PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
January 25, 2016
MINUTES

TIME & PLACE:
The Public Arts Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico met at the conference room in City Hall, 505 Sims Street, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 4:00 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:
The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE:
   Sid Bryan, Tourism
   James Durham, Sierra Arts Council
   Eduardo Alicea, Art Representative
   Jia Apple, Business Community
   Juan Fuentes, City Manager
   Other Staff Present: Linda Sparks
   Visitors Present: Jeff Barbour, Jagger Gustin

QUORUM: There being a quorum present, the Board proceeded with the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2015 meeting was made by James Durham, seconded by Juan Fuentes, and it carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

REED ROCKETS PROJECT UPDATE:

Jeff Barbour began by playing a short video of the actual reed in his front yard. (Still pictures from the video are included as part of the minutes.) The reed swayed with the wind and it sounded noisy on the video. Jeff noted that the reed will have some movement with a consistent wind and a little more with a gust.

Juan asked how the rods are secured to the . . .

Jeff explained that at the base is a stainless steel pipe large enough to accommodate the fiberglass rods. Some reeds will have more fiberglass rods than others, depending on the weight and the height. The fiberglass rods have to have some space between the bottom and the top in order for them to have the flex.
Juan asked about the clamps at the bottom. Jeff stated that the clamps are just for this rig/model. He explained that what he will be doing in the future is he will be potting, that is fill the base with a fiberglass resin to secure the bottom, but it has to move relative to each other, it has to slide back and forth as the thing moves. The top part will be sitting on there and in order to keep it from falling off, he will put some of that hose with wires inside of it over the fiberglass rods and clamp the hose at the top and at the bottom, so that you will never see the fiberglass rods. It will be stainless steel from the base to the fiberglass and then from the top of the fiberglass all the way up to the top. The hose will protect the fiberglass rods from the elements. He will try to get silver hose or paint it silver. The hose is the type used to pump out septic tanks. That way it's safe because this is quite robust. The hose on the outside will hold it down in the unlikely event that a tornado comes by and picks them up. It will take a lot to pick them up. He wants to make sure that they don't go anywhere, that's why the hose is there. It will also protect it from the intensive sunlight here. The hose is there mostly to relieve any worry that the thing will fly off. Jeff said that he is going to build one and install it in his yard to keep an eye on it so if any problems come up over time, he will be able to foresee it.

Sid asked when he expects to have it installed. Jeff asked, we're shooting for June, right. Jagger replied, before the Centennial. The Centennial Celebration is scheduled for June 10-12. Juan asked if he could have it done sometime in May. Jeff answered that he could probably do it by the end of May.

Jeff added that he is going to Las Cruces the next day to talk to precast concrete companies, such as those who pour septic tanks, about a column. They can build a form, pour a form or they might have a form that he can use. The poles will be mounted on 14 cement columns. Each column will have a steel ring on the inside of it. There's a 4" flange at the bottom of the poles. The bottom part of the form will have a 4" flange that goes on there and then the base goes down into the form with rebar to keep it nice and strong. It then gets bolted down onto the flange. You then come back with the 14 pieces and set them on top.

Jeff asked if Bartoo had volunteers to help in setting the columns. Jagger answered that what Bartoo agreed to do is drop off any leftover concrete from a big job. Jeff continued, he stated that he needed these columns prefabbled. He will have them poured on site. Jeff asked if the City has a big posthole-digger. Jeff said he needs a hole for each concrete column and then backfill it with more cement. They need to be straight up and down.

Sid asked if the 14 columns with the space between them take up approximately 20'x20'. Further discussion ensued about the size of the installation. At one point the space was estimated at 35'x35'. Jeff replied that it would be something like that and added that there's plenty of room there for it. After some more dialogue, Jeff reconsidered and said he didn't think it would be that much. He added that by putting 5' between them, it would make it more pleasing. The advantage of this design is that you can walk around them. The space would look somewhat more triangular, similar to the grid presented at the previous meeting. There will be 4 rows staggered. The shorter reeds will be in the front and the taller ones in the back.
Juan asked Jeff how long it would take him to get them built. Juan commented that it’s already February and he is . . . Jeff interjected that he can knock one out every couple of days. Juan asked how much time he will need for installation. After some discussion, Jeff stated that he can have them all built and the columns all poured by end of April.

Jeff asked Jagger if his brother, Don Gustin who also owns a crane, be able to help. Jagger replied that he thinks so, but will check. Juan was asked about a crane and he responded that the City has the equipment for the utility light poles, but again he will also have to check with the Electric Dept. Juan commented that with all the unknowns, it would be best to get done by April.

Eduardo reminded everyone that Fiesta is coming up in May and that any construction that’s been started should be done before that day.

