



**AGENDA**  
**FEBRUARY 12, 2015**  
**SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY**  
**100 E. GUENTHER, BOARD ROOM**  
**8:30 A.M.**

**ATTENDING: MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES-** Ben Brewer, Marilyn Bradley, Ernest Bromley, Giorgio Colussi, Bob Corbo, Stella de la Garza, Caleb Etheredge, Jerry Geyer, Scott Gustafson, Mark Liberatore, Susan Powers, Patti Radle, Humberto Saldaña. **STAFF AND CONSULTANTS-** Tony Canez, Rudy Farias, Steve Graham, Claude Harding, Bridget Hinze, Marianne Kumley, Jeff Mitchell, John Mize, Brice Moczygemba, Bob Perez, Russell Persyn, Suzanne Scott, Steven Tillotson, Jeff Tyler, Laura Vasquez, Wendy Mayer, Austin Snell, Linda Ximenes and **14 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Jerry Geyer, Co-chair, called the meeting to order and recognized Suzanne Scott and Robert Ramirez in the audience. He asked if the meeting in April will be the 40 percent meeting. Jeff Mitchell replied that the official 40 percent will be at the end of March. Mr. Geyer commented that they would be seeing the design at that time, and that it would mean that they are relatively assured of the engineering and other details. It is a major milestone and shortly after that there will be a meeting to present the design at that point.

**CALENDAR ITEMS**

- a. San Pedro Creek Subcommittee meeting- March 12, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. at 100 E. Guenther, Board Room
- b. Westside Creeks Restoration Oversight Committee (WCROC) meeting- April 14, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at 100 E. Guenther, Board Room

**APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES FROM JANUARY 15, 2015**

Susan Powers moved to accept the meeting notes as written and Marilyn Bradley seconded the motion. The meeting notes were approved by unanimous vote of the subcommittee members present.

**PROJECT ACTIVITY UPDATE**

Jeff Mitchell, Design Team Consultants, reported on the following:

- Upcoming dates for the cost estimation, the internal Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC); the 40 percent design submittal on March 27 and approval and next steps of

the design during the month of April. There will be a working session with Commissioners' Court on April 14, 2015. Cost estimates will be finalized mid-April.

- The subcommittee will review the 40 percent design at their regular meeting on April 9.

Steve Tillotson updated the subcommittee on the design/visualization:

- He reviewed the design for the Merodeo from Dolorosa to Nueva, showing drawings of what it would look like along the low bank paseo and the high bank paseo.
- The channel will be deepened and widened to create handicapped accessibility with ramps and gentle slopes and a bit of lawn area. That type of accessibility will only be available at certain locations due to constraints in the right-of-way, but there will be access at each of the street crossings.
- The water in this area will be the same from Nueva to Cesar Chavez.
- Street bridge crossings will be short and wide, making it comfortable, interesting and safe. The bridges will also provide opportunities to interpret some of the historical events at the different sites and each bridge will have some type of pattern in the structure with an area for art and wayfinding signs.
- Architectural features and special elements will be found in the vicinity of the gatehouse where the Merodeo opens up at Nueva Street.
- The plan for the lighting will be rail lighting concealed in the top rail and lighting on the inside face of the panel to create a different lighting effect from other places downtown. Showing lighting element that would throw light on the pathway and illuminate any opposite abutment. This should have a different feel and draw people there after daylight.
- There will be a scope of work for the public art. The design team is working with their artist on the artistic vision and how to incorporate it into the design. They are working to make the public art an integral part of the design, and they are looking for those places where the art can be placed. They feel it should be a curated program instead of the way it was done on the San Antonio River, independent of the design. They would have someone looking at how each piece relates to the whole and not just the individual items. It could be a mentored program with national and international artists working with local artists to infuse the public art into the overall design. Patti Radle asked for assurance that the curating includes local artists. There was a comment that because there is a lot of local talent, perhaps the artists could contribute to the design of the bridges also, rather than have the artwork only in certain spots.
- There will be a space for people to sit and eat lunch in the Merodeo area.
- There was a suggestion to include QR codes in the wayfinding signs that would include a map with access points as well as other information. They could also generate revenue by announcing retailers and vendors along the way.
- The right-of-way line for the Federal Courthouse has been established for security purposes and the San Pedro Creek design will continue with it in mind. SARA will be surveying the area to be able to show the City of San Antonio with more certainty where the project lines are.

The next set of visualizations will be presented at the next subcommittee meeting in March. The subcommittee will be able to review the plans before the review by the County.

#### **OTHER ITEMS**

- Susan Powers announced a Boys and Girls Club will be built on Nogalitos and will open in summer/fall 2016.
- Mr. Geyer asked to be updated on the purchase of the land by the KIPP Academy. He was told they are purchasing the land for their own use, not for development by others.
- SARA is working on water quality to determine the true water needs of the native plants.
- Ms. Radle noted that Suzanne Scott, General Manager for SARA, will be making a presentation to the San Antonio Independent School District Board.
- Robert Ramirez commended the designers for their work and for integrating the art into the design rather than as an afterthought. He also commended the SARA staff for their work. He acknowledged Ms. Radle for suggesting students get involved in the artwork along the creek, capturing and furthering the spirit of the project.
- Mr. Geyer lamented the fact that the 300-year anniversary of the founding of San Antonio is in a lull right now and he noted that some of the historic elements of the San Pedro Creek coincide with that anniversary. Ms. Scott commented that SARA is working with an accelerated schedule to deliver the San Pedro Creek Project so it can be part of the celebration.
- Mr. Geyer commented that the application for the cultural zone will take time and have more detailed information. **Scott Gustafson noted that the plans are available and he would send them to Linda Ximenes for distribution to the subcommittee.**<sup>1</sup>
- Rudy Farias reported there is nothing new to report regarding a replacement on the subcommittee for Jack Suneson who passed away few weeks ago. The Executive Committee is working on it now.
- There is a report that a redevelopment is planned for the Lone Star Brewery.

#### **ITEMS TO PRESENT TO WCROC**

There are no items to present to the WCROC at this time.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.

#### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m. with a motion to adjourn by Patti Radle and a second to the motion by Marilyn Bradley.

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<sup>1</sup> Text in bold type indicates an item that needs follow-up action.