

**San Pedro Creek Culture Park Subcommittee Meeting
February 11, 2021 by Video Conference**

ATTENDING

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES: Jerry Geyer, Patricia Seidenberger, Cathy Meyer, Veronica Garcia, Bobby Salluce, Patty Radle, Lourdes Galvan, Josh Gerkin, Andi Rodriguez, Deb Bolner Prost

STAFF & CONSULTANTS –Allison Elder, Monica Trevino-Ortega, Carrie Brown, Marisa Andrade, Kristen Hansen, Kerry Averyt, Steve Graham, Chad Zimmerman, Hillary Lilly, John Mize, Ryan Silbernagel, Christine Clayton, Steven Dean, Tony Canez, Nicole Marshall, Xochil Pena Rodriguez, Gloria Carmona, Steve Tillotson, Taylor Galvan, Kayte Brought

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Scott Huddleston, Laura Elvia Hall, Joey Doctor (COSA), David McBeth (COSA), Brandi Ware, Oscar Ambrocio, Stephanie Guerra and Adrien Frank, Kerim Jacama, Steve Tillotson, Reuben Bazan, Mark Liberatore, Belinda Gavallos, Jana Gray, Debbie Racca-Sittre, Mari Tamez, Ken Erfurth, Laura Elvia Hall, Veronica Ibarra, Betty Bueche, Belinda Gavallos, Claudia Borowski, Fred Bustillos, Brandi Ware, Janis Ploetz, Jana Gray, Steven Dean, Cosmina Colvin, Doerte Weber,

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS / SUBCOMMITTEE BUSINESS

Welcome by Monica Trevino-Ortega at 9:02 a.m.

Monica: Under Citizens to be Heard – nothing submitted ahead of time but will provide opportunity under Chat Box at end. Agenda Changes – Citizens to be Heard/Public Comments are able to be heard, moderated for 3 minutes. Please mute microphones during presentations.

Cosima Colvin – unfortunately the upcoming public workshop on AME site is the same time as Westside Creek = conflict, **Monica** - dates were set by Army Corps of Engineers so had to abide by the dates. But presentation will be recorded and accessible afterwards.

Anthony Cantu – will this committee have a recommendation for the AME project? **Steve Graham** – committee needs to decide to submit a letter but also send a letter as an individual or as a representation of a business group. **Jerry Geyer** – see if committee wants to vote today or see how everyone feels about it. Had a discussion last week after the last public session, so our role in advising is appropriate. Need to have a way to capture the committee’s input on the best vision of the project. **Steve Graham** – believe all 8 options show best representation of celebrating/enhance this history, all options have pros/cons. **Cathy Meyer** – could someone please provide some bullet points to include in letter to write? **Monica** – yes, we can send everyone a template. **Steve Graham** - foundation will be mostly buried (standard practice of preserving), celebrating but not preserving – false premises of erasing history. Walls aren’t important but the history is important. **Allison Elder** – there are also buried structures at the NPS Rancho de Los Cabras in Wilson County. **Tony Canez** – in scenario with impacting the site, would we archive and record anything at the site? **Steve Graham** – see what is in the corner stone, to fully preserve or protect. The 2 corners will remain but everything else is taken out. But this needs this to be addressed by Army Corps. **Patricia Seindenberger** – will there be programming, can different cultures use the Plaza? Will it show the corner store? **Steve Graham**– will preserve 2 corners around Camaron, not entire site. **Kerry Averyt** - There will be additional archaeological investigations and archiving required regardless of the mitigation

option that is chosen. The level of effort required will be somewhat dependent on the option that is chosen and has yet to be determined. **Jerry Geyer** – would it be possible to gift a piece to the current AME church group? **Steve Graham** – unclear because there are State and Federal laws regarding antiquities. **Patricia Seidenberger** – maybe a mosaic of what the church use to look like might be a good idea. **Steve Graham** – great idea. **Monica** – in the interpretive panels, there will be consideration of the AME church.

February 16 – Second Archaeological Site Virtual Public Meeting: able to ask questions to Design Team and Army Corps. Submit feedback by March 8th.

March 11 & 12 – Girls Empowerment Summit by City of San Antonio, 2-day event and supporting initiative by having pink lights at San Pedro Creek Cultural Park, honored to be asked to participate.

Approval of January 2021 Minutes

Motion - Patricia Seidenberger

Second – Josh Gerkin

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY UPDATE

Christine Clayton, San Antonio River Authority Project Manager, provided the following updates:

Phase 1.1

- * Archaeological Site Public Notice through March 8th.
- * Second public meeting on February 16th.
- * Still working on installing the manantial tile and re-applying the thin coat on the bench top.

