

Gabe Gomez, Chair  
Matthew Chase-Daniel  
Henry Muchmore  
Michael Namingha  
Brian Vallo

**Members Absent**

There are two vacant positions.

**Staff Present**

Anna Blyth, Program Planner  
Debra Garcia y Griego, Director

**Others Present**

Elizabeth Martin recorder, for Charmaine Clair

**III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Mr. Chase-Daniel to approve the agenda as published. Mr. Muchmore seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.**

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES- August 13, 2013**

**Mr. Namingha moved to approve the minutes of August, 2013 as presented. Mr. Chase-Daniel seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.**

## **V. INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Gomez introduced himself. He said he has been a member of the Arts Commission going on his third year. He asked that everyone introduce themselves and provide some of their background.

Mr. Namingha said he has been on the Arts Commission for six years and chaired the Art in Public Places (AIPP) for three years. He said the Committee had been struggling with their focus and is now getting back on track.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said she is the Executive Director of the Santa Fe Arts Commission and has been with them for 14 years. She is looking forward to getting the work going again. She said the Committee has not been as active as it should have been, but they now have money and need to spend it. She added that there are still two vacancies and at least two more people will join the committee.

Mr. Vallo said he is from Acoma Pueblo and lives in Santa Fe and is the Director of the Indian Arts Research Center at SAR (School for Advanced Research). He thanked them for the invitation to participate. He said he is looking forward to participating and familiarizing himself with the initiatives of this body.

Mr. Chase-Daniel said he is glad to be on the Committee. He and a friend run a mobile gallery, Axle Contemporary and they do shows in the gallery as well as the public. He is an artist and that is part of his interest in the Committee.

Ms. Blyth said she is the Program Planner with the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission. She said this is exciting for her to join the AIPP in their Committee work. She works with the Public Art Program as well as the Art Grants Program at the Arts Commission. She thanked everyone for submitting information and said she looks forward to working with them.

Mr. Muchmore said he co-owns Art Anglers, an art transportation and installation service in town that he has been doing for the last 15 years. He was born and raised in Santa Fe. He said this is the first time he has been involved in a committee such as this, and is looking forward to it. He thanked everyone for the opportunity.

Chair Gomez said in the packet there is information on some of the projects that are currently in place and some projects on which decisions are needed. He explained that today is mostly so members could get their bearings on what the Committee does and how they do their work. He said in some ways the program is being restarted and as Ms. Garcia y Griego mentioned, there are a couple of vacancies. He said another candidate will be reviewed in the next Arts Commission meeting and can hopefully join the Committee and they will also look to members for recommendations.

He said the first order of business will be to create a strategic plan looking at the entire scope of the project; what it has been, what has not worked, opportunities to improve and opportunities to do something different. He said there is funding available that needs to be spent immediately and also they will look at what *public* art means.

Chair Gomez said the Committee will look at what is practical and can be done to make the most impact and change with the funding, resources, connections and networks that are available. The members will be asked to review some materials on their own.

He explained that a typical meeting will run about an hour and if additional planning meetings, etc. are needed the Committee will schedule far in advance to try to accommodate everyone's schedule.

## **VI. REPORTS AND UPDATES**

- a) Orientation Packets: committee list, meeting dates, ordinance, Arts Commission Overview, Arts, Culture, and Creativity Agenda (Exhibit 1)

Ms. Blyth reviewed the packets. She noted the list of current Art in Public Places members and their contact information and that there are two vacancies. The second part of the packet contains the future meeting dates for 2015, scheduled on the third Thursday of each month beginning at 5 p.m. She said October is still *to be determined* due to the Arts Commission Mayor's Awards and a decision will be made whether to hold an October meeting or have an alternative date.

She asked that members review the ordinance included in the packet and invited them to ask questions. She said the ordinance explains how the Committee came about and gives definitions and information about public art implementation.

Ms. Blyth said she would spend more time on the Santa Fe Arts Commission Arts, Culture and Creativity Agenda. She explained that the Commission underwent a strategic planning process and compiled over a year of work with arts organizations and community artists. She said the Arts, Culture and Creativity Agenda was unveiled to the community on the fifth of March.

She said she feels that new language is being used to talk about what the Arts Commission does and instead of: "*we are an agency that informs city policy as it relates to the arts in Santa Fe*"; the concept was that the Commission offered programming; arts grants, a public art program, community gallery/sister cities programs.

Ms. Blyth said there was an aspect that was transactional and the idea is that the Commission could be transformational, collaborative and engaging in the community. She said more than a piece of art or a grant for arts programming; it could be a more interrelated community concept. She said the words that jumped out in the planning process were: *catalyst, convener and collaborator*. She thought that language could be taken forward with AIPP's work for public arts in Santa Fe.

She said also in the strategic planning the Commission defined their mission, vision and values. She said within those values, the AIPP and their work through public art will also be informed.

