

## Meeting Notes

June 14, 2018

SARA Board Room, 100 E Guenther Street

### ATTENDING

#### *SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES:*

Scott Baird, Bob Corbo, Cathey Meyer, Jerry Geyer, Kathy Krnavek, Mark Penner, Andi Rodriguez, Trey Whiddon, Deb Bolner Prost, Lourdes Galvan, Eddie Romero

#### *STAFF & CONSULTANTS:*

Steven Dean, Kristen Hansen, Patrice Melancon, Jeff Mitchell, Chad Yount, Abigail Bush, Matthew Driffin

#### *MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:*

Mark Liberatore, Nikita Zollocorn, Richard Garcia, Robert Ramirez, Esteban Diaz, Brice Moczynemba, Tony Cantu, Nita Shaver, Rosemary Geyer, Chris McKnight, Jenna Stoelje, and Pablo Martinez

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Jerry Geyer, Co-chair, called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. Mr. Geyer updated the subcommittee and meeting attendees on Michael Cortez' resignation. He then asked attendees to introduce themselves and then reviewed calendar items.

### CALENDAR ITEMS

- a. June 19 – Summer Strolling 6-8pm
- b. July 12 – July Subcommittee Meeting
- c. July 14 – Picnic in the Park 10am-2pm
- d. July 17 – Cool Jazz 6-8pm

### APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES FROM May 10, 2018

***Motion was made and seconded to approve meeting notes from May 10, 2018 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.<sup>1</sup>***

### DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY UPDATE

*Kerry Averyt, San Antonio River Authority, reported the following:*

#### **Design Update:**

##### ***Phase 1.1 Update***

- Plaza modifications are currently being made to prevent swimming.
- Center channel is being minimized to encourage wading in the plaza area as opposed to swimming.
- The grade in fountain will be raised so water is only a few inches deep.
- The area between the fountain and cascade pools will now be 2-3 inches deep.
- Area will resemble a fountain as opposed to a spring.
- Algae in water area will be addressed.
- After consulting with an arborist, the decision was made to not remove the center tree in front of the "Rain from the Heavens" installation because it would likely kill the tree. Mr. Geyer expressed need to consult an arborist on raising the tree canopy to preserve the trees while allowing for clear view of the installation.
- Punch list items are currently being addressed along phase 1.1 of the park.

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<sup>1</sup> Text in bold italics indicates a decision made by the subcommittee.

### ***Phase 1.2 Update***

- Work along Commerce and Dolorosa Streets will continue along with Calder Alley archeological work.
- Approved plan to execute mitigation to trench and excavate to determine the potential for uncovering significant finds in the area.
- Trenches have already been dug in area around the Spanish Governor's Palace.

### ***Commerce Street Closure***

- Full closure will begin June 25 and will last for 3 months. The closed area will include west of Camaron to east of Laredo Streets. Vehicles will not be allowed to turn onto Laredo Street and there will be signage directing to Penner's and Holiday Inn entrances will be placed.
- Penner's customers will be able to park in lot next to Alameda during a certain portion of construction.
- One lane is anticipated to be open by late September or early October for 13-month duration.
- There will be tight coordination between City of San Antonio and SARA to ensure everyone is on the same page in regards to lane and street closures.
- Overlap between Dolorosa and Houston Street closures will occur, but Commerce will be fully open so from a traffic standpoint everything should be okay.

### ***Camaron Street Coordination***

- The Camaron Street project was included in the May 2017 bond.
- Timing was not going to allow for the entire project to be completed by mid-2019, but adding this segment to our project may allow them to finish on schedule and will ensure cost effectiveness.
- SARA is working to obtain feedback/input regarding traffic, landscaping, possible parking all along the east side of the street, the expected impact on residential neighborhoods, etc.

### ***Public Outreach***

- Met with business people in the area spanning both sides along phase 1.2 of the project.
- The businesses in the surrounding area received a long-term glimpse to understand what is coming regarding construction.
- Mr. Geyer asked about Weston Urban's preference on plans near Camaron Street and the representative said that they preferred an area with low-flow traffic, retail along back area of Frost tower, seamless interaction between retail and the creek.

### ***Phase 1.2 Design Update***

- Design submittal for this area of the project was pushed back to June 29, 2018.
- Carrie Brown will continue to work with the design team to identify public art for the area.
- Subcommittee is expected to have a chance to review design for this area by August.

## **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE UPDATE**

*Kristen Hansen, San Antonio River Authority, provided the following update:*

### ***Algae Update***

- Staff has been managing the algae by hand on a daily basis, which has proven to be a labor-intensive process.
- Consultants and vendors have been engaged to address the process and identify a solution that is environmentally friendly and cost effective.
- Water has been turned off and on and this has impacted algae growth.
- The water wall is being managed for algae and nutrients as well and in the short-term the staff is reviewing products to resolve the issue.
- They have found that utilizing hydrogen peroxide to clean the area is effective and doesn't leave any residual material in the water and this test is tentative set for June 19.
- If this solution does not work then they will seek out other resolutions.

- Vendors with products that perform like the hydrogen peroxide solution, and also make the water cleaner in the process, have been identified.
- As creek area matures we will see improved benefits.

### **Wading Update**

- Signage has been installed and the plaza is set to reopen on June 21.
- New map will be available on site to indicate the allowed areas of wading along the creek.

### **General Update**

- Staff have been tasked with walking the area of the project every morning and are removing trash daily.
- Centro and staff are aware of proper way to clean and maintain artwork along the project.

### **Art Update**

*Monica Trevino-Ortega, SARA, provided the following update about the art:*

- Mums the word event on May 12 included a tour by Chad Yount.
- Todo Latino event was held on May 15 and included music and food.
- Main Squeeze on May 19 featured workshops about accordions and a local coffee maker provided refreshments; about 100 individuals attended.
- POP, a curated selection of pop-up shops attracted 120 people to the creek on May 22. Attendees were also able to tour the creek and refreshments were provided by Panifico.
- Through the lens photography workshop was held on June 9.
- Upcoming event schedule was reviewed including:
  - Yoga starting in July
  - Temporary art installations in various areas along the creek
  - Scheduled events:
    - June 19 – summer strolling
    - July 14 – Picnic in the Park
    - July 17 – Cool Jazz
  - More information can be found on the parks website at [sppculturepark.com](http://sppculturepark.com)
- Tricentennial Sculpture Update
  - Final changes have been made for development and design
  - Total budget is now estimated at \$1.5M
  - Budget shortfall needs of appx. \$799.025 will be met with private dollars.
  - A meeting with the county will be held to discuss plan of action before things move forward.
  - Fabrication of the sculpture has yet to begin.

### **ITEMS TO PRESENT TO Westside Creeks Oversight Committee:**

- A subcommittee meeting recap will be provided to the Westside Creeks Oversight Committee.

### **ADJOURN**

***A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.<sup>1</sup>***

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<sup>1</sup> Text in bold italics indicates a decision made by the subcommittee.