

CITY CLERK DEPT.

2013 MAY 20 AM 11:03

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Museums & Cultural Affairs

The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC) Tuesday, April 16, 2013, 1:00 PM MCAD Board Room

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm.
- 2. Roll Call: Members Present:** Anna Aleman, Melissa Barba-Espinoza, Kim Bauer, Robert Gonzalez, Ken Gorski, Jeannine Kennedy, Marina Monsisvais (Chair), Jane Thomas.
Members Absent: None.
Others Present: Pat Dalbin, Misty Castaneda.
- 3. Public Comment:** None.
- 4. Approval of Minutes.** Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for the last meeting on February 12, 2013, as submitted. Jane Thomas so moved; Ken Gorski seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
- 5. Discussion and Action on Direct Selection of Artists for the Downtown Connectivity Project along the Civic Center and Bataan Railway.** Pat Dalbin began by reminding members that they have previously approved a \$200,000 budget for art. Designers and engineers have been hired to work on this space and others around downtown. Matthew Geller had a misting tree installation at Chalk The Block this year and is in consideration to design a misting system that works on sensors so that it only activates when people are in close proximity. Also, the Durango bridge needs to be activated and the idea is for Stephen Ingle to work with the designers and engineers to create metal die-cut lanterns that can be hung for lighting purposes when people walk through to get to the entertainment district. Pat asked that the Public Art Committee approve the direct selection of Matthew Geller per the rules and guidelines. She asked that Stephen Ingle be approved as well to work with Matthew Geller on activating and doing a public art piece for the pedestrian pathway. Marina Monsisvais asked if the concept for the lanterns came from the artist, and Pat replied that it did, and in fact, the artist has thrown out several ideas for a hanging, suspended element that lights up at night under the bridge. Marina then asked if the collaboration would be with Creative Kids, or with Stephen only. Pat replied that it would be with Stephen and his team; the kids would not be designing the elements. General discussion followed on the division of the \$200,000 and the exact location of the walkway. Melissa Barba-Espinoza inquired as to how the misters would be powered and Pat replied that there would be a wiring system in place. Robert Gonzalez asked if they would be collaborating with any landscape architects and Pat replied that they would. Jeannine Kennedy asked if the City would absorb the cost of the water use and Pat replied that the use would be seasonal and yes, the City would absorb it as a means of keeping people cool. Chair requested a motion to approve. Jane Thomas so moved; Anna Aleman seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
- 6. Discussion and Action on the Artist Jim Hirschfield and Sonya for the Northgate Transit Terminal Project.** Pat Dalbin asked Melissa Barba-Espinoza to speak about the presentations because she sat on the artist selection panel. Melissa went on to explain that Jim Hirschfield and Sonya were the first presenters and he did a phenomenal job speaking about his projects. She felt that they had a wide range of experiences and put a lot of thought into the historical emphasis while articulating clearly. He has worked in landscape and public art pieces. Their work was strong and consistent throughout, and they knew exactly what they wanted for this space. They have extensive experience working on projects such as these with large organizations and cities. General discussion followed. Chair requested a motion to approve. Jane Thomas so moved; Melissa Barba-Espinoza seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion on the Public Art Status Report. Pat Dalbin gave brief status updates on the airport terrazzo project, the El Paso Police Department Five Points mural, and the Fire Station #37 public art piece. General discussion followed.

8. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Jane Thomas so moved; Jeannine Kennedy seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 1:34pm. Next meeting scheduled for May 9, 2013.

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

Respectfully submitted by:
Misty Castaneda, Administrative Assistant

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