Jeff stated that he will get the whole parts finished. He asked if there is a lot in town that is safe where he can store everything, where he can put the columns before they’re installed. Juan asked if anyone knew anything about the property next to it and if we could possibly use that lot. Jeff stated that he wouldn’t want to put the reeds there, but he could put the cement columns. Sid replied that it’s listed with Jeanette Stevenson and that the price of that lot has come down to $22,900 which is a very good buy. Sid was asked if he could check into the use of the lot for temporary storage.

Juan asked if we have talked about permitting for this project. Jagger responded that we did and it was determined that if something was already built on it, it’s fine. Juan replied that the design in whole is different now. Jeff said he talked to the Building Inspector, Robbie Travis, before the design got finalized and he was not aware of any kind of a permit that is required for this because it’s art. It’s not like a building structure. Juan stated that he would have Robbie meet with Jeff again and double-check that. Juan stated that part of obtaining a permit will require a plan. Juan told Jeff that he will have to finalize his plans. Jeff asked what kind of plans do you need. Juan replied that Robbie can tell him what he needs when they meet. Jagger asked if we need a permit from the State Highway. Juan replied that we don’t because we are staying away from the right-of-way.

Jeff briefly touched on parts of the design and the installation procedure. He said he will get the permit ironed out. Since all the pieces are identical, he will only have to get the engineering on one. There will be no moving parts and yet it moves. The amount of movement depends on wind speeds and it’s not consistent all the way. For example, it takes about 40 pounds of force to move it 7 degrees, more wind and it will move a little more, give it more wind and it hardly moves at all. There are forces involved. He said he needs to find a way to calculate that. Sid said he can give Jeff the name of a structural engineer in Las Cruces that he can contact when he goes down to see about the forms. Jeff stated that he wants to work out any of the technical issues before he moves further on this project, before he starts buying steel and getting anymore money. He wants to make sure to get the permit set.

Juan asked Jeff to meet with Robbie the next day. Jeff said he would.
Jagger asked Juan where are we at, what kind of work needs to be done before we can really tell that it's an art park. Does MainStreet need to come up with some kind of a design. There's been some public comment from the public who go to MainStreet meetings. They have all that information and there are some ideas on how that can be implemented. The lot needs to be cleaned, there are weeds and there's some dirt-work that maybe the City can cleanup to make it more presentable. There are some walls in the back that need a coat of paint. Juan asked if MainStreet can take a more active role. The City can help with the dirt-work, but he sees the paint job more as a MainStreet project. Juan feels that MainStreet should take the lead on the design of the park. Jagger stated that just some cleanup will make a world of difference and it will show people that something is going on there. Sid stated that they have a MainStreet meeting following this meeting at 5:30 PM and will bring these things up.

Juan suggested that they ask Linda DeMarino to meet with Jeff and layout the plan. There are plans for some benches and shade. Jagger stated that MainStreet has money to buy trees and maybe a couple of benches for that site.

Sid asked if Linda DeMarino is invited to the Public Arts Advisory Board meetings. Linda Sparks answered, no. She was instructed to start inviting Linda to the meetings.

Jagger stated that we'll let Linda know that MainStreet needs to move forward with their plan and ideas. He added that they will work with Animas Creek Nursery to get plants that don't require a lot of water and will provide some shade.

Juan stated that it would be nice if MainStreet kept the design consistent with different sectors downtown. Sid replied that they want to try to keep it a little bit in the same idea as that of the plaza.

Jeff asked when he could pick up the second deposit of $1,400.00. Jagger said it would be according to the schedule that we agreed to.

Jagger said he wanted to make a public comment. The Veterans Center is in a big building phase right now and will have quite a bit of money set aside for public art. He wants to make sure that someone from this community, maybe even somebody from this Board gets to sit on that. When they did the Spaceport, that sculpture is beautiful, it's fine, it's dramatic, but no one locally had a chance to look at it or give any input and that's totally wrong. We need to make sure that doesn't happen again. He protested that because he knows how the process works. It is state law that people have to sit on the selection committee. They named about 5 people and the local person was a lady from Albuquerque that has nothing to do with T or C or Sierra County. When this comes along, he will be coming before City officials to make sure that this happens. There needs to be some local input and discussion about the artwork that will go in the Veterans Home. Chuck Zimmer in Santa Fe is in charge of public art in the State. He would be the one to talk to. It's a little early yet, but he just doesn't want what happened with the Spaceport to happen again.
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY BOARD:
No other comments were made other than those made above.

TIME, PLACE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
Due to the 3rd Monday in February falling on a holiday, the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 4:00 P.M. in the conference room at City Hall, 505 Sims Street.

ADJOURN:
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 P.M. James Durham moved to adjourn, seconded by Sid Bryan, and it carried.

ATTEST:
Minutes were approved on March 21, 2016 on a motion made by Juan Fuentes and seconded by Sid Bryan, and it carried.

[Signature]
Linda Sparks
Secretary
Hardcopy Photos from Video Presentation by Jeff Barbour
Public Arts Board Meeting 1/25/16