ARTS COMMISSION
Monday, March 11, 2019
City Councilors’ Conference Room, 200 Lincoln Avenue
505-955-6707
5:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes
   a) February 11, 2019

5. Report of the Chair

6. Report of Acting Director (Randy Randall, Executive Director, Tourism Santa Fe, rrandall@santafenm.com, 955-6209)

7. Updates and Reports
   a) Update on Arts Commission Appointments and Terms
   b) Update on Arts Commission Executive Director Position (Randy Randall)
   c) Update on Mayor’s Arts Awards (Jackie Camborde, Arts Services Coordinator, jncamborde@santafenm.gov, 955.6707)
   d) Report on Southside Summer (Jackie Camborde)
   e) Report on Poet Laureate Call. (Lee Ann Cory, Administrative Assistant, jlcory@santafenm.gov, 955-6707)

8. Action Items
   a) Approval of Art In Public Places Appointees

9. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk’s office at 955-6520 five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

RECEIVED AT THE CITY CLERK’S OFFICE
DATE: March 4, 2019
TIME: 4:41 PM
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cover Page</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Page</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>Chair, Chip Chippeaux, called the Arts Commission meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the City Councilor's Conference Room. Roll call reflects a quorum.</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval of Agenda</td>
<td>Ms. Ritch moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Ms. Ortiz Pena, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval of Minutes</td>
<td>#5 Kathlene Ritch</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 10, 2018</td>
<td>Ms. Trujillo-Martinez moved to approve the minutes of December 10, 2018 as amended, second by Mr. Hanna, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report of the Chair</td>
<td>Informational</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report of Acting Director Randy Randall</td>
<td>Informational and joined by Mayor Alan Webber</td>
<td>2 - 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Updates and Reports</td>
<td>Informational</td>
<td>13 - 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Action Items</td>
<td>Mr. Hanna moved to approve Spring 2020 Community Gallery exhibit theme, &quot;Play/Things&quot;, second by Ms. Hnasko, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval of Spring 2020</td>
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<td>Community Gallery</td>
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<td>Exhibit Them, Play/Things</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjourn and Signature Page</td>
<td>There being no further business to come before the Art in Public Places Committee the Chair called for adjournment at 6:45 pm</td>
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ARTS COMMISSION
Monday, February 11, 2019
City Councilor’s Conference Room
5:00 PM – 6:45 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair, Chip Chippeaux, called the Arts Commission meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the City Councilor’s Conference Room. Roll call reflects a quorum.

2. Roll Call

Present:
Chip Chippeaux, Chair
Exilda Trujillo-Martinez
Alex Hanna
Bernadette Ortiz-Pena
Adelma Hnasko
Kathlene Ritch

Not Present:

Staff Present:
Mayor Alan Webber
Randy Randall, Tourism Director
Jackie Camborde
Leeann Cory
Rod Lambert, Gallery

Others Present:
Audience introduced themselves and their organizations. (20 in attendance)
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

3. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Ritch moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Ms. Ortiz Pena, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2018
#5 Kathlene Ritch

Ms. Trujillo-Martinez moved to approve the minutes of December 10, 2018 as amended, second by Mr. Hanna, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

5. Report of the Chair
Brian Vallo has resigned and has been named Governor of Acoma Pueblo.
Received a resignation from Ashlyn Perry she had reached her term and she is working with the NM Museum.
There are three openings and a pending vacancy from the Chair. Mr. Hanna needs to be reappointed and he is also the Chair for Art in Public Places. There are also October 2019 terms that need to be addressed either by reappointment or new commissioners. The commission calls for 9 standing members.

Mr. Randall will be reviewing with the Chief of Staff the appointments.

Ms. Garcia y Griego has been appointed the Cabinet Secretary position for the Cultural Affairs Department for the State of NM.

6. **Report of Acting Director Randy Randall**
   Mr. Randall asked that the commissioners please stay on for continuity until notice is provided, he is reviewing with the City Chief of Staff.

Ms. Garcia y Griego’s position will be posted very soon. The resignation of Ms. Garcia y Griego came to us very quick, I had 2 hours’ notice as she was accepting the Cabinet Secretary position for the NM Cultural Affairs Department. I have held up a bit, we have started an informal process to take a look at the Arts Commission itself. The Arts Commission has been around I say 35 years, quite a long time and the thought would be if we had no history or we never had an Arts Commission for the city, if we were going to create it today, what would it look like? Would it be exactly like what we have been doing for 35 years or would there be some things that we could do differently. We made the decision that we should get the position posted so that whoever goes in to that role could help in taking the lead on the structure of the Arts Commission.

Q: Will it be posted on the website?

Mr. Randall stated that once it is posted it will be on the city website. Mr. Randall stated that he had received 2 resumes and he has responded instructing them to follow the city website for the official posting. Mr. Randall was very clear that the applicants must complete the application, not only refer to attached resume.

Q: Will city employees be given first choice in this application process?

