PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2013
MINUTES

TIME & PLACE:
The Public Arts Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico met at the Public Library, 325 Library Lane, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 4:00 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:
The meeting was called to order by City Manager, Juan Fuentes, and Linda Sparks took the minutes of the meeting.

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

Other Staff Present: Bill Sletton, Community Dev. Director/Asst. City Manager
Linda Sparks, Executive Assistant

Visitors Present: Tim Brown

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:
None

DISCUSSION/ACTION:

FYE 2014 Public Arts Project

Gazebo: Bill Sletton and Tim Brown presented a conceptual plan for the gazebo at Ralph Edwards Park. The plan gives the gazebo an art element to it, calls for a metal frame, and will use the existing base. The colorful panels at the top of each of 8 units are what can be suggested as an art panel. The panels are approximately 18” by just under 8’ and can be of various metal, glass or some kind of composite. Since this is at the concept stage, it is open to ideas as to how these panels can be filled. They can also be left as open space since there is an overhang. The panels are not a permanent part of the structure. They are interchangeable and a panel can be changed out after its life. Therefore, they can be opened up to students and artists to create a panel. The details as to how to implement that would need to be worked out.

Triangle Park Water Fountain: The fountain was also proposed as a project for this fiscal year. It was suggested that the $1,500.00 in the budget could also go towards finishing the base of the fountain, possibly finishing it with tiles.
Reed Rocket Project: Mr. Bryan and Mr. Durham introduced this project to the Board. The Sierra Arts Council approved the Reed Rocket project by Jeff Barber and is helping to fund it. Reed Rocket was made to go in the Triangle Park. It was stated more than once that it is an impressive project. It is a large sculpture of many pieces and it moves. The budget is approximately $14,000 and they have raised about $7,000 of it in the past 5 years and speculate that it might take another 5 years to complete. The book they are selling is mostly earmarked for the Reed Rocket project. The project was withdrawn for consideration due to its size and the improbability to complete it by June 30, 2014.

Update on Triangle Park Fountain

Mr. Fuentes reported that the City crew painted the inside of the fountain. The City plans to landscape where the gravel is to prevent kids from climbing or jumping into the fountain. Work is ongoing.

Mr. Fuentes identified the two (2) projects before the Board: the gazebo at Ralph Edwards Park and the fountain at Triangle Park.

Mr. Bryan argued his support for using the money for the base of the fountain. Mr. Durham chose the gazebo as this year's project. Mr. Alicea would like to wait until he can take another look at the fountain. It was the consensus of the Board to wait until the next meeting to revisit the topic and make a decision as to which project to pursue this year. The focus this year is the south side, and possibly the north side next year. The intent is to spread the art throughout the City and downtown. Public money must be used on public property.

It was also the consensus of the Board to go with the public call for public art as suggested by Sophia Peron at last month's meeting and subsequently Mr. Slettom will develop a narrative for the display ad. Mr. Slettom suggested that the narrative be site specific, include the scope of work, construction documents and a budget. He also suggested that the criteria for the designs include the scope of work, total budget, how it will be accomplished, a timeline-start/finish, and the site must be predetermined.

The expressed opinion of the Board was that it is important to integrate art into the architecture, i.e. shelters, shades and benches.

City sites for potential future projects were listed. Among them were the gateway areas at the north/south ends, the Old Firehouse site, the Buckhorn site, the Lee Belle concrete slab, the medians, and of course, Ralph Edwards Park and Triangle Park.

Mr. Brown verbally gave the Board/City the right to use the imagery presented. The plan is copyrighted.

Mr. Brown said that the MainStreet Design Committee will be meeting to discuss a project for the Buckhorn Plaza.
The hope is to do an art project each year. Other funding sources may include money set aside from State appropriations for art (this is managed by the State), and the possibility of MainStreet working to improve the Buckhorn property by adding an art component to it. Partnering with the Sierra Arts Council on some projects may also be a possibility.

Advisory Board Vacancy
Mr. Fuentes explained that the Board is made up of 5 members, each representing one of the following groups: tourism, local business community, local artist community, Sierra County Arts Council, and local government. The Board is missing someone from the Chamber of Commerce. Hans will be contacted for a recommendation. The Board had received a letter of interest from Sophia Peron, but unless she is a member of the Chamber or recommended by the Chamber, she cannot be considered for appointment to the Board.

TIME, PLACE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING
The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, November 18, 2013 at 4:00 P.M. at the Public Library.

ADJOURN:
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 P.M.

ATTEST:
Minutes were approved on August 19, 2015 on a motion made by James Durham, and seconded by Eduardo Alicea, and carried.

Linda Sparks
Secretary