



1
2
3 The following are minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces Quality of Life**
4 **Policy Review Committee** held at 3:00 p.m. on January 27, 2021 via Zoom
5 https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-8uLgyOEQYG_mvB5sc1Cng.

6
7 **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

8 Councilor Tessa Abeyta-Stuve – District 2 – Chair
9 Councilor Gabriel Vasquez – District 3
10 Diego Medina, Ex-Officio Member
11 Dr. Marlena Fraune, Ex-Officio Member

12
13 **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

14 Mayor Ken Miyagishima

15
16 **OTHERS PRESENT:**

17 K. Lynn Gallagher, Quality of Life Director
18 Rebecca Slaughter, Quality of Life Deputy Director and PRC Staff Coordinator
19 Jill Aguirre, Quality of Life Senior Office Manager and PRC Recording Secretary
20 Garland Courts, Museum Manager
21 Ceci Vasconcellos, Public Art Coordinator

22
23 I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve called the meeting to order at 3:01
24 p.m. Roll call was taken.

25
26 II. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve read the
27 conflict-of-interest statement. *“Does any member of the City Council or any*
28 *member of City staff have any known conflict of interest with any item on the*
29 *agenda?”* All present indicated there were none.

30
31 III. **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve requested a motion for
32 acceptance of the agenda. Councilor Vasquez made the motion. Chairwoman
33 Abeyta-Stuve seconded. Roll was called and agenda was accepted unanimously.

34
35 IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve requested a motion for
36 approval of the meeting minutes from the December 9, 2020 meeting. Councilor
37 Vasquez made the motion. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve seconded. Roll was called
38 and minutes were approved unanimously.

39
40 V. **ACTION ITEMS** - None

41
42
43 VI. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1 a. **Public Art Board 2020 Year in Review:** Ceci Vasconcellos, the new Public
2 Art Coordinator, provided a brief introduction and background. Ms.
3 Vasconcellos presented a PowerPoint of the Public Art Program. The
4 definition of Public Art for this program is art, in any media, in City-owned or
5 publicly assessable buildings and other City-owned public spaces. The
6 presentation demonstrated public art that falls under this program that is
7 currently displayed throughout the city. Ms. Vasconcellos provided a brief
8 overview of the City Art Board, when they meet, and the board members.
9 Ms. Vasconcellos' position includes being the City liaison to the City Art
10 Board. The Las Cruces Public Art Master Plan was approved in 2020. The
11 LCPA Master Plan is meant to be a valuable tool for the City Art Board, City
12 staff, and anyone interested in collaborating with the City on public art. The
13 plan establishes a vision and provides administrative and programmatic
14 recommendations to guide the work of building and maintaining a public art
15 collection. Ms. Vasconcellos provided the location of the plan to the
16 committee. Garland Courts, Museum Manager, discussed a trip to El Paso
17 that was taken to review their well-established public art program. Mr.
18 Courts stated that public art can be many different things from paintings to
19 light fixtures. Councilor Vasquez, who attended the public art trip to El Paso,
20 gave his overview of the trip and discussed how Las Cruces can incorporate
21 what El Paso has done to improve the City's program. Ms. Vasconcellos
22 provided the LCPA Master Plan goals. The projects that were planned for
23 2020 were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic but the program is
24 picking up where they left off and hope to have all those projects completed
25 in 2021. Ms. Vasconcellos and Mr. Courts provided the current status of all
26 pending public art projects. Ms. Vasconcellos discussed the public art
27 funding ordinance that staff are currently working on and gave a brief
28 description of what it entails. Diego Medina about the selection process
29 regarding the opportunities for local artists. Mr. Courts advised that there
30 are many opportunities for public art within the public art program. The
31 larger projects that are higher in value, the request for art is sent out on a
32 national level. The national requests do not preclude local artists and the
33 latest national request for art included 10 local artists. Mr. Courts added that
34 some projects are completed with a local call for artists. Rebecca Slaughter
35 added that staff learned from El Paso that the national call for artists
36 resulted in a mentorship between local artists and nationally selected artists.
37 This synergy resulted in local artists improving and being able to obtain
38 national contracts themselves and receive national recognition. Dr. Marlena
39 Fraune inquired about the process to ensure diversity and inclusion. Ms.
40 Vasconcellos advised that it has been an organic process to this point, but
41 it can be investigated to see how to incorporate in future processes.
42 Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve asked if there is a point system that allows for
43 additional points for being local and/or being a part of a special community.
44 Ms. Vasconcellos advised that the art being submitted is scored solely on
45 the art itself. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve asked if there is a way to obtain the
46 demographics on these submissions to catalog that information and asked

1 how many local artists have been selected. Mr. Courts gave examples of
2 local art in the City and added that the selection committee is very diverse.
3 He added that the Art Board is looking at ways to educate local artists on
4 the requirements for calls for art. The guidelines for the art selection process
5 were discussed. Dr. Fraune suggested mentorship being incorporated into
6 the contract for national artists.