Ms. Blyth said the Commission came up with several policies, plans, opportunities and initiatives to implement the Creativity Agenda and there were areas where the AIPP crossed several initiatives. They include:

- Affecting arts education through possibly reinstating a community youth mural program.

- Opportunities for artists; how artists can make a living and participate in the Public Art Program in Santa Fe, especially as it relates to the Arts Commission. The Commission is interested in how to promote calls for artists; ways that Santa Fe artists can know about the work of the AIPP to be sure the calls for artists are answered and the local artists' participation response is maximized.
- The institution of public art micro-grants for artists working in a community or a neighborhood.
- A pilot purchase program was discussed as a way to directly impact Santa Fe economically by purchasing art from local artists and local galleries.
- Examining the current art best practices by assessing the community needs and developing action recommendations to develop a more dynamic Public Art Program in Santa Fe.

Ms. Blyth said the strategic planning process has been a great jumping off point for this work. She invited members to contact her if they have further ideas or comments around the creativity agenda.

b) Overview of the Art in Places Program (Exhibit 2)

Ms. Blyth said the Arts Commission has celebrated 25 years and the Art in Public Places was established in 1985. She said Santa Fe has a significant art collection of over 73 pieces and the members would see the evolution of the Art in Public Places Program.

She said the goals enliven the visual landscape and reflect Santa Fe's historical and cultural context, while also being present in the current vitality of Santa Fe. The hope is to increase community involvement in the arts and broaden the recognition of Santa Fe as an arts center. She said AIPP can be part of "the Santa Fe brand" and foster economic development.

Ms. Blyth explained that the city designated 1% of the cost of capital improvement construction projects (CIP) when the program was created to go toward public art projects. The amount was increased to 2% under Mayor Delgado.

She said as the staff liaison for the Public Arts Program, she has noted the importance of the AIPP Committee. Many things will come through the Committee for further recommendations to the Arts Commission or higher governing bodies. She explained the process. When there is a public art project there is a call for artists and a selection committee is designated, if an artist is selected, the recommendations will come to the Committee for their approval and recommendations and is then forwarded through the proper channels. Upon approval of the artist, the Arts Commission enters into a professional services contract with the artist for the implementation of their contract.

c) (incorrectly numbered (a)) Art on Loan Program & Current Loan Brochure (Exhibit 3)

Ms. Blyth said the Art on Loan Program enables artists or galleries representing the artists, to loan pieces of artwork to the Arts Commission. The Commission places the pieces on various properties throughout the community. A typical loan is for one year with an opportunity to renew and art work can be found on West Alameda, Genoveva Chavez Center and the Santa Fe Community Convention Center, etc. The program has been in place since 2003 and is a unique partnership with the Arts Commission. She said many well-known and emerging artists have participated.

Ms. Blyth said that the Art on Loan Program has had both opportunities and challenges that the committee will get into in the planning process. She said when there is an art on loan in the selection process; there is a constant ongoing deadline. The Committee meeting agenda might have recommendations of an artist or gallery who wants to submit.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said that the AIPP within the Arts Commission is actually 30 years older and started two years before the Arts Commission. The city accepted donations of pieces into public art as early as 1977 and within the formalized municipal public art programs; Santa Fe has one of the older programs in the country.

She said the slide show is an interesting example of how the program was started with donations in 1977 and progressed to the current day; however the program is not in keeping with current public art trends. She said that is due in some part to funding and because of some conditions and the notion of permanence in capital outlay. She said public art has become more dynamic in terms of temporal works; works not in a fixed media. One artist she talked to told her about a piece he did that is smell.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said it is a timely discussion to look at trends and the ordinance and how things might be done differently. She said the city passes a bond once every two years and unique is that the program gets 2% off of the full bond. She said in most public art programs if building a library, one percent goes to a piece that is in that library.

She said the most recent bond was for \$360,000 and covers two years. She said up to 20% can be for administrative cost and a portion of her and Ms. Blyth's salaries come out of the Public Art Program. She said a significant amount of time cannot be dedicated to the Public Art Program and one thing they are looking at is how to bring the program up to speed and increase staffing efficiencies. She said the Committee will discuss that more in strategic planning.

d) Current Permanent Art in Public Places Collections

Ms. Garcia y Griego began the review of the slide show and the current pieces in the Public Art Program.

e) Current Permanent Art in Public Places Projects (Exhibit 4)

- The Acequia Trail Project: The city has held public input meetings, hearings and environmental clearances, etc. about how a bike rider, pedestrian, roller blader/skater, etc. could get from the north side of the road to the south side of the Railyard on Baca Street. An underpass was decided on and a team of artists were put together to work with the city on the project. The project has been ongoing for 9 years and the city finally received federal highway dollars to make the underpass happen. In the last 9 months the city has gone from conceptual drawings to construction drawings that are due on Tuesday.

