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Museums & Cultural Affairs

The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC)
Tuesday, June 14, 2011, 3:30 PM
City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 3:37 pm.

2. Roll Call: Members Present: Jesus Alvarado, Rida Asfahani, R. Katherine Brennand, Ken Gorski, Marina Monsisvais, Jane Thomas, and Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson.

Members Absent: Martina Lorey and Ray Parish.

Others Present: Alejandra Carrillo, Maria Aragon, and Sean McGlynn.

3. Public Comment: None.

4. Approval of Minutes. Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for last meeting on May 10, 2011. Ken Gorski motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Rida Asfahani seconded; all members voted in

favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and action on the artists Cynthia (correction to CATHERINE) Widgery and Laura Haddad selection by the artist selection panel to be commissioned for the Alameda and Mesa Rapid Transit System. Alejandra Carrillo provided presentation of the two finalists' previous works for review and consideration. Mentioned Laura Haddad was selected for the Alameda corridor and Catherine (not Cynthia) Widgery for the Mesa corridor. Mentioned that Floyd Johnson and Martina Lorey sat on the selection panels, and asked Floyd to elaborate on the process. Floyd Johnson mentioned there were 3 iterations to find best fit based on history and past works; mentioned process went rather smoothly. General discussion about apprenticeship with local artists will be considered based on size of project; implementation to start ASAP; architects will engage artists in design phase from very beginning. Elizabeth Thurmond moved to approve the selection of the two finalists for the Alameda and Mesa RTS Corridors as presented; Marina Monsisvais seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

6. Public Art Status Report. First mention was to correct the artist's name from Cynthia to Catherine Widgery for the Mesa RTS project. Alejandra Carrillo opened the floor for Q&A. Specific projects mentioned were: Sun Metro Ops Center on hiatus until significant changes identified are finalized; City Hall improvements also on hiatus until City Manager gives authorization to move forward; Fire Station #37 in contract phase with artist; Cleveland Square fences are up; Bataan Railway is ongoing and series of phases expected to be completed by January 2012; International Bridges is almost complete with Sebastian's piece awaiting final coat of paint once site construction is finished; I-10 Aesthetics project in contract phase and designs will come back to PAC for review and feedback but not for final decision as CRRMA and TXDOT control those contracts moving forward. Additional information on project status will be provided at future meetings.

7. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm. Next meeting scheduled for July 12, 2011.

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

Respectfully submitted by:
Maria Aragon, Administrative Assistant

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