

**CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES
PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024**

SPECIAL MEETING

Special meeting of the Public Arts Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico to be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, 405 W. 3rd St, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901.

ROLL CALL:

Sid Bryan, Tourism - Chairman
Cary "Jagger" Gustin, Sierra County Arts Council – Vice-Chairman
Eduardo Alicea, Art Representative
Andy Underwood - Business Community - Absent
Suzanne Carlstedt, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Traci Alvarez, Assistant City Manager
Katy Martinez, City Clerk Admin Assistant

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Vice-Chairman Gustin: I'd like to request that we receive an update on the Reed Rocket Sculpture from Traci during Board Reports.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I can give you an update.

Member Carlstedt made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the Reed Rocket Sculpture update. Member Alicea seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. April 16, 2024

Vice-Chairman Gustin made a motion to approve the minutes. Member Carlstedt seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: (3 minute rule applies)

No public comment at this time.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discussion/Action: Art in Public Places (AIPP Purchase Program) – Animal Shelter Appropriation Allocation Selection Committee Member.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Thanks for coming together in a special meeting for me. As you may or may not be aware, last year the city was appropriated through Senator Diamond some funding for an expansion on our animal shelter. We were awarded \$450,000. Part of the law that comes into effect, and they haven't had the funding. They have been sweeping a lot of the Art in Public Places funds. Normally any allocation over \$100,000, there is a percent that has been allocated for

Art in Public Places. In past appropriations they have swept the funds, so we haven't had to go through the process because they needed the money for projects instead. This year with all the funding over the last few years that's been available, they are delegating \$4,500. This is what is allocated of out \$450,000 appropriation to be put towards Art in Public Places. Part of that process is a committee. We have to form a selection committee. Each member of the committee that we have, which I am hoping that you guys allocate one of your members to be one of the members of the committee. We would have the Mayor, City Manager, and myself as members as well. We would have slide shows to review. They are very resource heavy slide shows that will have to be reviewed, so your committee member is going to need to be someone that has computer access and can sit and review thousands of pieces of artwork. We will only be allowed to select art work that is within our \$4,500 mark and only specific to what is in the slide show. The next portion of that committee is going to be designating where that piece of art is going to go. It has to be placed in a public spot. It doesn't have to be specific to the animal shelter. Whether it be in one of our public offices, city commission chambers, or if it's an outdoor piece of art that is within that \$4,500 funding then we would designate where we would want to place it. This will be a new process and procedure for me like I said they have swept the funds before. We haven't had to go through this process with the state. I have done some preliminary review of some of the artwork that is on their links that they sent us. The art costs go anywhere from very small dollar amounts to thousands and thousands of dollars. It's a lot that we will have to sift through because we will have to stay within that \$4,500 budget. They have large pieces, like the big sculpture that's out in front of Spaceport. That was actually done through Art in Public Places. If your award is under a certain dollar amount you can do the piece of art and place it anywhere in the public. If your actual overall award is over a certain dollar amount it has to be site specific. In the case of Spaceport, they had to put their piece of art at the spaceport. I don't know if you guys have all seen that, but that was funded through Art in Public Places as well.

Chairman Bryan: Do you know how much that was?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I don't. I'd have to look back to what their appropriation is.

Vice-Chairman Gustin: I believe it was \$100,000.00.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: That might be because I believe the percentage of Art in Public Places is 1% of your allocation and so if they were awarded \$1 million dollars then the \$100,000 would be right in there. The art that we will be looking at I have seen anywhere from sculptures to beautiful paintings to very odd ball things. There was one of the slide shows had a big basket with a bunch of doll heads in it. They wanted over \$4,000 for that. There are some very interesting things to select from.

Member Carlstedt: We couldn't as a committee commission a local artist to do something for that price?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: No, this is all done at the state level. They have a selection of artists that they rotate through that's within their program. I don't know how they select their artists, but they are specific to New Mexico. But how an artist becomes on that list that's something that's done through their program. Once we get to a point where we select our committee members, each committee will then need to go through all of these slides maybe pick out some of their favorites then we will come together as a committee. We will discuss everybody's favorite. At that point in time decide which piece of art they want to select. We will actually have to set up a virtual meeting where they'll come in at the state while we do the official selection of that piece of art, and they will have to do their review and approval. Long term, the city has to maintain it. It may need to

be insured. Although, our allocation is small enough at \$4,500 that insurance would fall within our normal self-insurer's funds amount.

Chairman Bryan: Did you say that out board would have one person?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yes, that's going to be my request today, is for you guys as a board to allocate one person to sit on that committee. It has to be someone that has computer access and has the ability or time to sort through thousands of slides. I'll send you out an email and within there will be four separate links, so there are four separate slide show bundles, and each slide show bundle probably has over a thousand pages on it. It's definitely not a quick one hour of your time.

