

**RELOCATION/DEACCESSION SUBCOMMITTEE**  
Tucson Community Center Garrett Eckbo  
**PUBLIC ART AND COMMUNITY DESIGN COMMITTEE**

of the Tucson Pima Arts Council  
**Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 10:00 AM**

**Approved Minutes**  
**Approved December 8, 2015**  
**Tucson Pima Arts Council**  
**Tucson, Arizona**

**100 N. Stone**

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room (Suite 109)

**PRESENTING TIME**

**1. Welcome/Introductions**

**Attending: Darlene Showalter, Demion Clinco, Dorothée Harmon, Elaine Becherer, Helen Breslich Erickson, Kenna Smith.**

**2. Updates to Preservation Plan and National Register Listing**

The Eckbo Landscape at the Tucson Convention Center has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places at the National Level of Significance on September 8, 2015.

**3. Philosophical Approach to Eckbo Landscape and Added Art Elements**

The group determined to review the artworks and other elements that have been added subsequent to the Eckbo Landscape's installation in a chronological view from the most recent to the earliest installations.

**4. Review of Relocation/Deaccession Criteria**

The group discussed the criteria for relocation/deaccession in the City of Tucson's Administrative Directive. Criteria 5 and 6 are the most relevant to elements added to the Eckbo Landscape. (5. In the case of site specific artwork, no suitable site is available, or significant changes in the use, character, or design of the site have occurred which affect the integrity of the artwork; and 6. The artwork has been determined to be significantly incompatible or inferior in the context of the collection.)

The group determined to consider the added elements in two steps – the first for context relative to the Eckbo Landscape followed by potential locations and other logistics for relocation.

**5. Quantify/List Art Elements in Eckbo landscape**

Discussion centered around listing the artworks using their install dates as the starting point.

The most recent artworks placed within the landscape are artist Alex Heveri's wayfinding sculpture series created by a commission through the TCC and Visit Tucson.

The group formed a general list to be reviewed and completed, acknowledging that the list may be incomplete. Additional works mentioned include:

A lighted steel and glass post and beam sculpture by Alex Hevei.

A lighted steel sculpture by Chris Tanz.

Corten steel sculpture by John Heric

Azurite mixed mineral boulder

Rock sculpture by George Ehnat

Corten steel and stone sculpture by Fred Borchardt

Jacome's Department Store medallion by Edith Hamlin

Stainless steel and wood sculpture by Robert Tobias

The group began discussion of the wayfinding sculptures. The discussion allowed further refinement toward a consistent and appropriate approach to reviewing each added element.

A **motion** was made that the rationale for considering the artworks include a stylistic evaluation relative to Eckbo's intent for the landscape, specifically the character of the site and design, and for incorporated materials.

The motion passed 6 – 0.

Several sculptures were discussed.

The group determined that the wayfinding sculptures are stylistically and materially incompatible with the Eckbo landscape's modern design, and that up to three pieces sited within the landscape interrupt the spatial concept of the design and interrupt movement through the promenade.

The group determined that the lighted post and beam sculpture is stylistically and materially incompatible with the intent of the landscape, that placement interrupts the visual flow of the landscape design, and that the lighting is incompatible with the original globe-shaped lights.

A question arose about ownership of the lighted sculpture by Chris Tanz currently attached to a privately-owned building on the west side of the Walkway area of the Eckbo landscape. The group determined that the artwork is stylistically and materially incompatible, and negatively impacts the view shed. The location of the artwork on an adjacent commercial property encourages the perception of the sculpture as a sign.

The group determined that the large Corten sculpture within the upper plaza is disruptive of the view. The upper plaza originally housed a low fountain allowing an open view into the Fountain Plaza area. The intention for future restoration is to recreate the original upper fountain. The sculpture is incompatible with the style and scale of the original design. The Corten steel material is also incompatible with original materials.

Further discussion of art elements and practicalities for relocation were tabled until a future meeting. Additional details about the commissioning or donation of works was requested. Install dates of the artworks will also be clarified.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.

**Public Art and Community Design Committee Meetings and Subcommittee Meetings are open to the public. Citizens, particularly artists, interested in public art are encouraged to attend.**

Action may be taken on any agenda item.