

**San Pedro Creek Culture Park Subcommittee Meeting
June 11, 2020 by Video Conference
San Antonio River Authority Board Room
100 E. Guenther Street, San Antonio, TX 78204**

ATTENDING

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES: Lourdes Galvan, Bob Corbo, Cathey Meyer, Stella De La Garza, Veronica Garcia, Deb Bolner Prost, Marilyn Bradley, Bobby Salluce, Jerry Geyer, Eloise Leal

STAFF & CONSULTANTS – Suzanne Scott, Allison Elder, Monica Trevino-Ortega, Carrie Brown, Marisa Andrade, Kristen Hansen, Kerry Averyt, Steve Graham, Tommy Mitchell, Chad Zimmerman, Hillary Lilly, John Mize, Ryan Sibernagel

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Anthony Cantu, Nick Naik, Scott Huddleston, Belinda Gavallos, George Nelson, Laura Elvia Hall, Maria Pfeiffer

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Welcome by Monica Trevino Ortega, 2nd virtual meeting and will be facilitating meeting.

Under Citizens to be Heard – nothing submitted ahead of time but will provide opportunity under Chat Box at end.

Approval of May 14, 2020 Minutes – no quorum yet at 9:07 (quorum at 9:20)

Motion – Marilyn Bradley

Second – Deb Bolner Prost

SUBCOMMITTEE BUSINESS

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

- Nothing new to report

QUESTIONS: none

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Kristen Hansen & Tommy Mitchell, San Antonio River Authority, reported the following:

- Rains from Heavens update – transition to every other week to pressure wash any debris and algae, noticed that panels' texture was changing – due to frequency, coating used in Phase 1.1 was considered and test outcome was positive and contract last month (May) and should be completed in June. Had to sandblast panels in order to coat and will extend life of the panels.

- Manantial Basin De-Silting – test results good, partner with SA city to remove material and pressure wash. Remove 80 cubic yards of silt and sediment and hope to do on an annual basis. If SARA had to contract out, then it would have been over \$200,000 cost.

QUESTIONS:

Jerry – silt at the bottom of the tunnel? Tommy – probably and brings it into the basin. Kerry – near future have testing to see how much is being pumped up from tunnel and upstream.

Stella – when do you expect to have water flowing again? Tommy- projected to be June 26th – Kerry – working with experts to work on killing the E-Coli in the water to help pools remain open.

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.

- Construction activities - Houston to Commerce: pumping water out of the channel after rains to help clear area, should be out of Dolorosa within a couple of days, approval should arrive soon from Texas Historical Commission to demolish the wall of the Governor’s Palace to provide more open area.
- Phase 1.3 : Nueva to Cesar Chavez - ongoing design, rendering of Ruby City shows no transmission tower – working to relocate maybe North of Camp Street, coordination with Linda Pace, view of Gate House facilities – functional and useable area (rest, provides shade), currently between Nueva and Cesar Chavez, Graham bridge demolished
- Phase 2 – starts Guadalupe to Alamo, working on Utility relocation
- Street Closures – a lot of factors, June 25 to close Nueva. Waiting for Corps of Engineers to close streets and expedite review. Projection is early February 2023 to open bridges and streets as soon as possible.
- Partner Coordination – TPR open and operational, transition as smooth as possible. Construction to Cameron Street and coordinate with COSA and GSA plus TxDOT. Meeting with HEB (phase 4 – Flores/El Paso street) come up with designs that complement each other.
- Executive Committee – discussed outstanding issues, coordination day to day, no meeting scheduled yet

QUESTIONS:

Cathy Meyer – who will maintain restrooms? Kerry – come up with agreement with City and Centro but will be joint venture on hours of operation and maintenance. Tommy – extending contract with Centro to include this area as well.

AME Church Site

- Coordination is ongoing with Corps of Engineers, THC and COSA. Focus group meeting to honor church and location, how treat and incorporate with Creek design. Raba Kistner is working on National Register. Holding pattern until submitted, 30-day review period to concur with recommendation or decide to conduct own research then no timeline with process. Once established then public outreach for input. But currently in holding pattern until eligibility. Hope to receive report next week. Two areas outlined in slide – church and shovel test for Spanish Colonial artifacts but might have artifacts for AME church closer to Houston street. Project might be pushed until August 2021
- Suzanne – working on Interpretive Plan and team has been working on it to integrate historical information: signage, how incorporate historical date on website and app so when people come by will be receive information. Video on virtual tour to ensure a comprehensive way to tell the story.