Mr. Randall said, no, this normally applies to Union positions and this is not a Union position. The position will be date sensitive and it is an exempt position. To start we will probably put a 2-3 week timeline to see what we receive. If we don’t find a good candidate in that group we will reopen it.

Q: Is it an exempt position?

Yes, it is an exempt position and they serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

Mr. Hanna asked if the City Manager could appoint a person or does it have to go through the process?

Mr. Randall said technically it could be appointed as it is an exempt position, but it is a rare situation where we don’t go through the process because we want to be fully transparent and be sure that everyone is afforded the opportunity to apply for the position. This is not like one of those contracts that you got out for bid because you have to, but you really want to keep the one you got, and the one we wanted to keep has moved on to the State, so we are wide opened to see what interest is out there. People inside the city can apply, they do not get priority over someone from the outside. The key is
to find someone who is most qualified and can help us think through this process. We expend $1.6 to $1.7 a year through this effort and we want to make sure for Santa Fe that it is being expended in the very best way and that we aren’t just doing things because we have always done them. There are maybe things we have never done that we should be doing. Because there wasn’t an internal transition like the last time this position was filled, it gives us an opportunity to make sure that we are operating both efficiently and beneficially to the community and in the way we do things today. We will keep you posted as we get the applications in. Mr. Randall stated that in discussion with the Chair he would like to have one commissioner on the review committee. We will probably have the Chief of Staff on the Review Committee along with Mr. Randall plus 1 or 2 people from the community.

Mr. Randal noted that the budgets have been submitted, they were due last Friday, and deadline was met. The city has taken a different direction this year, instead of suggesting that we do a zero based budget the city has said we will do a maintenance budget. That is what I submitted which means that you are suggesting you will continue to do things that way we have been doing it for this last year with no new programming and no new changes. Any changes to that maintenance budget are done through individual proposals, 1 page where the Mayor or City Manager and Finance Director can look at that proposal. It is an idea thing, it only has one number on it, you don’t break down a whole budget for a proposal. They will come back, and they will either concur that it is a good idea and say go ahead and develop it or we think that is an idea we don’t want to move forward with and we will put it on the shelf and then we haven’t wasted any time with it. One of the proposals that I have put in for the Tourism Santa Fe as a whole is additional revenue because we operate as a revenue fund. I had to suggest that we needed more money so most of my proposals back up the use of that money. So, the first thing is do they accept the revenue increase that I have suggested as lodger’s tax is bringing in more money than they are expending. We have ways that those funds will be spent. This year the budget for Lodger’s Tax was $11.3 million, out expense budget that we had as a total Tourism Santa Fe entity which includes the funding that flows through the Arts Commission. This year it was $1.565 million based on 1 point of lodger’s tax was worth based on that level of $1.3 in total collections. We finished last year at $11.487 million, we finished $187,000 ahead of what we budgeted for this year. We are up about $650,000 this year that we could easily add on. I have asked for an extra $1.2 million dollar to be spread out in the allocation formula. What I have discussed with the City Manager and the Finance Director is that we will have a person from budget and the three of us will study what that number actually will be. If we don’t budget expenditures, even if we bring in money, we can’t spend it without going back to Council, so it is easier to do it as a budget. The number of short terms rentals run about 54% occupancy.

Mayor noted that the other piece of the budget which is different is the other side of the coin, which our Finance Director has told all our departments to submit a 5% reduction; if you’ve read in the newspaper there could be a recession. The Finance Director suggested to look at three different options which is a stable picture, what is a series of proposals or specific increases that would add expenditures. What happens if we have a 5% reduction, let’s prepare for it now so we aren’t caught off guard. Again, it is a sign of better financial management for the city different from the past where you make assumptions for the best and it doesn’t happen, you scramble, and you end up making cuts that aren’t desirable or no one anticipated.

The Chair asked do you attribute this to better collections in Air B&B and other stuff?

Mr. Randall said it is all of the above, two years ago most of the increase, almost of the increase which was about $600,000 occurred in the short term rentals and hotel revenues, lodger’s tax came in about $20,000 ahead. In the last FY to get to the $11.4 million we were up about $11.1 and about $500,000 was in short term rentals again and the other $600,000 was in hotel. Hotels had a much
better year this year from the year before and we saw increases in both occupancy and rate. And the short term rentals, it isn’t just a matter of us doing a better job of collecting from the current short term rentals, the number of short term rentals increased an average of 25% per year for the last 5 years. If we have 1500 out there now, 4 years ago we only had 600 and they run about 54% occupancy we think. We are bringing a lot of people in to Santa Fe, even with a flat occupancy and it takes a lot of money to market and advertise to get them here. There is not sufficient demand year round in Santa Fe to fill that up to make sure it doesn’t dilute hotel occupancy which are really important to us.

