



**Albuquerque Public Art Program
Department of Arts and Culture**

ALBUQUERQUE ARTS BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, April 21, 2021 | 3:30pm – 6:00pm
Via Zoom Video Conference

Members Present:

Emilie De Angelis, Chair, Dist. 7
Jessica Montoya Cage, Vice-Chair, Dist. 3
Jonathan Sanchez, Dist. 1
Tanesia Hale-Jones, Dist. 2
Woody Duncan, Dist. 4
Pamela Chavez, Dist. 5
Christopher MacQueen, Dist. 6
Charlotte Schoenmann, Dist. 8
Dorothy Stermer, Dist. 9
Peg Cronin, Member-at-Large
Bernadine Hernández, Member-at-Large

Absent:

none

Staff Present:

Sherri Brueggemann, Division Manager
Matt Carter, Project Manager
Karen Mazur, Assoc. Project Coord.
Madrone Matishak, Senior Admin Assistant
Nathaniel Perry, Contractor

Guests Present:

Dr. Shelle Sanchez, Director, CABQ Dept
of Arts & Culture
Hakim Bellamy, Deputy Director, CABQ
Dept of Arts & Culture
Michael Riordan, Jennifer Riordan
Foundation
PAZ
Terra Reed, DMD
Zack Freeman, ABQ Ride

I. Meeting Called to Order: After S. Brueggemann reminded attendees about the meeting being recorded and the process for roll call votes, D. Stermer offered a land acknowledgement. E. DeAngelis called the meeting to order at 3:37pm.

II. Approval of the Agenda: S. Brueggemann asked if three items could be moved to just after item V. (public comment): VI.A, VI.C, and VI.D. C. Schoenmann moved to approve the Agenda with changes, P. Cronin seconded. Motion passed.

III. Approval of the minutes from March 17, 2021: P. Cronin moved to approve the minutes, D. Stermer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment: None, but items IV.A, C, and D were introduced at this time. Board and staff introduced themselves to visitors M. Riordan of the Jennifer Riordan Foundation, PAZ, artist with the Jennifer Riordan Foundation, T. Reed from Vision Zero/DMD, and Z. Freeman from the ABQ Ride Transit Department.

VI.A: 1. Michael Riordan of the Jennifer Riordan Foundation, which support acts of kindness through four pillars of women’s empowerment: children’s education, financial literacy, and community vitality (such as public art), wants to create an art project for kindness, caring, loving and sharing. Before Councilor Ken Sanchez passed away, he renamed the west side sports complex the Jennifer Riordan Spark Kindness Sports Complex. M. Riordan plans to meet with District 1 Councilor Sena and the Parks and Recreation Department to present his idea for a project, created in collaboration with artist PAZ. Their plan is to create a larger than life size sculpture called Sparkie the Spark Kindness Teddy Bear, after the stuffed toy animal one created in memory of Jennifer’s calls for kindness. It will be approximately 8’x10’x10’ bear made of a cementitious compound (lighter weight than concrete), that includes vermiculite and is durable and lightweight. PAZ showed the board a sketch of the proposed functional sculpture, which includes a seating area in the bear’s lap. The foundation will commission PAZ to create the bear sculpture, and is asking to have the project adopted by the public art program. S. Brueggemann noted that we have accepted donations like this before, in which the only cost to the city is to take care of it, such as the Sid Cutter sculpture at the Balloon Fiesta Park. C. Schoenmann asked about safety and how well it will hold up. PAZ responded that it will be very durable, and that the public will only be able to access it when the gates to the facility are open. Climbing will be discouraged. S. Brueggemann assured her that the city does risk assessment around these types of projects, and that there is not a lot of risk and issues. D. Stermer and E. DeAngelis both feel like it’s a great project and that it will humanize the stadium. C. MacQueen asked if there will be paint or dye on the cement? The plan is to dye the cement and the bear might even “wear” a tee shirt. P. Cronin made a motion to adopt Sparkie the Spark Kindness Bear into the Public Art collection. Although the board has a month to consider the proposal, D. Stermer suggested accepting the proposal now so Parks and Recreation can assess the structural safety issues sooner. P. Cronin amended the motion to include “pending departmental review and approvals”. D. Stermer seconded the amended motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. A: 2. Bloomberg asphalt art grant matching funds. Terra Reed from Vision Zero in DMD reported that the Bloomberg Foundation is offering an opportunity for funding art on the ground to show that there can be positive traffic impacts. Vision Zero partnered with Artful Life in Barelmas to create Albuquerque’s first intersection mural (installed weekend of April 24), and they are proposing to look at more asphalt art in a more participatory way. The application is due at the end of the month, and while there is no match requirement, if Public Art is willing to pledge some funds it will strengthen the application. C. Schoenmann inquired about the actual traffic calming effect. T. Reed said that there is some research from projects done, including anecdotal data says that it helps. This project will also include lots of real data collection. As for a location for the proposed project, they are considering working near the church across from Coronado Elementary School, to highlight the positive impact of students walking to schools. S. Brueggemann offered that if there is interest in making a commitment to a match--5k maybe-- then she could write it into the grant that 1% for Art funds would fund the artist. The maximum award is 25K, so any matching funds is on top of that would be a better use of the award towards the costs of the materials. D. Stermer moved that the arts board commit 5k to the Bloomberg asphalt art grant proposal contingent on their receiving the grant. C. MacQueen seconded. Motion passed.