QUESTIONS:

Jerry Geyer – talked in the past to find a connection with the black community to downtown, opportunity to acknowledge this history, good job on this project. Suzanne - this is a Culture Park and tell the stories of every culture.

Deb – who is doing the research, and could SARA provide facts about the project? Kerry – Raba Kistner providing research, Suzanne – as history is coming together, SARA is working alongside community organizations plus city/county to make sure the plan is done correctly and respectfully, Carrie and Monica’s report will be provided for SPC committee members.

ART UPDATE – Project Update and Events

Carrie Brown, San Antonio River Authority Public Art Curator, provided the following updates:

- **5 Panel Mural** – in Phase 1.2 (Commerce to Dolorosa), virtual community outreach (focus groups met on May 27 & 28) to help develop concepts, 2 additional opportunities on June 15th and June 18th – general public to engage with artists, online comment form through June 30th or email Carrie Brown directly. Feedback on the virtual format has been positive. Design completed by July.
- **Events & Programming** – Virtual offerings (Yoga and Drum Circle) -videos for public to engage from home (via Facebook Premiere). Texas Fashion Week – October 10th (tentative) – working with event planner on alternate event layouts and activations. Illume – December 12th – looking at large variety of plans to manage crowds, virtual offerings.
- **New Series Launch** - Get Fit (becoming a series – engage with local organization and still free to public, Get Creative (art activities) and Creekside Chats (internal experts and community – done during lunch hour). Developed in a way to be flexible and safe due to current health crisis but able to grow and expand.

QUESTIONS:

Jerry – doing a great job and great to recognize a need for a curator, structure and engages the community with the Creek being a hidden gem. Carrie – virtual options have provided a lot of engagement and results 1900 views – reaching a broader audience.

Jerry – are the videos archived? Carrie – working on incorporating video into the website but for now you can view all videos on Facebook.

Upcoming Events -

- Community Drum Circle, August 11 at 7 p.m. (virtual)
- Yoga on the Creek on Mondays at 6 p.m. (July 2020 – June 2021)
- Creekside Chat, August 26 at 12 p.m. (virtual)

COMMUNICATIONS –

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

- Street Closure Outreach – discussed back in March and earlier in the year, impacts of the street closures. Week of June 22, 2020 – early 2023. Quite difficult to reach every stakeholder by phone but block walking was more effective. May 28th was the most recent e-blast. (?) Remind stakeholders and use NextDoor app. Sending reminders and saturate stakeholders with updates.
- Interpretive Plan and Interpretive Panels – virtual format, might have some who are not familiar with but have document to share. Plan is now complete in English and Spanish (150 pages). Interpretive Plan Committee – was important to commiserate history of community. Available to share in mid-July.

Calendar Items

- July 9 – SPCCP Subcommittee Virtual Meeting
- August 18 – Westside Creek Committee Virtual Meeting

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC AND SUBCOMMITTEE

- No comments or questions in advance
- Anthony Cantu – regards to Kerry's construction updates – can Alamo street be speed up? Kerry – working on it one half at a time but a lot of work to be done but keeping one lane at a time, better than closing entirely.
- Nick Naik – when will the open theater be open (location close to Alameda theater)? Kerry – completion of area in August 2021 but factors (AME church and redesign) might affect timetable.
- George Nelson – when will there be another call for local artists? Carrie - Don't have opportunities yet for permanent, however, planning to launch another temporary installation in the next couple of months.

- Belinda Gavallos – what groups were reached out for historical projects? Monica – several individuals were involved in the focus group and continue coordination with.
- Jerry Geyer – street closures on website? Monica – yes, on website under construction and it is updated daily.
- Jerry Geyer – any changes or comments on current status of meeting? Cathey – good, Lourdes – completing mission, Deb – accomplishing

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn – Cathey Meyer, second by Lourdes Galvan

Adjourn 10:25 a.m.