Mr. Hanna: In the Arts Commission budget have we already done the 5% cut that was presented? Mr. Randall said that they have made proposals on how that would be done. Mr. Hanna asked, what does that look like? Mr. Randall said it is about $70,000 and there is a position that is budgeted that hasn’t been filled and that could be eliminated or like in Tourism Santa Fe our easiest flex point is the amount of money we spend advertising. If we had to have a 5% cut we would probably cut there. It is much easier with the divisions I oversee because we have our percentage of payroll to total expenditure is low. Whereas in the general fund budget the percentage of payroll is very high. So, if you have 70% of your budget going out for payroll and benefits and you have to cut 5%, it is hard to take it out of the operating side and it is painful to take it out of payroll. Clearly the easiest way to capture any kind of a decrease is through vacant positions that haven’t been filled. If you have been able to live without them you make the assumption you can continue to live without them and quit funding them.

Ms. Hnasko asked for clarification, are you saying that you will not fill the position that is vacant? This staff needs to be recognized and complimented for the work that they have done. When you look back at the 35-year trajectory it has been an evolution with a constantly changing commission and entity. There was a time when it was a much larger and more robust staff and down to 3 and waiting for a director I hope we are still considering the 4th position. I hope that we consider the vacant position as the staff of 3 is doing an exemplary job.

Mr. Randall reiterated that this is a budget exercise, they are not planning to do the 5% cut.

Mr. Hanna reiterated that the 3 present staff members have done an excellent job since the Director exited and he hopes they can get a Director as soon as possible.

Mr. Randall said that it could take 60-75 days to get this position filled and he provides as much support as possible and needed to the Arts Commission staff. Mr. Randall stated that he will assure that they fill the position with an excellent individual.

The Mayor said the answer is, it depends.

The Chair asked what would formally be done to recognize Debra Garcia y Griego for the excellent job she did as the Director of the Arts Commission. The Commission would like for her to be recognized for her exemplary accomplishments as the Arts Commission Director.

Mr. Randall is providing day to day support to the 3 staff members at the Commission as he worked closely with Ms. Garcia y Griego.
Mayor Alan Webber:
Thoughts about what should happen next.

- The Mayor stated that he misses Ms. Garcia y Griego, she is one of the most remarkable problem solvers, utility infielders, her role with the entra was essential, we could not have done what we did without her personal credibility, southside summer, she had an amazing success. Her official responsibilities vs. her unofficial and remarkable contributions, the truth is what she did was so far beyond what the job description says. That is why when Randy talks about reviewing the job description before we post it, there are a lot of things in the job description that don’t say what we are looking for. In the last 11 months we have now hired 13 new Directors. Mayor Webber talked about his city government team; the directors who have been hired to fill the crucial roles in the city. The team that exists in city government is remarkable in terms of the level of talent, commitment, and passion working in city government. The budget that we have right now is going to be a very pivotal budget for the city as we look at what we have in a way of expectations as we continue to increase compared to our ability to deliver against those expectations which as a city we have not increased. It is not just paying police officers more, it is across the board. For people deeply invested in Santa Fe it is a fundamental next step for us to take as a community. Mayor stated that of these department heads we have asked that they do more; do more with no added budget.

- Everyone in Santa Fe knows that arts and culture is at the core of our city, it is the central part of our identity, it is part of our history as we have just been talking and it is also a key part of our economy and we don’t separate those things out, they are intertwined deeply. The issue has come up to replace Debra Garcia y Griego, I have spoken to it a little bit, but I think you need to know that when we have hired people to be at that level of responsibility, that exempt level, we have consistently sought the best people we can find. We have people who have come from other parts of the country, our Land Use Director moved here and boomerang people who moved back to their home place of Santa Fe or New Mexico. Our hiring criterion is getting the best and make sure that the people we hire are outstanding individuals who fit the challenge and understand what is happening in city government today. The short form of what is happening in city government today is we are simultaneously trying to make the city government actually work and deliver on our responsibilities while creating change in our capacity to respond to change in the city and the country. Whether that requires technological change or demographic change, the danger of economic change, we are trying to be more agile and more adaptive at the same time that we take city government which for a long time not really been able to deliver on its promises to the people of the city. We are fixing our house and changing our house at the same time.

- We need to be mindful and respectful of what has already been done but not limited by, that is how I approach everything in city government as Mayor. We need to appreciate it and go beyond it. When we have hired other people to be department heads and other exempt positions, we look for people who are creative, innovative who are problem solvers. We hire leaders who understand how to align their work in their department, so they work with our overarching goals in our city administration which involves being user friendly, eco-friendly, and neighborhood friendly. Those three pieces really are components of a vision for the city going forward. Historically, which I was running for Mayor, the first feedback I got from people in the city was that the city was too hard to do business with, it is not user friendly. The second one was, we have this great sustainability plan but how are we going to implement it, what is our strategy for doing more to combat climate change. The third piece of the puzzle is what are we doing for our neighborhoods, our families, how are we adjusting to our demographic reality of a city that looks more like an hour glass than a Christmas tree. Many healthy cities look like a Christmas tree, narrow at the top and bushier as you get down to the bottom. We look like an hour glass and we need to fill that 25-44 year old part of the city that is family friendly, neighborhood friendly, diversifying the economy, representing a different face of the city going forward. It plays in to
what Mr. Randall does for the city representing us to tourist who don’t look like the tourist of old. If you look at some of the interesting conversations I have had with people who are young and digital natives, there is a hipster underground in Santa Fe. They want to do a Hipster guide to Santa Fe which I think would be an interesting to have as we begin to pivot towards the future both of what we have been and moving forward.