Member Carlstedt: They can't screen out the ones that are out of our price range?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: It says slide shows are organized by price starting at \$1,000 and going up from there. The prices are all inclusive of artwork, framing, plexiglass, identification plaque, delivery, and secure permanent installation at site.

Member Carlstedt: If you're looking at a link, you could just stop looking once you have reached the threshold?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yes.

Chairman Bryan: Is there any one here who is interested?

Vice-Chairman Gustin: I don't have good strong internet at home, so it probably wouldn't be good for me to try and do it.

Member Alicea: I would.

Member Carlstedt: I defer to you.

Chairman Bryan: I defer to you too. Eduardo wants to do it.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: You will need to take official action if you don't mind.

Vice-Chairman Gustin made a motion to elect Member Alicea as the Art in Public Places (AIPP Purchase Program) – Animal Shelter Appropriation Allocation Selection Committee Member. Member Carlstedt seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Eduardo, I'll send you an email with the information. Do keep in mind because this is a selection committee, the link and going through that's not a public document to filter through. Then I'll coordinate with you and the Mayor. If the Commission or Mayor decides to allocate anybody else within that, once we form that full committee, we will schedule a meeting.

Vice-Chairman Gustin: So, Traci, it will be you, the City Manager, Eduardo from this board and who else?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Rolf Hechler. So, the committee members need to be made up of our Mayor who is the authorized signatory, our City Manager who is the over all City Manager person who does the approvals has the authorization and approvals, myself because I am the one who manages the grant. From there, however many we want to form as a selection committee. At

this point in time, the Mayor has requested that I reach out to the Art Board and see if you guys will delegate a person. I will get back with the Mayor and find out if he wants to proceed with anywhere else or how he wants to delegate.

Vice-Chairman Gustin: So, as it stands there are four members right now?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Right now, yes. There may or may not be more. Sometimes the more people you get, the more opinions you get, and the longer it takes especially with art. Art is so subjective to a person.

Chairman Bryan: So, Eduardo right now is a member?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yes, for sure.

5. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

Vice-Chairman Gustin: I request an update on our Reed Rocket Sculpture.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: It went to City Commission as your recommendation for approval to place the art up for sale. They did approve for that to go forward. However, we wanted to get it out of storage, get it over to the collection center and get it weighed out, so we could price it against what the cost of metal is going. It took a little while for us to do that just because we had to wait on OJ and his crew, with the film crew and everybody being in. We got that done and the estimated metal cost if somebody was to sell it for that is right around \$50 it was much lower than we expected, so I think we are looking at potentially doing is putting up for sale at not less than \$100. That I think will keep anybody from purchasing it just for the purpose of scrap metal. It has to go back in front of the Commission for their approval on the cost.

Chairman Bryan: Will the public be able to see it?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Once we get it up for sale, yes. Once the Commission approves the sale cost. I will have to review the minutes to see exactly what their motion was, it may not have to go back in front of Commission as long as I'm selling it over the minimum cost for scrap metal. Once we get ready to advertise it, we will have to put it in an area where people can go to look at it. It will just be laying down, stacked up somewhere. I will have to work with staff potentially OJ.

Chairman Bryan: It's been years since I think any of us have seen it.

Vice-Chairman Gustin: I've seen it as recent as the last year and a half. It was stored at the old armory building. It looked to be in really good shape.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: There are a couple of spots that look like it's potentially got bent. A couple staff members and department heads ago that were moving equipment down in there, none of them are still employed. Looks like they might have backed into or bumped into it. I don't think it's something that can't be fixed.

Vice-Chairman Gustin: It was not damaged extensively. When I looked at it, it was fine.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I think that if someone was purchasing it for the purpose of what it was intended to display it as art, I think that they could very much work with the artist, and I think he could do any repairs.

Chairman Bryan: I'd like to buy it. I'm sure many people would want to buy it.

Member Carlstedt: Is it like a sealed bid?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: No, I'll just advertise. I'll do it like I do the properties. I'll set it up for sale, and anybody can submit an offer. I take all of those offers to the City Commission, then the City Commission ultimately accepts an offer. Now, if we have a case where multiple people offer the same dollar amount, and it's the highest dollar amount, then what I do is reach back out to them and ask if they would like to amend their offer. I'll tell them you know we have 3 offers for \$100 and would you like to amend your offer at all. Depending on what I'm selling or what I'm selling for, I'll give them anywhere from 5 to 14 days to think about amending their offer and putting in a final offer. Only one other time with property have I had to do that one more time because 2 people out of 4 matched an offer again. Then I tell them I need you to give the best and final offer. We actually got something that was \$2,000 more than the other person. We just do it that way. Nobody ever knows who's made the offer, they may know the dollar amount, but they won't know who has made the offer.

6. REPORTS FROM STAFF

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Thank you again for coming together for this special meeting.

7. SET TIME, PLACE AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 4:00 pm.

8. ADJOURN

Member Carlstedt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:19 pm. Vice-Chairman Gustin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 16th day of July 2024.



Sid Bryan, Chairman