PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
August 15, 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, August 15, 2016 at 4:00 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:
The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM by James Durham.

ATTENDANCE:
James Durham, Sierra Arts Council  
Eduardo Alicea, Art Representative  
Jia Apple, Business Community  
Sid Bryan, Tourism  
Juan Fuentes, City Manager

Other Staff Present: Linda Sparks, Secretary  
Visitors Present: Jeff Barbour, Jagger Gustin, Linda DeMarino

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
A motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016 meeting was made by Sid Bryan, seconded by Eduardo Alicea, and it carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:
Linda DeMarino stated that Will Powell will be coming out on 8/25/16 to present some conceptual ideas for the space in the Art Park. Also, Sazi is acquainted with a lady who is a landscape architect. She was in town the other night so they drove her by the space and by Jeff Barbour’s place to see what Jeff is doing. They are not exactly sure where they are going with this, but she sounds pretty cool. Her name is Sabina. She has a landscape architecture business in El Paso called something like Sabina’s Signature Landscapes. She does some really interesting stuff. She has done parks and she is big into mosaics and stuff like that.

Sid asked if Sabina would be a paid person. Linda replied, yes.
Linda shared Sabina’s perception of the Healing Waters Plaza (HWP). Sabina said one thing that disappointed her was that it didn’t really have the feel of Truth or Consequences. She feels that Truth or Consequences has much more character than is represented in the Plaza. Sabina has been coming to Truth or Consequences for a long time, so she gets it. Sabina made some suggestions right off the bat that were really good. She suggested planting trees above the Art Park to create a backdrop so that you’re not just looking up at a bunch of industrial looking things.

James took the discussion back to the visit from Will Powell on 8/25/16. Per Linda, the meeting is set for 5:00 PM. James suggested that as many Board members as possible should try to attend this meeting. Jia informed the Board that she would be out of town. The rest of the Board planned to attend.

Sid asked if we have to wait for the installation of the Reed Rockets sculpture until they have the plan done. Linda stated she would find that out soon. Linda commented that the real concern is that if you’re moving heavy equipment around, having the sculpture up would make it more difficult. Sid asked if the plan would be done by month’s end. Linda replied that she didn’t know.

James noted that we were joined by Juan Fuentes and Jagger Gustin at this time.

REED ROCKETS PROJECT UPDATE:

Jeff Barbour began his report by stating that he has had Jagger painting the reeds, pointing to one of the photos that he had provided. He has 5 reeds that are completely done. He stated that he added music to the whole thing. There is a chime system that is inside each of the rods now. Jeff shook a couple of models that he brought with him to illustrate the sound the chimes make. He stated that they are quite loud indoors, but not so outside. A metal top will be welded to the end and each rod will have 3 coats of paint. The reality is that when you have 14 of them going in a strong wind and you’re in the middle surrounded by these chimes, and because you can’t see them, you have no idea where the sound is coming from. He thinks it would be a unique effect.

Linda expressed her concern that it may bother the neighbors. Jeff restated that they are not that loud outside, and he can de-chime them if it becomes a problem later on. Sid asked if it would be difficult to de-chime them or tone them down. Jeff answered that it wouldn’t be that hard. He just has to drill a hole and put a bolt in there to keep the clapper from banging around. Generally, it takes a pretty strong wind for them to make any sound at all. When there’s a strong wind around here, there are usually other sounds coming around, and the wind itself will disrupt the sound. You won’t have the chiming effect without the sound of wind. Now the reeds will move even in the lightest breeze based on the way they’re set up. The resistance to the reeds is practically nonexistent. The reeds move quite easily because they rest on the springs. The rod that is in there which is ¾ inch drill rod, is very strong, just guides it around. The actual reed is resting on the springs. Resting on the springs also keeps the welds within and keeps it from falling apart. The springs are quite strong. The springs hold them and
allow them to move quite easily. In a strong wind, the base moves a little bit, and then the chimes go. Jeff stated that it is going to be pretty amazing when you’re standing in the middle of this thing, there’s a nice steady breeze, the reeds are all swinging around, and you’re surrounded by music.

James stated that he and Eduardo checked them out and were both impressed.

Jeff, referring to another photo, explained that these are the spring bases. The springs are industrial quality, very heavy duty springs. It takes an awful lot of force for them to actually spring, but they do spring enough. Next photo, this ring will be around the base and its springs will hardly cause any resistance, but it keeps fingers and little hands from getting into it. It’s a safety thing. Next photo, these are the collars that will go over the bolts. The bolts that hold the base up will hold them onto the cement, yet allow the base to move so the chimes can work. They will set on a concrete wall, which will be 2 feet underground and 2 feet up. They will set like on a seat. Each reed will be about 4 feet apart from each other. Once in a while, they will hit each other, but for the most part, they move in the same direction as the wind.

Linda asked if there are plans to put a fence around it.