- We are a national and global leader in the Arts in culture. In many ways these are the core competencies in the city of Santa Fe. I come from a background of business and entrepreneurship and I don’t know that the city has ever written a business plan, but if we did part of the business plan would have as part of our core competence, the ability to express history, arts, culture in all of the ways that it is in the report. As a global and national leader in arts and culture, I think we are and should be ready to take our leadership out in to the world and be much bolder in carrying our brand our expansively. We do a little of it now, I got a phone call last week from a friend in China who is eager to bring Chinese art collectors to Santa Fe, but we aren’t fully equipped to receive them. When Randy says we have to think in new ways and new opportunities, those are things where we have this global and national reputation which we have not leveraged as much as we can moving forward. It is not a criticism it is more of a not good enough assessment.

- Opportunities: City budget should not be and cannot be the only support for the Arts in Santa Fe that we are taking advantage of. We need to go after and do a more aggressive job in all of city government pursuing grants and philanthropic opportunities. This applies as much to housing as it does to the arts. We tend to live within a pie that we think we have been handed opposed to aggressively go after grants. As Mayor I know that we have a grant writer for the city of Santa Fe in the public works department; how would that person know of the grant opportunities in the arts world, philanthropic opportunities, attending the right conferences, being in the right outreach for chances to bring additional dollars in to Santa Fe to support what we are already so good at. What we have done essentially is leave money on the table and it is not smart or good for the interest that we all share.

- I said that our third goal is to be family friendly. I fundamentally believe that the building blocks for the arts, culture, history and fundamental story of Santa Fe begins in our neighborhoods. Culture Connects is the road map to getting us back to our grass roots of arts and culture at a neighborhood level in all forms. If we take that and use that to cross pollinate across our neighborhoods using something like the southside summer 1.0 as a success story we can build on that and replicate it. Mayor said he has said it more than once, he is ready to close Airport Road one Sunday and have a performance of the Opera on Airport Road, and make it an event that the entire city can attend and perform and do something equally cross boundary breaking in the historic east side where we put a pig in the ground and invite everybody to that party somewhere off the plaza. I really think that our history and story as a city grows from the neighborhoods up and it grows from the top down and meets in the middle, to the extent that we can create a strategy which brings those pieces together and moves it across the city so no one feels left out. I think we will have a new revitalized vision of how we can make this gift that the city already has in great amounts, make it more applicable to more people and a participatory adventure.

- In terms of our power in the Arts Community, we have two kinds of power, the power to convene and the power to disburse. Convening means being in the conference business, being in the gathering business, it puts a spotlight on us that we already know and part of the revenue that Randy is counting is a function of this summer for the off the charts success across the board including the successful NGA national meeting in Santa Fe was notable. Another example is to continue to add to our repertoire or the kinds of convening that could only happen in Santa Fe.

Mayor Webber made reference to a conversation he has with Mr. Preston at a recent event. He is #2 on the NY Times best seller list. Mayor Webber said to him, “if one of the things that are fundamental to Santa Fe’s identity going back before the written word is storytelling and we have
some of the greatest storytellers in the country living in Santa Fe, including Mr. Preston, Mr. George RR Martin, and many more along with notable awards. We don’t have a storytelling event, we don’t have a storytelling conference and yet we are a region and culture of storytellers.” Missed opportunity for gathering. There are a lot of things that use to be done and didn’t work or move forward so we stopped doing it. As Mayor, that is not a good excuse nor is it a good excuse to say we have always done it that way. We don’t have to do it the same way.

Lisette Paisner, Santa Fe Independent Film Festival: I think that you need to have strong support for the arts in order for those certain industries to really work and we are talking about cutting budgets.

Mayor Webber: Who is talking about cutting budgets?

Lisette: There are rumors to cut the budget and that is where the 5% cut comes in.

Mayor Webber: Don’t get carried away.

Lisette: In order for all of this to happen we need to talk about expanding the arts and unfortunately the conversation has not been about expanding the arts. I am sorry to speak out of turn. Especially as you speak about the millennials this is not necessarily speaking to people my age. We need housing but we also need funding for the arts and we need it to increase and not be told that we need to figure out how to work without it.

Mayor Webber: I don’t think anybody said we need to work without it.

Lisette: I’m not saying work without it, and I’m not saying we aren’t lucky to have what we have, we are very, very lucky. To even put it out there that it might not be there when restructuring is happening.

