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Museums & Cultural Affairs

The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC) Tuesday, September 10, 2013, 3:30 PM MCAD Board Room

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:34 pm.
- 2. Roll Call: Members Present:** Melissa Barba-Espinosa, Kim Bauer, Robert Gonzalez, Ken Gorski, Jeannine Kennedy, Marina Monsivais (Chair), Jane Thomas.
Members Absent: Anna Aleman, Daniela Quesada Rivas.
Others Present: Pat Dalbin, Jeff Howell.
- 3. Public Comment:** None.
- 4. Approval of Minutes.** Vice-Chair Ken Gorski assisted in carrying out action items in the absence of the Chair. Vice-Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for the last meeting on August 13, 2013, as submitted. Jane Thomas so moved; Kim Bauer seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
- 5. Discussion and Action on the Design Concept for the AAA Baseball Stadium Public Art Project by Ball-Nogues.** Pat Dalbin began by reminding members that three artists were selected for baseball stadium public art projects, and this is the larger project. They have come up with a design concept and need to move forward with design development. They have worked closely with the architects to make sure it can be done, and Mountain Star likes the design. With that she turned the presentation over to Benjamin Ball, who joined via conference call from Los Angeles and provided a PowerPoint presentation to explain how he got to where he is. He began by explaining that the project will be located in the left-field corner of the park and will be very visible from the street. He continued by noting they were working with the architect to find landscaping options that will work with the fence while achieving the landscaping goal. Light studies were completed to determine how the original trellis compared to the new fence design would play a part in the project in terms of shading and shadows. Levels of transparency within the fence and spacing between the fence unit are being studied. Lighting designers are being worked with to come up with a good scheme to make it vibrant and dramatic from the street so that when you drive by at night, the piece has a presence. Benjamin further explained that aluminum casting and aluminum extrusion were being considered as a means to bring in some pieces for the project. It is a costly process to initiate, but once you do enough pieces, the cost goes down considerably. Benjamin concluded his presentation and opened the floor for questions. Melissa Barba-Espinosa asked if the aluminum would heat up under the El Paso sun and pose a hazard to the public. Benjamin replied that it would not get hotter than any standard window frame would, as it is the same material that you find in any storefront window or a contemporary house. Ken Gorski asked whether the aluminum would be anodized or not, and Benjamin responded that they did intend to anodize it in order to protect and harden it, while providing a little color variety. Robert Gonzalez asked about the relationship between this piece and the fence that the architecture firm is designing in terms of materiality, and Benjamin replied that there was not necessarily any connection between the material and the architecture and he didn't necessarily believe there should be. Robert went on to ask whether they could get design control over the gates in order to stage everything just the way they want without the architect designing something that runs into their design. Benjamin replied that the comments were really good and within the next couple of weeks they would look into how to address the connection between the pieces. There were no further questions and the conference call was ended. General discussion followed. Chair requested a motion to approve. Jane Thomas so moved; Robert Gonzalez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

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8. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Ken Gorski so moved; Melissa Barba-Espinosa seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 4:17pm. Next meeting scheduled for October 8, 2013.

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

Respectfully submitted by:
Misty Castaneda, Administrative Assistant

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