San Pedro Creek Culture Park Subcommittee Meeting  
July 9, 2020 by Video Conference  
San Antonio River Authority Board Room  
100 E. Guenther Street, San Antonio, TX 78204

ATTENDING
SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES: Jerry Geyer, Lourdes Galvan, Cathey Meyer, Veronica Garcia, Bobby Salluce, Patricia Seidenberger

STAFF & CONSULTANTS: Monica Trevino-Ortega, Carrie Brown, Marisa Andrade, Kerry Averyt, Steve Graham, Chad Zimmerman, Hillary Lilly, John Mize, Ryan Silbernagel Christine Clayton

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Anthony Cantu, Ken Erfurth, Tony Canez

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Started at 9:01 a.m. – did not have a quorum at 9:03 a.m.

Approval of June 11, 2020 Minutes

Jerry Geyer: any committee member have any comments on the minutes? None

Jerry Geyer feedback: before any approval, following edits are needed to be done: spell out names instead of initials, under design and construction update – phrasing of pumping water out of channel needs to be redone, phase 1.2 Governor’s palace – demolish wall, partner coordination – Cameron street, A&E Church – core of engineer, Kisner, Under questions: Deb – who is doing research? Additional comments of public – Nick – open theater to be opened – KERRY AVERYT’s response: currently calling it the Alameda Plaza but it’s not official.

No quorum at 9:10 a.m.

Monica – edits will be made to approve next month.

Questions to be placed in Chatbox

SUBCOMMITTEE BUSINESS

Monica Trevino-Ortega, San Antonio River Authority, Executive Office Administrator provided the following updates:

a. COVID-19 Update: extending virtual in Aug, Sept. and October (which reassess for rest of year schedule – taking flu season into account)

b. San Antonio Conservation Society – Patricia Seidenberger (replacing Stella DeLaGarza)

QUESTIONS: none
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY UPDATE

Kerry Averyt, San Antonio River Authority Senior Engineer, provided the following updates:

Phase 1.2 / Phases 1.3 / 2 Design and Construction – Partner Coordination/Executive Comm

Phase 1.2 - under construction, updated phase map, Revised to show Phases 1.3 & 2 in construction

Utility installation ongoing, Commerce to Dolorosa (Dolorosa street bridge near completions, Spanish governor’s palace wall demolition underway, Dolorosa to Nueva – Paseo/Plaza paving. Raba-Kistner looking into testing of limestone rocks and any artifacts.

AE church – Coordination with agencies and eligibility to Historical register to be submitted this week start 30-day review period of response to recommendation. Hope turn around to be in 30 days. Current substantial completion October 2021.

Phase 1.3 and 2 Design – not a lot to report – intense coordination with CPS, 100% design submittal end of July and start full construction late fall. Phase 1.3 rendering shown facing north; wall is border of retention swell (close to Federal Courthouse). Updated aerial viewpoint shown in PowerPoint – change in Paseo and larger footprint.

Phase 1.3 and 2 Construction – drilled shaft installation ongoing, Phase 2 right of way prep underway, utility relocation coordination ongoing. Updated photo presented – sharing footprint with other contractors, as early as next month hope to get started in that area.

Street closures: Nueva street, Graham street and Camp street closed, Guadalupe in mid-July and Alamo street in early August. Substantial Completion in February 2023 – phase 1.3 might be finished sooner.

Partner Coordination – earliest work with UTSA with their School of Data Science and national Security Collaboration Center. Cameron street work in September. Meeting with Executive Committee yesterday – update on potential outcomes of AME Church foundation mitigation to help make decisions ahead.

QUESTIONS:

Jerry Geyer – overhead shot of A&E church: is the Alameda Theater on left, could you please show where channel line is located to the area of the foundation? Kerry – showed approximation of area and about half of the Plaza is within the footprint of the church.


Jerry – have a graphic of the details? Kerry – don’t have a graphic yet but will work with design team to provide next time.