Mayor Webber: What is the restructuring?

Lisette: I have read it in the city minutes. Restructuring has been discussed in the OTAB minutes. It is disgusting when they talk about overhauling the structure, it is what has been heard around. It is quite frightening.

Mr. Randall said at the very beginning that they are taking a look at what we are doing and we are trying to determine if how we are doing it for the last 3 years is the way to continue or is there a better way, but there is not, I have not heard anyone in city meetings suggest any decisions that have been made and clearly the 1% of lodger’s tax that comes to this function will continue, and there is no question about that.

Mayor Webber: I am glad you brought it up, if there is an elephant in the room that I’m not aware of, someone should say it. Are you the elephant?

Mr. Hanna: You speak so eloquently about arts and culture and how it interweaves with everything we do. I am assuming that is part of why you moved here, right? Part of why I moved here and why people stay here, it is arts and culture and it touches on everything. It touches on Economic Development, we intersect with Parks and Rec and with Art in Public Places all the time, Education, Southside Summer, Family Friendly initiative, it goes on and on. Dealing with the campus and the collection at the campus, so many of the different things that you mentioned.
Mayor Webber: And I’m not done.

Mr. Hanna: I will let you finish if you want. To pick up where I think she is going with this conversation is clearly it intersects with everything and it is why Santa Fe is what it is. It is why we have tourist come here in the first place. Tourism is one important intersection of arts and culture with the city. But there are so many levels. So I think that the elephant in the room is the question, are we ready to have an independent Office of Arts and Culture for the City. That to me is the elephant in the room.

Mayor Webber: This is the opposite of what she was saying.

Lisette: I think that is exactly what I was saying, Arts and Culture enriches every part of Santa Fe.

Mariana: Maybe I am missing something but the rumor I am hearing is that there is a desire to have the money, a portion from the Arts Commission to primarily to marketing.

Mr. Hanna: Which it already does.

Mariana: Half of it does, it is 50/50. But they are saying that there wouldn’t be support for programming. That is the rumor I am hearing, and I don’t know how many other people are here because of that rumor. That is a devastating thing for the art organizations in this town if that is true. It is hard not to have 50% not go to marketing when you are a small organization trying to produce an incredible event. That is the rumor.

Frank: That is not just the rumor. At the Film and Visual Media meeting, correct me if I’m wrong Randy, what you were insinuating was that you thought exactly that; that there was too much money going to programming.

Mr. Randall stated he was not insinuating anything.

Frank: Randy, please.

Mr. Randall: As the other people in the room.

Mr. Randall: Frank, people tend to hear what they want to hear or what they are afraid of hearing. All I said is that we are taking a look at the Arts Commission and we are saying if we had no history how we would best utilize the funding that is available for the betterment of the city as a whole. People hear that…

Frank: Randy, I asked you specifically; I turned to you and I said:

Mr. Randall: I won’t interrupt you Frank, people hear that and they say, "oh my gosh he is going to take away my money". Well that must be that they don’t think the issuance of money is the right way to go. All I have said is we are going to take a look at this and we are going to make a decision on; are the dollars that are being spent the best way to benefit the arts and culture of Santa Fe as it was originally intended and that we are not going to continue to do something because it was the way it was always done, and we are not going to change it if it is not broken.

Frank: Can I finish, I specifically asked you Randy, I said that I had a concern, my concern is that you coming from tourism which is totally understandable for Tourism, is that you prefer to spend the money on marketing rather than on programming. And you said, “oh I didn’t know
that Arts Commission; and I said the Arts Commission gives 50% to Tourism for programming and 50% for marketing and you said, I didn’t know they gave that much to programming, it was clear Randy that you were feeling that too much money was given to programming.

Mr. Randall: That is not current, what I said was, “I was not aware, and this is an honest statement, that the funds being given to organizations allow them to use 50% for programming.” Which I have no problem with. In fact, I have been of the opinion we don’t do enough for programming.

All: That is great to hear.

Mr. Randall: That is the beauty of rumors. The point would be is all I’ve said and I’ve said it at the Hospitality Breakfast on Wednesday and I said it at the Film Commission, we are taking a look at how the organization operates and is it operating in the most effective way that it can to benefit Santa Fe. It is with Debra’s departure we have the unique opportunity to look, and shame on us if we don’t, because that is what we should be doing all the time when we have opportunities. Are we spending the dollars in the very best way? If you made the assumption, and I always say, we may continue on as we have, we may do things differently, but a group will figure out as to what is the very best and including that the Arts Commission will play a big part in this process. People are hearing me say, geez we are going to take a look at what we have been doing and everyone says, oh my gosh they are going to take away our money. I haven’t said that, I haven’t said that to anyone.

