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Museums & Cultural Affairs

The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC) Tuesday, March 8, 2011, 3:30 PM City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Meeting was called to order at 3:46 pm. **Members Present:** Rida Asfahani, R. Katherine Brennand, Ken Gorski, Martina Lorey, Marina Monsisvais, and Jane Thomas. **Members Absent:** Jesus Alvarado, Floyd Johnson, Ray Parish and Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson. **Others Present:** Patricia Dalbin, Alejandra Carrillo, and Maria Aragon.

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Approval of Minutes. Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for last meeting on February 8, 2011. Ken Gorski motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion and action on the finalist Mikyoung Kim for the Sun Metro Facility project. Pat Dalbin presented the artist's previous works (by PowerPoint) for review and consideration. Mentioned that Rida Asfahani was panel member, and that Katherine Brennand and Ray Parish also sat in on the artist's presentation to stakeholders. Mentioned that design concept will include landscape and wind forms; view from highway as well as pedestrian traffic; perforated metal with LED lighting; solar powered feature; engraved stone element is 40ft. structure; movement feature integrated with stained glass panels and rotating light sequence. Rida Asfahani mentioned design concept was well thought-out process and was evident in artist's presentation. Mentioned possible expansion of project to include jogging trails. Brief discussion about artist's credentials and installation details. Chair asked for approval of artist Mikyoung Kim for the Sun Metro Facility project. Martina Lorey motioned to so approve; Ken Gorski seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion on the Public Art status report. Pat Dalbin provided brief status of completed and ongoing projects. Specifically mentioned that Upper Valley Traffic Circle now has lighting element, and that fabrication has began for Rivals Project and Pebble Hills Traffic Circle. Chair mentioned that she is concerned about future water features not being allowed by Parks & Recreation for integration into Public Art projects, and lack of future maintenance for existing and completed projects. Pat Dalbin explained that the City's Maintenance Staff has been transferred out of Parks and is now under the supervision of General Services, so that should no longer presents a concern. Rida Asfahani explained that the national trend for municipalities to move away from water features is due to the growing concern of children drowning. Ken Gorski explained that if an artist's design concept included a water feature and it was well-presented and took all precautions into consideration, that it's the job of the Artist Selection Panel to properly review all aspects before recommending for approval to the PAC and/or Community Stakeholders. Chair mentioned she is concerned about trash pile-up onsite at the Sebastian piece. Pat Dalbin explained that project site is still undergoing major construction to entire bridge area, and final project will include aesthetic landscaping elements and pedestrian plaza. Chair requested clarification of whether recent state budget cuts would affect 2% For the Arts. Pat Dalbin explained that Public Art Plan FY11 was approved by City Council in December 2010 and is currently funded. Pat Dalbin mentioned that the I-10 Project is moving forward with two apprentices on board, and that the Stanton Street mural by artist Jari will be completed this summer by August.

7. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm. Next meeting scheduled for April 12, 2011.

Approved for content by:
Patricia Dalbin, Public Art Program Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by:
Maria Aragon, Administrative Assistant