



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

The following are minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces Quality of Life Policy Review Committee** held at 3:00 p.m. on August 25, 2021, in City Hall, Conference Room 2007A.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Mayor Ken Miyagishima

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Rebecca Slaughter, Quality of Life Deputy Director and PRC Staff Coordinator
- Jill Aguirre, Quality of Life Senior Office Manager and PRC Recording Secretary
- Ceci Vasconcellos, Public Art Coordinator
- Garland Courts, Acting Museums Administrator
- Alysa Aulbach, City Art Board Vice Chair
- Christina Ballew, City Art Board Chair

- I. CALL TO ORDER** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. A quorum was established with Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve and Councilor Vasquez present.
- II. CONFLICT OF INTEREST** – Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve read the conflict-of-interest statement. *“Does any member of the City Council or any member of City staff have any known conflict of interest with any item on the agenda?”* All members present indicated there were none.
- III. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve requested a motion for acceptance of the agenda. Councilor Vasquez made the motion. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve seconded. Roll was called and agenda was accepted by the committee members present.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve requested a motion for approval of the meeting minutes from the May 26, 2021 regular meeting and the July 22, 2021 special meeting. Councilor Vasquez made the motion. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve seconded. Roll was called and minutes were approved by the committee members present.
- V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1 a. **Public Art Update and Discussion:** Ceci Vasconcellos provided a
2 PowerPoint presentation covering projects and activities, work session
3 discussion, and the Las Cruces Public Art Program Funding Ordinance.
4 Projects and activities reviewed were the City Hall Lobby Art, Fire Station # 3
5 Building Art, Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley Public Art, Klein Park
6 Public Art survey, and the QR Code Interpretive Stories Pilot project. Ms.
7 Vasconcellos described the work session discussion item updates which
8 included equity for neighborhood public art, prioritizing local artists, indigenous
9 voices, controversial artwork, and artist registry. After providing this overview,
10 Ms. Vasconcellos opened the meeting to questions. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve
11 inquired about the inspiration for the Fire Station # 3 Public Art piece. Ms.
12 Vasconcellos advised that southwestern style blankets are the inspiration and
13 the symbols used have different meanings. Chairwoman Abeyta asked if
14 someone representative to the culture evaluated the art piece or if the artist
15 themselves were part of those cultures. Ms. Vasconcellos stated that the artist
16 themselves was not from that culture, but they did consult with an indigenous New
17 Mexican artist that is a weaver. Ms. Vasconcellos advised that Diego Medina,
18 a Quality of Life Policy Review Committee member, attended the City Art Board
19 meeting for the art piece to provide his expertise to the discussion. Ms.
20 Vasconcellos advised that it is not a ceremonial blanket, rather an abstract
21 design. The Public Art workshops designed to develop local artists were
22 discussed among the meeting attendees. Councilor Vasquez asked about how
23 public art projects, separate from facility art projects, are being vetted. Ms.
24 Vasconcellos provided a breakdown of the process from locating funding to
25 finding opportunities for an art project. She did advise that there are several
26 ways these opportunities are being pursued.

27
28 **VI. ACTION ITEMS**

29 a. **Public Art Ordinance – Discussion and Vote to Forward to Council:**
30 Ms. Vasconcellos provided background on the development of the public
31 art ordinance. Councilor Vasquez requested clarification about the two
32 percent for public art resolution that was passed by council in March 2020
33 and this ordinance. Ms. Vasconcellos advised that the bond board had
34 concerns about the tax laws and how the original version was worded. The
35 resolution was based on CIP funding and this ordinance is specific to
36 General Obligation Bond funding. Ms. Vasconcellos advised that having this
37 ordinance impact all CIP projects would have complex tax implications.
38 Councilor Vasquez asked if this dilutes the opportunity for public art.
39 Rebecca Slaughter advised that we still receive the one percent through the
40 State for those projects through art in public places. Ms. Slaughter added
41 that not limiting the ordinance to specific funding sources could result in
42 funding for a public art project being allocated in a facility that the public
43 cannot visit. Councilor Vasquez suggested that wording could be included
44 in the ordinance. Ms. Slaughter advised that this was the bond board's
45 recommendation, but these issues were brought up to them. Chairwoman
46 Abeyta-Stuve suggested approving the ordinance and possibly revisiting
47 additional funding sources in the future. Councilor Vasquez suggested

1 revisiting the issue with the bond board to see verify if the limitation is based
2 on legal requirements or time intensive.

3
4 For the approval of the Public Art Funding Ordinance, Chairwoman Abeyta-
5 Stuve requested a motion. Councilor Vasquez made the motion,
6 Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve seconded. Roll was called and all members
7 present approved.
8

- 9
10 b. **America250: Celebrating the U.S. Semi-quinentennial – Discussion**
11 **and Task Force:** Garland Courts, Acting Museum Administrator provided
12 an overview of America250. This federal committee has stipulated each
13 state develop their own subcommittees. Mr. Courts request approval to
14 create a committee here in Las Cruces so we could take the lead on this
15 opportunity. The committee discussed the benefits of the subcommittee
16 being based in Las Cruces. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve inquired about
17 funding ideas. Mr. Courts did not have an idea of what would be required at
18 this time. Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve inquired about the duration of the
19 event. Mr. Courts advised he sees it as a year-long event.

20 For the approval of the creation of a U.S. Semiquinentennial Task Force
21 with membership yet to be determined, Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve
22 requested a motion. Councilor Vasquez made the motion, Chairwoman
23 Abeyta-Stuve seconded. Roll was called and all members present
24 approved.
25

- 26 **VII. FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS AND TASK LISTING:** Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve
27 read the future discussion and task list items and reminded the committee that they
28 may add items should there be the need.
29

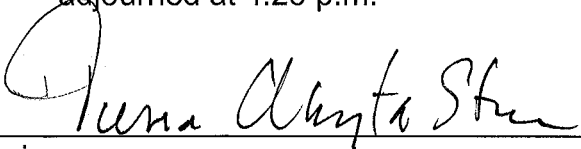
30 Master Calendar for Programs

31 Utility Structure/Public Art Assets by District

32
33
34 Indigenous Culture and Representation
35

- 36 **VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE – September 22, 2021**
37

- 38 **IX. ADJOURNMENT -** Chairwoman Abeyta-Stuve requested a motion to adjourn the
39 meeting. Councilor Vasquez made the motion to adjourn. Chairwoman Abeyta-
40 Stuve seconded. Roll was called and all members present approved. Meeting
41 adjourned at 4:25 p.m.
42

43
44
45 
46 _____
47 Chairperson

48
49 _____
Approved