Mayor Webber: There are only two things people don’t like, that way things are and the way things might change and that is where we are across the board of city government. I have had conversations about every part of Santa Fe City Government. Parts of it are operating really well, and they are doing exactly what their purpose is. Other places don’t even know what their purpose is, they are on auto pilot. We have enormous sums of money tied up in huge parts of this city government where we are not getting a return on the investment. Much of city government is not run on data; it is run by mother in law research. That is not a good way to run the city, it is a nice way to run a club and Santa Fe in many ways is a nice Club of comfortable people who like what they have and want to keep doing it. My job is to say that what we have always done is not good enough anymore because the world around us is changing and our resources are not enough to keep static and achieve the desired results we want if we want a vibrant city moving forward. Change is painful, everyone wants change until it is them who are getting changed. I am not looking at you in that respect.

Mr. Hanna: My sense is that this Commission is ready for the change, but we need to be at the table and help with that process as the body that has the authority to spend the money.

Mr. Randall: In all honesty, this is an advisory committee, the city council spends the money. It is done through a recommendation and it is supposed to be if you go back to the original rules, a recommendation from OTAB Committee to City Council for expenditures. This commission is the body that makes the recommendations to the city council as to how the money is spent.

Mayor Webber: That is not going to change. What I want to do because I think this is the right thing to do right now, regardless of whether we are talking about Arts Commission or we are talking about the Planning Commission, we need to look at whether we are getting the results for the city’s future that we want.
Mr. Hanna: It seems like the best results you are getting are things like Southside Summer which have little to do with Tourism. That is my hunch, tourism does a great job all on its own.

Mayor Webber: Silos are the wrong way to go. You yourself started the conversation by saying that these things are all intertwined. I spent a weekend talking about creative place making this past weekend. We end up frequently thinking in dichotomy, it is either this or it’s that. In the mind of some folks we live in a world where tourists are bad and locals are good or vice versa. We live in a world where if you read the Sunday New Mexican we want a property tax of 3% so we don’t tax people who are land rich and cash poor of their land but the unintended tax consequences of that tax policy are two fold, #1 rich people get more tax breaks than poor people and #2 the city doesn’t get the tax revenue that it needs to run social programs to help the poor people. It is not quite so easy to say it is all this or it is all that. These pieces have to work together and that is why my comment of going back to the source of our strength which is the history, the culture, the storytelling and the neighborhoods of Santa Fe; the map that is in the Culture Connects document which has been dormant since it was delivered, is something that is on my list to do in the next iteration of the person who fills the job we are talking about. It is not so much a matter of cutting or adding, the 5% topic, don’t get tangled up in that, it was only about a budget request that every department is doing. No one is being singled out for having a budget cut. If that is a rumor that is going around, you need to step on it.

Lisette: It is a long time to not fill a position that is critical.

Mayor: No its not. How do you feel it is a long time? Where do you base that?

Lisette: A month and a half. It felt like an open time. Normally, I believe that it doesn’t quite take so long and there is a little more transparency there. I think everyone here felt like there was not a lot going on.

Mayor Webber: Let’s distinguish fact from feeling. It is important, your opinion is valued?

Lisette: Santa Fe Film Fest: What I do want to say that I have actually been writing grants and working with the Arts Commission since I was 17 years old. Actually, with the Writers Conference that no longer exists because the Arts Commission during the recession was cut and those funds that they use to get, I think $30,000, and that is not even close to what my organization gets and it is a much larger organization that brings in many more heads and beds. That is the reality that we do face, the Arts Commission did have a big chunk of their money taken away.

Mayor Webber: 10 years ago there was a massive recession that almost tanked the world economy.

Lisette: Maybe that is what I am saying, maybe it is time to be creative in this idea and I am trying to address, and I’m trying not to speak out of turn or in opposition with you, I think you think I am being oppositional and I’m not.

Mayor Webber: No you’re not; you are bringing the elephant in to the room.

Lisette: I am trying to address what is happening and unfortunately when there are things in other committees or minutes that say we are looking at this on a board that does not have many figures not as this committee is very much engraven in the arts to hear that to say that this one board has more control over the arts than this commission, to me is a little bit shocking and reconfirms what
those minutes that I read said. They basically said that they were looking at the Arts Commission and we are looking at where the money goes. I can’t word for word say what it was. This is something that if those words are written in a city document people in the arts are going to read it and say what is happening with this where it is not just a line item that we all think is going to happen at the end of the year that we are going to get and we work very hard to get these grants and to also create events that bring people to Santa Fe. It is not only about events that bring people to Santa Fe like mine, it is also about events that create Santa Fe as this artistic endeavor so I’m not trying to say that you guys are trying to slash this budget, I’m trying to bring to light what has been spoken about, what I have read, this is not something – obviously we are not all in here because we are crazy. We are in here because we support the arts and we want to show that we strongly believe in this Arts Commission and we are not afraid of change, we are very happy with change but we want it to be the right change.

Q: Can you clarify what minutes you are referring to?