7 b. **Facilitation Tool Review:** Ms. Slaughter gave a presentation of the
8 facilitation tool. She detailed how the tool is meant to frame a primary issue,
9 include the people that need to be a part of the discussion, evaluate if the
10 issue is already being discussed somewhere else, and cross references
11 numerous other required processes to ensure they have been considered.
12 Ms. Slaughter gave examples of how this tool would be used. She advised
13 that this tool is meant to help the PRCs focus their attention on all the things
14 that would impact a discussion. This facilitation tool allows for one location
15 for all discussion items on one issue to be kept. Ms. Slaughter provided a
16 PowerPoint presentation that can be used in combination with this tool to
17 present the issue to the PRC. Ms. Slaughter discussed Elevate Las Cruces,
18 the City's twenty-year plan, and reviewing these primary issues against the
19 plan to ensure it is there or discuss if it needs to be added. Ms. Slaughter
20 advised that the Quality of Life PRC will be using this tool to evaluate the
21 public art funding ordinance. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve encouraged the
22 committee to bring forward topics they would like to see in Future
23 Discussion Items that always appear at the end of the agenda.

24 c. **Mask Up! Program Review:** Ms. Slaughter provided a PowerPoint
25 presentation on the distribution of free disposable masks and sanitation kits
26 to the public by the Quality of Life Department with the help of the Parks
27 and Recreation Department. There were five different events that took place
28 which provided 7000 masks and 500 sanitation kits to 1000 citizens and their
29 families. Ms. Slaughter advised that traditional advertising and social media
30 advertising were used to promote the events. The Utilities department also
31 recently sent disposable masks to all their customers as a utility bill insert.
32 Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked if the mask distribution by the Utilities
33 Department was being tracked. Ms. Slaughter advised that it may be but
34 would be through that department. Ms. Slaughter also mentioned
35 Community Development is distributing masks through businesses. The
36 Community Outreach Office is working on presentation of all COVID-19
37 related projects for Council.

38
39 **VII. FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS AND TASK LISTING:** Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve
40 asked the committee members if they had any suggestions for future discussion
41 items. Councilor Vasquez mentioned a previous discussion about a potential
42 Native American Cultural Center development on Villa Mora property. Councilor
43 Vasquez inquired if Diego Media would be interested in providing a presentation
44 on the Piro-Manso-Tiwa Native Americans in our region and the status of Tortuga
45 Pueblo today. Councilor Vasquez suggested that a presentation to this committee
46 might lead to a recommendation back to Council about how to represent this part

1 of Las Cruces' culture and history into a prominent place in the city. Mr. Medina
2 acknowledged that he would be happy to provide a presentation to this committee.

3
4 Museum Master Plan

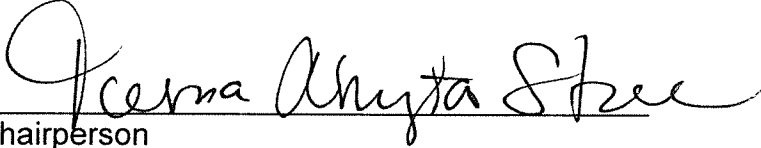
5
6 Public Art Funding Ordinance

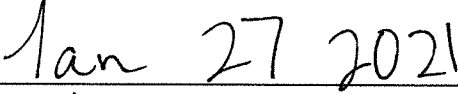
7
8 Master Calendar for Children's Programs

9
10 Utility Structure/Public Art Assets by District

11
12 **VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE – February 24, 2021**

13
14 **IX. ADJOURNMENT** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve requested a motion to adjourn the
15 meeting. Councilor Vasquez made the motion to adjourn. Councilor Abeyta-Stuve
16 seconded. Roll was called and adjournment of the meeting was unanimous.
17 Meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

18
19
20 
21
22 Chairperson

23
24
25 
26
27 Approved