PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
May 16, 2016
MINUTES

TIME & PLACE:
The Public Arts Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico met in the conference room in the Administration Annex at 401 McAdoo, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 4:00 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:
The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM by James Durham.

ATTENDANCE:

James Durham, Sierra Arts Council
Eduardo Alicea, Art Representative
Jia Apple, Business Community

Absent: Sid Bryan, Tourism
Juan Fuentes, City Manager

Staff Present: Linda Sparks, Secretary

Visitors Present: Jeff Barbour, Linda DeMarino, Jagger Gustin, Rebecca Speakes

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
A motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2016 meeting was made by Jia Apple, seconded by Eduardo Alicea, and it carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

REED ROCKETS PROJECT UPDATE:

Jeff Barbour began by stating that he has been posting photos on facebook of the progress as he has been going along. Photos shown at this meeting are incorporated into the minutes. The first photo is of the base design showing the base raised a little bit off the concrete, and to hold the thing together, he enclosed the fiberglass rods with flexible metal exhaust pipe. This will keep it from going over so far; so even with the heaviest wind, it won't have that much of a reach.

James asked what that would be covered with.
Jeff explained that it will be covered with blue PVC flexible tubing, clamped to the base and to the rod. Over the top of that, because the pipe is blue, will be a desert camouflage cloth that will go over it like a sleeve.

Concerns were raised as to how long the sleeve will last exposed to the weather, and that cloth can be vandalized more easily.

Jeff explained the sleeve doesn’t have any structural function. It is to cover the bright blue PVC tubing that holds the thing together. He described the cloth as being military tent type material. It’s designed for military use for tents. He said it is as durable as you can find. Will it last forever, probably not. Some of these things will have to be replaced. Jeff brought in a sample of the fabric that he had in his car. He explained that at the top of each base is a knuckle. Knuckles hold the bottom of the fiberglass rods. The sleeve will go over the knuckle and the rod and it gets clamped in on the base underneath the knuckle. The PVC is needed for more strength to hold the thing together. The metal does a good job of keeping the rods from swinging too far, but difficult to clamp it to the base if you weld it. The PVC is easy to clamp and is quite strong. It’s used to keep the reed from separating from the base. PVC is not paintable.

Linda and James asked about the earlier plan to use some kind of metal for the covering. Jeff explained that the metal is still there, but unfortunately, there’s no way of welding the metal to the base or the rods because it doesn’t mold very well so he went to another system for doing that. The fiberglass rod has certain bent to it and the metal keeps it from going too far. If you weld it, it gets weak and it could break, so he went to the PVC tubing that goes over the outside of it which can be clamped and is quite strong. A metal outer covering would prevent the whole thing from moving. The whole idea is that they sway in the wind.

Jia asked if the idea of using the hose with the wires in it was out. Jeff answered, yes. It just worked out that the PVC tubing was stronger, better and more readily available. It seems like a better way of doing it.

The question was asked if this is different from what the City Commission approved. Jeff replied that it is still pretty much the same. The only thing he added was some metal piping to keep it from going over any farther than the fiberglass rods would allow it to.

Jeff was asked to elaborate on the knuckles. He explained that the knuckles hold the base of the fiberglass rods into the top of the stands. The knuckles fit inside the top of the stands and the stands are attached to the cement wall with the forms he’s already built. Jeff stated that he’s got all the stainless steel he needs for the reeds themselves and all the leafs cut. All he has to do is polish the stainless steel and attach some thicker stainless steel to the bottom of the thing that the fiberglass rods are going into. He is 80% done.

The camouflage sleeve was revisited. Linda stated that having had a restaurant, they had canvas umbrellas that were thicker than Jeff’s sample and the sun beats on the canvas and breaks it down. Jeff replied that it’s not really canvas. It’s actually a plastic
type composite material. Linda asked if there's a guarantee on how long it will last. She's worried that the sleeves will have to be replaced every 3 years. Jeff replied that it could happen. Moveable parts, for example the fiberglass rods, have the potential to wear out over time. That's the natural part of things. He is setting the whole thing up so that you can easily take it apart and replace parts. He's done everything possible to make these things last as long as possible. The fiberglass rods will have a coating on the outside to protect them from wear to each other. Jeff added that the military uses this material to cover things. It's the best stuff he could find. It's possible that it will fall after a while and need to be replaced. The only way to prevent any kind of maintenance is to weld the reeds directly into the base, but then they wouldn't sway.

Jia asked how he planned to attach the sleeve. Jeff answered that it will be clamped in. Jia asked if it would have folds. Jeff replied that it would have folds. Jia stated that would bother her. Jeff added that he's talked to Jagger about doing the sewing. The reed and the base have different dimensions, the reed 1-1/2" and the base 3". There will be some crimping.

Jeff opened the floor to suggestions.

Linda suggested possibly using a bigger stainless steel cover that would allow for movement inside it, or metal rings that would also allow for movement. After a lengthy discussion of possible options and really not getting anywhere, Jagger suggested a site visit to actually see it. The consensus, however, was no fabric. Jeff suggested that everyone check for other options.

Jeff stated that another thing that plays into all this is time and asked, when do we want to have this thing up. Is the delay with the architect?

Linda replied that there is a delay in general. He gave his part to Bill and Bill was going to create something, but Bill is in the process of transitioning so he hasn't done that quite yet. She just talked to the architect today and he asked when we get talking back to this. Linda feels that come June they will be ready to revisit that and Bill will probably be in a better spot as well.

Jeff, so then it's not going up until the architectural stuff is taken care off, is that the idea. Linda replied that we're not in a big hurry to be done by May like the original idea. Jeff asked if we're looking at July or August. Linda replied, yes.

Jeff remarked that this will give him more time to look at other options for this.

James stated that Jeff said PVC pipe and then called it PVC hose. Jeff replied that it is PVC hose. It has like a mesh with some plastic on the inside and PVC on the outside. The outside is bright blue. Jeff added that he still has to weld all the tops on, and cut all the fiberglass rods. Each rod will have a shrink wrap coating on the outside designed to be used in applications where there is a lot of rubbing. The fiberglass rods are rather soft and the shrink wrap will protect them from wearing down.
Rebecca Speakes with the Sierra County Arts Council commented that she didn’t see anything wrong with blue and a discussion ensued as to what shade of blue it is.

Jagger asked if it makes sense to schedule a site visit so that we can actually see it and Jeff can explain the process. Jeff would like to build 3 or 4 more to see how they all work together.

It was decided to have a short meeting and follow it with a site visit. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, 6/20/16.

Jeff stated that he will have all the mechanics of the whole thing done by then. He can probably have it done by the middle of July. All agreed that would be okay.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY BOARD:
No other comments were made other than those made above.

TIME, PLACE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2016 at 4:00 P.M. in the conference room at the Administration Annex, 401 McAdoo.

ADJOURN:
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 P.M. Eduardo Alicea moved to adjourn, seconded by Jia Apple, and it carried.

ATTEST:
Minutes were approved on June 20, 2016 on a motion made by Eduardo Alicea and seconded by Jia Apple, and it carried.

Linda Sparks
Secretary