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Museums & Cultural Affairs
The City of El Paso Public Art Committee (PAC)
Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 3:30 PM
MCAD Board Room

MINUTES

CITY CLERK DEPT
2019 AUG 27 PM2:54

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting called to order at 3:45 pm.

2. **Roll Call.**

Members Present: Lloyd C Hamilton III, Emmanuel Iglesias, Edgar Lopez, and Adam Marshall.

Members Absent: Sarelah Aguilar, and Laura Jaquez.

Others Present: Miriam Garcia, Adrian Guzman, Luz Ibarra, and Josue Muñoz.

3. **Public Comment.** None.

4. **Approval of Minutes.** Adam Marshall requested a motion to approve the June 11, 2019 minutes. Emmanuel Iglesias seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

5. **Discussion and action on changes to final design for RC Poe Roundabout.** Adrian Guzman presented the modifications of the RC Poe Roundabout by Art Garcia. The roundabout will be located at Edgemere Blvd and RC Poe Rd and the art piece will sit directly in the center of the roundabout. Mr. Guzman showed the members the proposed changes. Originally, the piece consisted of a slightly bent pole with horizontal rings. Due to time and budget issues encountered by the artist, the new proposal consists of a straight pole with slanted rings around it. The art piece will be light from bottom to the top with four light fixtures. The budget of the project will remain the same, \$70,000.00. The roundabout is being built and Art Garcia plans to install in November. Committee discussed. Adam Marshall made a motion to approve the changes to the final design for RC Poe Roundabout. Lloyd C Hamilton III Seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

6. **Discussion and action on final artist selection for Country Club Rd Roundabout.** Miriam Garcia Public Art CIP Associate, presented previous work of Laura Turon and different ideas on how she will translate her work into a roundabout piece. Ms. Garcia explained that Laura Turon is a local artist that has worked with the public art program before. The public art budget for Country Club Rd Roundabout is \$70,000.00. A schedule or timeline has not been set for the roundabout project. Laura Turon will be required to work with the foundation that is already set up at the location so that no major changes are required. Adam Marshall made a motion to approve the final artist selection for Country Club Rd Roundabout. Emmanuel Iglesias Seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

7. **Discussion and action on final design for Montana RTS Airport Station.** The artist George Bates was telephoned and his allied artist, Christopher Winterstein joined the meeting in person. George Bates went over his presentation of the two pieces that will be placed at the airport and indicated the main changes he made from the previous presentation. One of the major alterations will be the way that Mr. Bates will cut his designs. He will use American Fiberglass, which specializes in translucent fiberglass art and architectural features. Instead of the art pieces being open space cut out, now the pieces will be hollow with clear translucent layer and the only cut out will be the eyes and holes between the arms. One piece will be 9ft tall and the other one 12ft 9in tall, both will represent many aspects of the airport that will embrace its past, present and future characteristics. Moving forward, Mr. Bates proceeded to explicate the structural support of his art pieces. Within his sculptures, a pipe about 6 inches wide, will give structural support that will work with the proportion of the pieces. Also, Mr. Bates is considering the addition of a bench-type base to the 9ft tall piece and lighting the sculptures internally. Edgar Lopez interjected and asked about how he intended to illuminate inside the pieces, by LED? Rope lighting? Mr. Bates responded that he and American Fiberglass are still debating on the best solution. Edgar Lopez also questioned about the maintenance of the artwork and the fading after being exposed to the sun for many years. Mr. Bates assured that American Fiberglass has techniques in repairing problems and that they will come out to repair and polish any problems they might encounter in the future.

Adam Marshall questioned the possibility of adding benches on both figures and not just on the 9ft one. One of the motives Mr. Bates is hesitant of a bench on the 12ft one is the possibility of people (especially children) to try to hang from the arms of the figure. The allied artist Christopher Winterstein also questioned George Bates if the public can climb the art pieces from the translucent spaces, he replied that it is less climbable than the original design. Edgar Lopez added that if the piece is less climbable, maybe a bench can be added to the other piece. Adrian Guzman intervened and commented that the 12ft piece will be placed where the public will not be able to access it due to landscaping and there won't be a need for a bench. Mr. Bates and Mr. Winterstein excused themselves from the meeting. Edgar Lopez suggested that light should be around the art pieces instead of inside the pieces, it will have a feasible access if repairs are ever needed. Adam Marshall agreed with Mr. Lopez on having light on the perimeter and not inside, he was not fond of having lighting with this art piece. All the members decided that maintenance to the piece will be complicated if light was inserted. Committee discussed. Adam Marshall made a motion to approve the final design for Montana RTS Airport Station with comments read into the record 1. To have the artist, George Bates, come back and clarify lighting and its maintenance. Emmanuel Iglesias Seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and action on final design for Eastside Regional Water Park. The artist Olalekan Jeyifous was contacted via telephone and started his presentation on asserting the inspiration of his artwork. Olalekan Jeyifous visited Hueco Tanks State Park to experience the space, geography and landscape, which he used as inspiration to create his design. His design process began by identifying the vegetation, local ecology, and historical artifacts and then reinterpreting them into isometric illustrations. The illustrations were then scaled, repositioned, and collaged into a monumental landscape mural as a façade treatment for the water park's entrance pavilion. The mural will be perforated metal-mild steel panels at 4x8x1/8". The artwork will be painted on and not powder coated. The fabricator has a 10 year warranty but if ever needed; Power washing, base debris removal, spot painting and panel removal/paint are recommended to maintain. The public art for Eastside Regional Water Park has a budget of \$150,000.00. So far, Mr. Jeyifous has projected to be over the budget at \$158,402.00 but will strategize to stay within budget. Adam Marshall stated that he was concerned about the budget being over the amount but Miriam Garcia explained that the public art program will help Jeyifous bring down the budget, i.e. covering installation costs. Adam Marshall also mentioned that the rendering of the graphic is not continuous at the corner where the two walls meet. Mr. Jeyifous assured that the graphic of the mural will be cohesive between both sides. Edgar Lopez commented that it appeared that the boxes of the painting were too big, if the artist can play with the scale of the size. Committee discussed. Lloyd C. Hamilton III made a motion to approve the final design for Eastside Regional Water Park with comments read into the record 1. To make the mural continuous painting into one piece, more cohesive 2. Expand the scale of the graphic and make the forms smaller 3. Lastly, to considerate creating rounded edges and different angles on the painting to make it more like Waco Tanks. Emmanuel Iglesias Seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjournment. Adam Marshall motioned to adjourn the meeting, Emmanuel Iglesias seconded. All members voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:14pm. Next meeting scheduled for September 10, 2019.

Approved for content by:
Benjamin E. Fyffe, Assistant Director Museums and Cultural Affairs Department

Respectfully submitted by:
Luz Ibarra, Public Art Specialist