VI.A: 3. Public pianos transit project. S. Brueggemann shared an image of the Piñata Piano that is installed at the Albuquerque Convention Center and introduced Z. Freeman from the Transit Department, who was contacted by someone who offered six pianos. Transit can house them if we can work to get them painted. C. Schoenmann asked where they would be placed? That is still up for discussion. S. Brueggemann gave some background on the previous piano project. The program was very popular, but it was a challenge for us to move them around and keep them safe from vandals. She mentioned the 16th Street Mall in Denver where they have outdoors pianos and people take care of them. There will be a finalized proposal brought to the arts board next month or two. This is an opportunity for September or October. Z. Freeman has scouted some locations that he will share with the board when he comes back with a proposal and more information.

V. Reviews and Approvals

A. Rail Trail Time Travel Call for Artists Draft. The Public Art program is in line to receive its third Our Town NEA grant. Specifically, it is for funding artists to create small- to medium-size temporary public art along the rail trail. The goal is to move toward developing a public art plan that would tie in to any future developments on the rail trail. Requested 150k, and it looks like the award will be 100k. The Arts Board previously agreed to support a kickoff project called the Rail Trail Time Travel project. Currently, the plan is to push artists' installations and the bulk of the work to July when the grant begins. The presented draft call to artists focuses on artists from the greater Downtown area including Barelás and South Broadway in order to engage artists who live in the area. Staff is requesting that the board review and approve the draft call so it can be moved forward. P. Cronin asked about the other partners and why aren't they part of the draft. S. Brueggemann reported that the User Agency (Metropolitan Development Agency) did provide feedback for the Time Travel project and the partners listed in the grant will serve on the Art Selection Committee for this round, but they will also be part of writing the next call for artists that will commission the large, temporary public art this fall with the actual NEA funds. The grant will fund a coordinator and the artists, as well as a Public Art Plan consultant, but because the grant funds cannot be used before July 1st, the arrangements for the coordinator may not be included in the call for artist for the Time Travel Project. Regarding the locations for the Time Travel Project, there are still some serious safety restrictions along the actual rail road tracks, so one will be hosted at the arches at the Greyhound station, and the other location will be north of the proposed Marquette crossing at the Fusion Forum, closer to Lomas. Both sites will allow for creating a safe zone where people can go out to the rail trail tracks. The plan for the trail is that there will be massive infrastructure work including pedestrian and bicycle trail, seating, and public art sites. City is contracting with an engineering and design firm. Time Travel project is just about getting people thinking about what they would like to see at the rail trail; this will happen before the actual construction of the trail, and the NEA funds allows us to work with much larger scale temporary art. C. Schoenmann asked about locations for artwork. S. Brueggemann explained that the time travel projects are just to allow people to learn how to do community engagement and get feedback from the public. The information they gather will help inform the next phase of the project along with the designers and engineers to identify the potential permanent

public art sites. The motion will be to approve the draft and authorize a committee. Committee members are C. Schoenmann, B. Hernández, and C. MacQueen. E. DeAngelis moved to approve the Call to Artists for the Rail Trail Time Travel project. C. Schoenmann seconded. Roll call vote taken and motion was approved unanimously.