Phase 1.3 and Phase 2

- Ph. 1.3 – Installing Nueva low water crossing columns. Nueva Street underground electric and gas work ongoing.
- Ph. 2 – Beginning construction of Culvert Park concrete slabs

Phase 3 and Phase 4

- Phase 3 – Preliminary layout shown, extends from railroad bridge through IH-35. Providing this to stakeholders. Focusing on a natural aspect with one paseo on west bank.
- Phase 4 – Preliminary layout showed area from Cesar Chavez to El Paso. Area south of El Paso in progress. This area most in flux due to coordination with property owners. Focus is on the trail and landscaping but looking to provide Carrie Brown some spaces/locations for public art.
- Starting conversations with business owners to prepare for the upcoming construction.

Street closures

- *Houston Street: closed but expected opening TBD – closure to extend to allow work in archaeological site
- *Graham: closed but expected opening Fall 2021
- *Nueva: closed but expected opening Fall 2022
- *Camp Street – closed, expected opening Fall 2022
- *Alamo – partially closed, expected opening Fall 2022

*Guadalupe – closed, expected opening Early 2023

Partner Coordination –

- * City of San Antonio bond projects – Camaron Street – SAWS utility work, road work expected to begin in April.
- * Union Pacific – Executed preliminary engineering agreements, beginning RR bridge design.
- Starting outreach to Phase 3 and 4 stakeholders.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Janel Garcia – is a current resident in Phase 3, seeing homes and business being home torn down – is this area going to have plans for restaurants or just going to be a trail area?

Christine Clayton – focus for SARA will be the trail and creek, however, in previous phases we have seen that the creek improvements spur development. Mixed use development already seen in previous phases. **Steve Graham** – RIO 7 (River Improvement Oversight) public investment in the Creek area, compatible to fitting in the look/feel of the area which might help understand what City wants to impact,

www.sanantonio.gov/historic/HDRC/zoning. **Lourdes Galvan** – on the SARA board and represents Ms. Garcia’s area, working with restaurant owners and some are remodeling to prepare for new business traffic with the outcome of improvements and want to preserve the community as much as possible and aware of the possible new tax hikes – hoping it doesn’t impact too much. **Jerry Geyer** – is Ms. Garcia a part of the Lone Star neighborhood committee? Haven’t had someone from that group represented in the meetings for a while. **Janel Garcia** – yes, current member.

Jerry Geyer – are the committee members receiving the updates from Camaron, don’t show the other people from the email? Great in receiving details. **Cathy Meyer** – not receiving that information. **Monica** – will work with city to get committee members on the email list.

ART UPDATE – Project Update and Events

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

- **Phase 1.2 Public Art Projects** – Stream by Adam Frank: another test of the water wall mockup was conducted on February 2; a solution was achieved to achieve desired effect. Light coordination with area stakeholders is on-going. Microphone sculpture is complete..
- **Five Panel Mural** – request for qualifications drafted, presentation to River Authority BOD by February 24. Professional artists residing in Bexar County are eligible and must apply as a team. Artist team under contract est. May 2021.
- **Phase 1.1 Temporary Artwork** – coming soon. Budgets up to \$2,500; up to 4 projects selected. Professional artists residing in Bexar County are eligible to apply, installed throughout the year; schedule depending on projects selected; coordinate with WPO staff to ensure site integrity.
- **Upcoming events (virtual)**
 - Monday Night Yoga through June 30
 - February 17: Creekside Chats with John Mize, FPC
 - March 13: Fit & Flow (YMCA of San Antonio)

March 20-21: World Water Day (scavenger hunt with Foundation)

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Andi Rodriguez – what is the estimated date of completion of the water wall? **Carrie** – anticipate having it completed by the end of the year but depends on construction timeline

Jerry Geyer – How large is the water wall – does it extend? Will be a remarkable piece of art. **Carrie Brown** – approximate 250 feet long, complete length of Penner’s parking lot.

Jerry Geyer – temporary art along the creek, will be there a Day of the Dead piece? A good opportunity to bring people to the area. **Carrie Brown** – yes, that will be one of the options artists can respond to, will coordinate temporary art with significant events/holidays. **Steve Graham** – committee can make formal recommendations for upcoming events.

CALENDAR ITEMS

- February 15, 22 – Yoga on the Creek (virtual)
- February 16 – Archeological Site meeting
- February 24 – Creekside Chats (virtual)
- March 8 – Public Notice Period Closed
- March 11 – SPCCP Subcommittee Meeting

Point of Contact – send all comments to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Leslie Crippen
819 Taylor Street, Room 3A12
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
Email: DLL-CESWFLSPCIPComments@usace.army.mil

For questions about access to information or requests for printed copies:

Monica Trevino-Ortega, San Antonio River Authority: mtrevino-ortega@sariverauthority.org

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC AND SUBCOMMITTEE

- **Jerry Geyer** – put together message to subcommittee, a template. **Steve Graham** – will work with Monica on summary of the 8 options for committee and stakeholders. Meeting with County Commissioners this month on the rivers and creeks work plan. Can update the committee on the outcome for the upcoming March meeting.
- **Cosmia Colvin** - Steve, please don't forget about the Westside Creeks Restoration Oversight Committee. We should continue to get updates on SARA's plans and progress

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn – Cathy Meyer

Second – Josh Gerkin

Adjourn 10:26 a.m.