The cost to construct came in for about \$800-900k (thousand). The artists were asked to scale back and they did so in a way that kept their vision intact. The last design for construction is down to about \$134k with a skylight in the underpass rather than lighting. The design is awaiting approval, but has only a small chance the underpass will be constructed.

Ms. Garcia said the landscaping will change quite a bit so that a person would not go from the open expanse of the Railyard into a tunnel and then up. Also drainage was a big issue among many other factors. She said it is more about constructability, because St. Francis Drive cannot be shut down for months and construction will have to be accomplished in the evening hours.

- The Santa Fe Trails Downtown Transit Shelter: the tin relief-style bus shelters can be seen throughout the community and the idea is to take that tin-work to “brand” the downtown transit center. Kimberly Polis was the original artist and she was reengaged and tasked to reconfigure the bench designs for the transit center, as well as design a possible wall feature.

Ms. Blyth said she would have more information in future meetings.

- The Airport Road Gateway Project is a future project that the Committee will be asked to help on with the placement for artwork, possible thematic ideas and the selection of a review committee that will do a call for artists.

Ms. Blyth pointed out this is another opportunity to reengage that area of town that has a large population of Santa Fe youth (44%) that live in the area.

- SWAN (South West Activity Node) Park is also on the horizon and the Committee will probably be asked to participate. The park is currently in Phase I and would be going to Phase II.

Chair Gomez asked if there were any questions. He said the history is long and there is a lot of opportunity to reevaluate the framework. The Committee will look at what other places have done with public art and get a grasp of current trends not only of public art, but of funding and what permanency means.

He said members can expect emails about materials to review. He said a few of the projects have really involved the community; overpasses, pedestrian areas, etc. and being responsive to what people think is key. The Committee will want to start soon to look at how to engage the public in conversation and is important to develop a system in which they can communicate. The Committee's job is to make sense of all of that and be a centerpiece for that conversation.

#### f) April Meeting

Chair Gomez said the next Arts Commission meeting is on Monday, April 13 at 5 p.m. and the chair of the Commission would like the AIPP members to attend. He said a reminder would be sent to members and it would be great if they can attend; also to let him know if they can or cannot make the meeting. The meeting is important because the Committee is working with the Arts Commission to review policies that are in place and in addition an application has been brought forward for Kaitlin Peer that will be reviewed at the meeting.

Chair Gomez asked members to look at their networks to fill the vacancies. He said the Committee is looking for as much diversity as possible. He said the Mayor has a lot of great ideas and there are a lot of wonderful things happening in the city and the Committee wants to be a part of that.



Mr. Chase-Daniel said it was mentioned that a lot of money has to be spent quickly. He asked if there was money allocated for certain big projects, like the underpass or the Southside Library, but money is also still allocated to the program in general.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said all of the allocations are done by this Committee and they are currently working with allocations made previously.

Mr. Chase-Daniel asked when the percentage changed from 1% to 2%; if the 1% had to go to the project being built. He asked if the 2% funding is just for Art in Public Places.

Ms. Garcia y Griego explained it is an integrated project opposed to a standalone piece. She thought both SWAN Park and Airport Road would meet the threshold for integration. She confirmed that money would be allocated for infrastructure and to pay the artists for their work. She said there is a 2012 and a 2014 bond and possibly money that remains from the 2010 bond. She is working with the county to get the exact amount available and the timeline, because bonds have to be spent within a certain period of time.

She said she did allude to pieces that the Committee will need to look at in her presentation. One piece was decommissioned that had a long history of poor construction and many issues. The Committee will have to look at removing the piece and restoring the site. She said she also hopes that the Committee can find an opportunity to put something there rather than not replace the piece.

Ms. Garcia y Griego suggested to the Chair Gomez that members be given a clearer vision of what is "in the hopper" at the next meeting. She asked if the chair would like for her and Ms. Blyth to send a list of names of people who have already submitted applications, so they could avoid contacting someone twice. She said at that time they could also enlighten the members about why a person would be a good fit.

Chair Gomez said Ms. Peer's work is centered on what he envisions the Committee doing; using public spaces.

Ms. Blyth said as homework, the members should think about their encounters with public art; not necessarily just in New Mexico. She asked them to report on a project they found impactful and talk about what inspired them about the project; what was innovative or different and why it was meaningful. She said this will help them think about the types of things that are motivating and exciting in regard to taking the Public Art Program to its next potential.

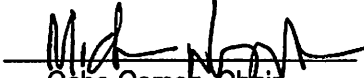
Chair Gomez asked if anyone had questions before the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Vallo said he would not be able to join the Arts Commission meeting and would be out of town on that date. Mr. Muchmore said he also thought he could not attend.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT:**

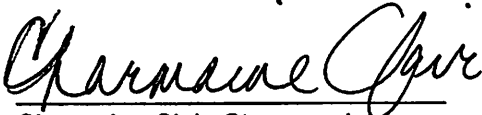
*Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.*

Approved by:



Gabe Gomez, Chair

Submitted by:



Charmaine Clair, Stenographer