B. Metro Youth Gordon Church Purchase Awards. K. Mazur presented the committee selections from the APS 2021 Metro Youth Virtual Artist Showcase. The committee asked for \$600 to offer six young artists a \$100 purchase award. D. Stermer moved to approve. T. Hale-Jones seconded. Motion Passed unanimously.

C. Pandemic Memorial Call for Artists. S. Brueggemann reported that the committee had many good meetings. B. Hernández explained the process and about how the discussions went. There were some really big ideas, such as performances at Civic Plaza or Old Town, making a wall where citizens could wheat paste community generated memorials and other types of virtual or digital engagement. The committee got very clear about what constituted a graphic design and how the cutouts should work. J. Sanchez described the graphic nature of the artist submissions. In addition, the message is also meant to honor workers and others who have played an important role in supporting their fellow citizens through the pandemic in addition to honor all forms of loss. We will be able to mass produce the cut paper, and we will pay the artists \$500 for their reproduceable design. H. Bellamy add that the wider reach of the memorial and the time it will take to reproduce and cut the designs is why the timeline has moved back a little bit, and about how we are trying not to make the loss of people the entire focus for there was also loss of jobs and livelihood. C. MacQueen moved to approve the call for artists to create cut paper designs, C. Schoenmann seconded. Motion approved.

VI. Introductions and Reports

- A. Jennifer Reardon Foundation (see above)
- B. Unsolicited Proposals Committee – update on H. Nadler Donations. K. Mazur shared a plan to exhibit 10-12 works from Nadler’s estate so that the Arts Board could select some pieces for donation. D. Stermer moved to authorize the Unsolicited Proposals committee to select works from the Harry Nadler estate for donation. W. Duncan seconded. Roll call vote taken and passed unanimously.
- C. Bloomberg Asphalt Art Grant matching funds (see above)
- D. Transit Department Public Pianos Project (see above)
- E. DEIA/Governance Committee Updates. Did not meet this month, but all were working individually. Have been doing some research into peer programs’ work with DEIA. J. Cage is focused on outreach and is working on a survey to ask the community about applying to our calls or how we could improve. D. Stermer asked if such a thing has ever been done at the city of Bernalillo County? S. Brueggemann responded that a survey was done 6 or 7 years ago but it was mostly for the public about what art they want to see, which is similar to work the planning department is doing currently.

VIII. Announcements/Ongoing Project Updates

- A. **Chair’s Announcements:** none
- B. **Board Announcements:** none
- C. **Project Updates:** Compass Roses exhibition to open Friday, April 23 at South Broadway Cultural Center. The project leads (Renee Piechocki and Nadine Wasserman) were here for the week to prepare. One artist had to bow out, leaving 29 maps. R. Piechocki and N. Wasserman Recorded interview with KRQE to air on Friday. Virtual Artist talk scheduled for Saturday, April 24. The Hackathon is keeping everyone busy, and there is lots of committee work. May need to have a late May or early June extra meeting, perhaps the 1st Wednesday instead of 3rd in June. Do people have flexibility around this, maybe June 2? May forgo May meeting and just do it June 2, at which point meetings will be back to 4pm. P. Cronin proposed two shorter meetings instead. Staff will follow up when the projects schedule is known.
- D. **Events/Dedications:** none

IX: New Business: none

X. Next Regular Meeting – May 19, 2021 at 4:00pm (note return to 4pm start time).

XI: Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:
Sherri Brueggemann, Public Art Urban Enhancement Division Manager

Approved: _____
Emilie DeAngelis, Chair

Date