Jerry Geyer – re: UTSA Cyber building, able to obtain visuals used in last workshop on how building interacts/impact with area? Kerry – not certain but will look into it. Steve Graham – UTSA understands the need to make designs compatible and sustainable plus community priorities and shared name of local artists, then showed how Pearl worked with us in seamless design and they are on the right track.
Cathy Meyer – any updates on COVID taking effect on construction – impact access to Creek and future designs when completed? Kerry – don’t see any impacts to design, hope is that one day the COVID crisis will end and begin community interaction, SUNDT doing a great job checking temperatures and daily briefings. Moving forward if there’s any impact will notify Subcommittee.

ART UPDATE – Projects and Events
Carrie Brown, San Antonio River Authority Public Art Curator, provided the following updates:

a. Phase 1.2 – Rooted in History: Artist Team (Carlos Cortes and Fernando Andrade, Rolando Briseno, Jenelle Esparza, Ernesto Ibanez). Virtual Community Outreach – Focus Groups on May 27 & 28, Office Hours on June 15 & 18, Online Comment Form June 15 – 30. Feedback from community was positive and constructive; artists are following up with recommended contacts. Concept pairs native trees to the five groups outlined in the scope of work (Indigenous, Presidiales Soldiers, Tejanos/Bexarenos, Canary Islanders, and Texicans). PowerPoint showed development of concept; playing with the perspective of trees and organizations of medallions with graphic images that are easily recognizable. Final design in July; to be approved by Commissioners Court. Anticipate having an approved final design at the next meeting.

b. Phase 1.2 – Stream by Adam Frank – interactive water wall feature, coordinating waterfall design with design team, software testing with specified lights/controllers on-going, second onsite test in the next month (will share photos and videos of outcome).

c. Phase 1.1 – Creek Lines by Bridge Projects – working with fabricators to finalize fabrication schedule; installation tentatively fall 2020, close down a lane or two in Santa Rosa (if necessary).

d. Events & Programming – through September will be virtual
   • Yoga (Mondays at 6 p.m. through June 2021)
   • Drum Circle (August 11 at 7 p.m.)
   • Creekside Chat (August 26) with Carrie Merson, Education Manager
   • Live Well Series (September 12) with CrossFit Dagda
   • Creekside Chat (September 23) with Diana Kersey, Phase 1.1 artist
   • Texas Fashion Week (October 10) – event is cancelled but still working on possible virtual options
   • Illume: Making Spirits Bright (December 12) – planning event options, expanded footprint, crowd control and virtual options to keep everyone safe

QUESTIONS:

Andrea Rodriguez – How will you share details and information on trees? Carrie – plaque with information onsite and more detailed content on website, plus mobile app and programming opportunities.

Jerry Geyer – How many committee members participated in workshops or group communication? Carrie – About 5 but I will check my notes and report back next month.
Pleased to see people interacting and engaging with artists, who in turn did a great job following up with recommendations.

Deb Bolner – Recommend more explanation on the artwork; it’s very creative, matching the trees with the history connected with it. Regular explanation board to describe the connection? Carrie – Space is limited on the panel, trying to not inundate people with information as well but I agree some explanation is necessary (more than other projects).

Deb Bolner – please make sure terminology right, ex. Native means Native American. Carrie – Yes, definitely! We will be sure to use the correct terminology.

COMMUNICATIONS –
Monica Trevino-Ortega, San Antonio River Authority, Executive Office Administrator provided the following updates:

a. Media coverage – several articles and interviews about the AME church.

b. Virtual Shifts during COVID-19: events are now digital platform plus community engagement (zoom backgrounds, coloring pages, virtual construction tour and STREAM video). Views from May (405) are now in June have increased (1.1k). Numbers in Twitter, Facebook and Instagram have increased as well. Reach a broader group and focus on growing numbers.

QUESTIONS:

Deb Bolner Prost – what happened with the fish in San Pedro Creek with the ammonia? Monica – the ammonia quickly went into San Pedro Creek and killed a significant amount of fish, SARA staff went in quickly to clean and get area back on track.

Calendar Items
- July 13, 20, 27 – Yoga
- August 11 – Community Drum Circle
- August 13 – SPCCP Subcommittee Meeting

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC OR SUBCOMMITTEE: none

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn – Lourdes Galvan

second by Cathey Meyer

Adjourn 10:01 a.m.