Jeff replied, no. The idea is that you can sit on one of the 2 foot walls and be right in the middle of it. There is nothing in there that is going to cause any problems for anybody. It’s quite robust; you can hang from it and not have it be a problem. The reeds themselves are \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch steel. You can hold on to the whole thing and not bend it. When you start moving it a little bit, the chimes go and that will deter people from doing monkey-bars on it. The thing is extremely strong all the way from the base to the top. This thing is going to be mounted on cement with 4 - 5/8 bolts; it’s going to as strong as a house.

Jeff stated that he has 3 bases he has to put the chimes into, then that’s all done. He has 5 reeds done so he has 9 more to make. He has the bases almost all done. Has all the knuckles done, and has all the reeds done, that is, the stainless steel part. He has to do the final assembly and painting.

Jeff mentioned doing a plaque for the sculpture. He has a signature that he puts on all his work. It consists of 2 stainless steel discs and 3 dots strategically placed. He was thinking of placing it in front. He will make a rig for the cement to hold it in.

Jagger suggested that there should also be a dedication plaque that denotes the City, the Public Arts Advisory Board, the Arts Council... 

Jeff interjected that he wants to dedicate it to his wife because she has put a lot of effort into this in the background.
Jagger stated that this plaque would denote that. Jagger also recommended including the disclaimer that the City attorney did years ago. It was vetted by the City attorney and the State people.

Juan suggested that the Board have a sample of what it's going to look like. Jeff said that he will actually have it done for the Board to see.

Jeff is hoping to get it all done by month's end. He asked Juan if he wanted to receive them at the City yard so that he can get the half payment. They will all be numbered to their specific location.

Juan asked if they will all be assembled when he delivers them.

Jeff replied that they will all be assembled, but they will not be installed. The City still needs to pour the cement walls.

Juan stated that he will get with the Public Works Director and see when they can start. We will have to receive an inventory of what was delivered so that he can present it to the City Commission at its subsequent meeting.

Jia expressed her concern of a potential conflict between speaking or music, anything audible, and the chimes. Is there anyway of stopping the chimes temporarily. Other than that, she likes it and thinks it's a nice addition.

Linda added that people want a little performance area there.

Jeff said he could put an eye-bolt in the cement, build a ring on each reed, take a rope and tie it to hold it in one position to temporarily quiet them down.

Jia asked if that would delay his delivery time.

Jeff listed what it would entail, but didn't say how long the delay would be.

Juan asked if it would create a trip hazard.

Jeff replied that it would only be temporary until they're done and motioned that it would only go from here to there. He then suggested using a chain with a spring. Jeff said he would make up the dead eyes and include them into the mount, but wouldn't be able to make the chain and spring system until the thing is actually installed because he wouldn't know where the bolts are all going to be lined up.

James asked Eduardo for his comments. Eduardo stated that he doesn't care about the sound, just that it looks nice. He thinks that the MainStreet design for the Art Park should have been done a long time ago.
Linda interjected that Bill told her that Juan said to focus on the HWP and stop this. That’s why it’s where it is now.

Juan asked Linda if they have any plans and who is doing the plans. Linda responded that Will Powell is coming with the conceptual plans and they talked to a landscape architect. Will Powell works for New Mexico MainStreet as a consultant. Consultants are free. They request his help and then he comes out to help.

Juan thinks that what happened is that the City was originally going to do the whole Plaza and Art Park theme, and then MainStreet came along and said that Will was going to be part of the design. We need a schedule of that project, when is the design going to be completed, when is it going to be installed, etc.

Discussion followed as to the concern over installing the Reed Rockets sculpture before the dirt work on the rest of the park. There is a valid concern over the sculpture sustaining damage from heavy equipment. It was the consensus of the Board to attend the MainStreet meeting 8/25/16. Jeff agreed to attend as well. A decision as to when to install the Reed Rockets sculpture will be decided at the next meeting.

James asked for anymore comments.

Jagger informed the Board that he has been talking to a local artist. He does sculptures. He asked Jagger if there are means to put in other sculptures. Jagger told him, yes, but that he would have to donate his piece. As soon as he gets him to agree to donate it, he will have him talk to the Board. The Board can decide if it likes it and wants it, and if it doesn’t conflict with the theme. It’s some type of a metal sculpture that he has and wants to get rid of.

Jeff asked for a motion to approve the latest change to the design, the chimes. Sid Bryan moved to approve the addition of the chimes, seconded by Jia Apple, and it carried.

The photos provided by Jeff for the meeting are attached to the minutes.

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, September 19, 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 4:58 P.M. Jia Apple moved to adjourn, seconded by Eduardo Alicea, and it carried.
ATTEST:
Minutes were approved on October 17, 2016 on a motion made by Jia Apple and seconded by Sid Bryan, and it carried.

Linda Sparks
Secretary
Inside Detail of Chime System