

Following notice and publication, a regular called meeting of the *Public Art Commission* took place on Monday, March 31, 2014, at 3:30 p.m. at Kenneth McNease Convention Center, 500 Rio Concho Dr., San Angelo, Texas.

Commissioners Present at the meeting were Mr. Daniel Makins, Ms. Lori Francks, Mr. Quang Le, Ms. Susan Williams, Ms. Sue Rainey and Mr. Alejandro Castanon.

Staff present was Mr. Carl White.

I. OPEN SESSION (4:00) P.M.

A. Call to Order

Mr. Castanon called the meeting to order and called for public comment.

B. Public Comment:

Mr. White stated that there are three positions on the Public Art Commission that will soon expire. Anyone interested can submit an application. They are available on the City's website. Nominations will go to City Council for consideration.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of approving the January 9, 2014 meeting Minutes.

Ms. Francks made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Ms. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

III. REGULAR AGENDA/PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT

2. Discussion of the relocation of the buffalo sculpture at El Paseo de Santa Angela (pavilions) to another park and approval of any matters related thereto.

Mr. White presented some background information on the sculpture located at the Paseo pavilions. This area was designed to be a host space. Sometimes the entire area is taken up for the events located there. The thought is to relocate the sculpture to another area or another park. Ms. Angelica Pena, Civic Events Manager, stated that the Civic Events Advisory Board has requested looking into moving the sculpture but did not have the funds to do so. Ray Zapata from the Southside Lions Club and John Belmont from the American Republic of Texas represent groups that have large events at the Paseo. Mr. Salmon is not in favor of moving the sculpture. Mr. Zapata asked the Commission to approve or recommend moving the sculpture. The sculpture originally was placed there temporarily but their events have outgrown the venue and now need the space. They are recommending moving the art to another location and then fill in the spot with concrete that could be used as a dance floor. They believe that the sculpture prevents other events from renting the venue because they need more room. Also, they are concerned about the children climbing on the sculptures and being a safety hazard. The Commission discussed affecting the artist's intent by moving the sculpture. Moving the sculpture will also involve replacing the pavers where the sculpture once stood.

Present for public comment on this item were Mr. Joaquin Cervantes, Mr. Bob Salas and Ms. Monette Molinar with the Southside Lions Club and Mr. John Luce, Mr. John Belmont, Mr. Alex Eudy and Ms. Judy Fowler with the Texas Independence Day Festival. Mr. Eudy stated that to honor Ft. Concho and the Buffalo soldiers' with a mural on the ground would flow a lot better with the space. Mr. Joaquin Cervantes, Southside Lions Club, suggested moving the sculpture closer to the trees, where it can be appreciated by the public and still be tied into the Paseo area. Mr. Belmont commented that the art work should be where the public can see it and moving it will affect rental of the Paseo area. Ms. Fowler also commented on the use of the space for vendors and safety of the children by having the sculpture moved. Mr. Salas recommended in-kind support and fundraising to share the cost to move the sculpture.

Mr. White reminded the Commission that part of the idea for the sculpture came from Elmer Kelton's book *The Wolf and the Buffalo*. The Commission also discussed moving the sculpture to another part of the Paseo area but because the sculpture takes up roughly 1,300 square feet, it will still take up space that renters would like to use. In addition, the Commission discussed moving the sculpture to Ft. Concho, the State Park and North Bryant. The Sunken Garden Park has had temporary art displayed as a part of the competition so to place a permanent sculpture there would take available space for entrants. This item eventually will need to be taken to City Council but Mr. Makins would like to be able to get all the details about the move and its cost before going to Council. Mr. White recommended forming a committee to meet in the next week or two when Mr. Salmon is back to talk about the move and bring the details back to the Art Commission. The Commission decided to table this item for the next agenda.

3. Consideration of approving the removal of the boulders around the RAN sculpture at Civic League Park.

Mr. White presented an introduction and background information on the sculpture. Mr. White showed pictures of the landscaping around the sculpture. Approximately six years ago the boulders were added around the sculpture. Some landscaping was done around the sculpture also with sprinklers but it was causing the

sculpture to rust excessively. So, a landscape area was created with drip irrigation to take the sprinklers off the sculpture. The carpet junipers have since gone away and there is still some red yucca there but the boulders were added as embellishments to the piece.

Ms. Joan Mertz stated the boulders are incongruent to the integrity of the artist's intent and would like to see the piece brought back to the original vision coming up out of the ground.

Mr. Makins made a motion to remove the boulders from around the RAN sculpture. Mr. Le seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of approving a "project application form" to be required of all proposals for the placement of permanent art on City of San Angelo Public property.

A copy of the application is attached as a part of the permanent record. Mr. White stated that there is a process in place for temporary indoor and outdoor display of art; however, there is not anything in place for permanent art. Once approved, this application once completed, becomes public record. The application will make the process of getting art work approved much easier and speed up the process. The Commission discussed whether the application should clarify if the art is being gifted to the city or is art work for sale. There are probably one or two such proposals a year. Adjustments may be needed to some applications and additional information requested. Mr. Castanon made a motion to accept the proposed application with the change adding a spot indicating whether the art work will be gifted or if it the artist is requesting monetary compensation. Ms. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously. .

5. Consideration of approving matters related to the "Snaps" photographic image competition and exhibition.

Mr. White updated the Commission on last year's "Snaps" contest, discussing moving the exhibition to the convention center and having a contest every other year. Mr. White suggested tying the contest in with next year's River Fest and having entrants submit their photos after the River Fest. Images submitted then could be used to promote River Fest. The Commission discussed setting up a committee for the contest at the next meeting, the time line for the event, finding a juror and promoting the contest.

6. Discussion of creating a survey of possible locations available for the placement of public art and approving matters related thereto.

Mr. White charged the Commission to think of areas in San Angelo for the placement of art. This list would be available for artists to consider displaying their art work. There is a list of public art work that needs to be updated and added to the City's website. Mr. White will send a list of public property to commissioners. Ms. Mertz suggested surveying and prioritizing locations for the display of public art to promote and focus on different locations and spread out the works. Mr. White suggested a Commissioner visioning workshop. The Commission discussed inviting local artists, also.

7. Discussion of ideas to promote and market the Public Art Commission, public art programs and the placement of art on City of San Angelo Public property.

Mr. Castanon discussed using the City's channel to get the public involved in projects like the "Snaps" photo contest and what is going on with the Public Art Commission even perhaps adding a biography of Commissioners. Mr. White suggested making a presentation to Council and other service organizations. Mr. White suggested looking at the Austin-Tempe program for public art. Mr. Castanon also suggested starting a group on Facebook for the Art Commission where things can be shared and posted on the City's Facebook page. Promotion of the Commission is for the education of the public and local artists.

8. Consideration of future agenda items.

Items for the next meeting are; moving the Buffalo sculpture, developing a visioning workshop and the "Snaps" photo contest. Also, replacing the art work hanging in the Convention Center can be added to the next Agenda. Mr. Castanon, Ms. Williams and Mr. Le volunteered to serve on the Buffalo sculpture moving committee.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Makins made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Castanon.

Approved: _____

Date: _____