Lisette: I am referring to OTAB and it was spoken about a few times in OTAB minutes and no one from the artistic community is represented, so when something like that is being talked about it is rather concerning. I imagine that I am not the only one who read the minutes, there are a few things in them that are a little concerning. I do think that if it is the Board that represents the artistic community, and like Randy just said, this Commission is a recommending body.

Mr. Randall: That is not what I said, this is an advisory board as is OTAB. OTAB us advisory as well. I can’t make it anymore clear, the spending decision is with the Governing body. OTAB is advisory, and this was set up to flow through OTAB because OTAB by the state enabling legislation is responsible for advising on lodger’s tax, because it is using lodger’s tax that is why that flow was set up that way. Now it hasn’t been enforced that way. But if you want to be specific, this came because you said this is the organization that decides. Mr. Hanna said that was his understanding. Mr. Randall reiterated that an advisory group recommends what it can do.

Mayor: It is true in the Planning Commission and a lot of government works that way. It is great to hear what you are saying and I think if there is that kind of fear and concern and anxiety we need to work to relieve that. In terms of your sense that we are slow filling the position, we are moving to fill a lot of positions and this is a very important one and we are not just going to slam someone in there and historically when you want to recruit someone of that level you want to fill the position in a business like way. I mentioned 12 or 13 new director’s and for every one of them we went through the same kind of process. It is not meant to be anything to create fear or concern it is actually to be reassuring that we are taking the time needed to get an excellent person in that role to do the job.

Department of Cultural Affairs - Jennice Gharib, Interim Director: We are a funder of the Arts Commission as well and we support all of you, the Arts Commission and the staff with all the hard work that you do. I want to reassure that in this process and experience with Arts Council throughout the state for the last 10 years, if we can help you through the Department of Cultural Affairs to give you different models of ways that people are operating. We just did a huge survey statewide of all of our art councils and how they operate, how they raise money and what are their issues, we are here to support you, if we can help you please know you have our commitment.

Mayor Webber: Please send us that document.

I talked about convening, but I also think that disbursing is another important thing that we do and I’m not talking about disbursing money. I am talking about disbursing artist and
performances to all parts of the city. There are many performances and Artist in Residence in many locations. We want to collaborate more effectively with the schools, collaborate with organizations that can sponsor an Artist in Residence and reestablish that sense of grass roots engagement in different parts of the community. The last thing across the city government that I think we need to do, and this group is not immune to that, is do a better job of inventorying what we have, where it is, a map APP of all art in public places, incredible murals and art gifts that are in public display. If we wanted to create a walking or driving tour of the art in public places that people could see across the city and turn it in to an APP, that would be a tremendous asset to simply take what we have and to some extent taking it for granted and turning it into accessible inventory of our great art in public places and doing a better job of telling our story of our art and cultural offerings. I think Santa Fe government and all of you and your organizations, we tend to hide our light under a bushel. We don’t do videography of our great artists, we don’t have video interviews with people who are getting older and are incredible contributors to the history of our city. If we don’t capture them on video now, they will be gone. And if we do capture them and make this a vault of artistic expression, I think we will be amazed at who we are and what an incredible group of human beings lives in Santa Fe and creates art and culture. They are everywhere but they are not anywhere because we haven’t captured those stories. I think amazingly as a writer, people access information increasingly through video rather than through the written word, we have the ability to use some of our resources to get videography going with people who are in the city who won’t be here forever. This should be on our list of things to achieve and put in to a vault of Santa Fe History going forward.

Next on my list: “Your Ideas Here” -- I am open for your ideas.

Tom McGuire: I am in a unique position, I have been closely involved with the Arts Commission in past year, I have been closely involved with a number of departments, and I am an art supporter in the community. One thing I would recommend is that the arts community is very anxious and open to be involved in the community. Their voices in small groups could be vital to change if it happens or remaining the same and becoming better. I am not opposed to change and I have never been opposed to change. Whatever happens with Arts Commission moving forward, and you are at a pivotal time with so many people moving on at the same time, I am on the state Arts Commission and we lost our Director. Public input in our community is tough some times but is vital.

Videos: We have quite an archive of Mayor’s Art Awards, probably 10-15 years of interviews.

Mr. Hanna: We are very excited to work with you, we need new commissioners, staff needs a new Director, we are here to help with all events, we need to fill this commission.

Ms. Hnasko: I would like to add to that, this commission only represents what is much larger in the collaboratives and partnerships and many of those are funding partnerships, we are not just receiving money from the 1% lodger’s tax, we have an incredible relationship with the Witter Brynner Foundation for the poetry program including a youth poetry program, here is so much we could go into. This is just a tiny representation of the massive web of connections and collaborations in this town. I thank you for your leadership and your recognition of the arts as a core competency and I want to make sure that something Mr. Hanna said is underscored which is that this may be a perfect opportunity to know how a lot of cities around the United States are, what it would be like to have an Arts and Cultural Affairs Department, I think that would be an incredible opportunity for the city of Santa Fe.
The Chair said they could provide a list of potential individuals for the Arts Commission to facilitate the effort.

Question: Hearing from Randy about the growth in the short term vacation rentals, there is a built in tension with Artists because Desert Chorale, Chamber Music, Santa Fe Opera, we all bring in artists from all over the country and we need to house them. Even from last year to this year the cost to house the artists has gone through the roof. I know you have spoken about trying to create more affordable housing, but it is something that continues to come up for us around the table.

Mayor Webber: I was smiling as Mr. Randall was explaining the upside of the short term rental bubble because there is a downside. And the downside is we get enormous push back from neighborhoods that feel like they are being turned into swiss cheese, particularly with the rentals that are not registered with the city and operating illegally. There is a dark side to the bright side. Our rental market was basically at zero, there were no vacancies. You would think this would be a great time to be in the housing construction business and we are trying to work with developers around that, but this issues of change when we talk about the arts is equally as tension filled when you talk about building more housing, where are you going to put it? Whose neighborhood is going to absorb it, how many units, what are they going to look like, who are they for, how tall are they what is the density? There are many questions. We are pursuing a 5 or 6 part harmony in the housing area, we are working on accessory dwelling units, we will do a much better job of evaluating and assessing the short term rental units, it is not an undifferentiated plus. We are looking at changing the fee in lieu of structure so we get more money for people who don’t build the affordable units themselves and we get more money to disburse across the city. We are looking a 5 or 6 housing sites where the city owns land where we could put that in to an RFP process to get housing built there. I have reached out to the School District and the County to see if they have any land they might have so we can work as a consortium. We are looking at the University of Art and Design where we could put some housing but that isn’t a quick fix. We are looking at Phase II in Tierra Contenta or city owned land where we could add, in a very responsible way, not just housing but neighborhoods. This is where language matters, if you want to build housing you can build housing and no one wants to live there and they destroy the fabric of the community. If you want to design the neighborhood with housing and amenities than you have a different story. If you go to Tierra Contenta the design was well intentioned but it is not a walkable community, it does not have amenities, it doesn’t have a grocery store, there are no coffee shops, so we create housing but we did not create the sense of neighborhood.

7. **Updates and Reports – Jackie Camborde**
   a. Update on Arts Commission Appointment and Terms
      Covered above.

   b. Update on Mayor’s Arts Awards
      Notices have been sent out to the recipients and we are starting to look at an off-site event the week of June 13th. We are rethinking to possibly not have a sit down plated dinner but more of an exciting event and reception. Mayor agreed, let’s do something different, we should do an expression of art. If we are doing a celebration of Art it should be art making, it should be a verb not a noun.

      Mr. Hanna and Ms. Hnasko were involved in the discussion.

   c. Update on Resolution Concerning College of Santa Fe Art Collection
      Library collection, photography collection, which have the facilities and the staff to take care of these art pieces are long term loans. We are inventorying and consolidating. David and Rod are
working closely to identify the full inventory and have talked to several organizations locally and they will keep the Arts Commission apprised as they move forward. This has council support. Rod is working with the Fiber Arts Group – Newhall collection to put in at the Fogelson Library – Henry Muchmore is working with the state. Mr. Hanna asked if Rod feels supported and the answer is yes.

d. Report on Pilot Winter Youth Passport Program
Ms. Camborde reported that they have an App for IPhone and Smart Phone and happy to report that the App works really well. You can get the App from Google Play Store or iTunes: Santa Fe Youth Culture Passport, you can download it and put it on your phone. They did a beta test and got 49 users. There will be a better data capture when they get zip codes, working with APP developer for the summer.

e. Reminder of Grants Calendar for 2019 Panels
Regional Arts Marketing RFP – budget of $500,000 or less, regional art for programs for year round. Target impact is for a weekend, exhibit, etc., that don’t need a full year of funding, $5000, $7500 up to $10000 and they have to spend it outside of Santa Fe.

They would like two Commissioners on the panel for 2/28 and the panel will have access to the applications.
Kathleen Ritch and Bernadette Ortiz Pena will represent the Arts Commission.

Audience: Before the end of the meeting Frank said thank you to Randy Randall for clarifying his position.

8. Action Items
   a) Approval of Spring 2020 Community Gallery exhibit theme, “Play/Things”
Mr. Lambert stated that over the Xmas Holidays the focus was not on toys and they say how many toy stores were going out of business. We are losing the joy of toys, children aren’t playing with toys, iconic and toys and creativity – show based upon toys, the general idea of the show would be to bring back the joy of playing with toys.

Chair likes the possibility of a good collaborative with the community.

Rod stated that Art in Public Places committee showed a lot of enthusiasm.

   Mr. Hanna moved to approve Spring 2020 Community Gallery exhibit theme, “Play/Things”, second by Ms. Hnasko, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Art Commission the Chair called for adjournment at 6:45 pm.

Signature:

Chip Chippeaux, Chair

Fra Lucero, Stenographer