

The University of New Mexico
Historic Preservation Committee
Monthly Meeting
January 30, 2017
11:00am - Noon

Committee Members Present: Patrick Hogan, Portia Vescio, Audra Bellmore, Francisco Uviña

Additional Attendees: Claudia Miller, Maxine Marks (Research Assistant)

Guests: Brian Chalmer (PPD)

Agenda Item 1: Castetter Hall Basement Renovation

Agenda Item 2: Public Art on Campus

Agenda Item 3: MOU with State of NM

Meeting begins at 11:04am

Agenda Item 1: Castetter Hall Basement Renovation

Audra explained HPC role and purpose to guest Brian Chalmer. Mr. Chalmer described the renovation project in Castetter Hall basement. Room One is the pipe room and has flimsy office walls. The whole room is about 200sf. The room will be cleared out, but only part of it will be used because of funding limitations. Three animal research rooms and one procedural room will have future research use. Phase 1 of the renovation focuses on the east side of the room that will be filled with multiple procedure rooms. Phase 2 will expand the renovations all the way to the north end of the building and then the west side. Interim temporary walls will isolate the west area from the east area until renovation can be done. Requirements include a proper HVAC system as the building is currently at its limits. An exhaust louvre needs to be placed on the exterior of the building.

Patrick Hogan added that the original design of Castetter Hall is an L-shape and an addition on the west side created a courtyard. Character defining features apply to the windows on the upper level with the concrete decorations.

Audra Bellmore suggests an email discussion and vote after Brian Chalmer concludes and adds that the doors on Castetter Hall will not be changed. Also, the interior is not an issue as it's a utilitarian building that needs to be updated. Questions arise about the timeframe of the project. Brian Chalmer excuses himself to make a phone call to gather more details and information to answer HPC questions.

Agenda Item 2: Public Art on Campus

Portia Vescio shares with the committee some of her initial research on the murals in the West Wing of Zimmerman Library including a 1938 announcement of the artist in residence. Initial controversy over the murals began with complaint in 1970 via a letter to the editor of the Daily Lobo. Shortly after that, the murals were vandalized. In 1974, controversy again arises and though mural texts were created and presented to the Regents, they were never utilized.

Audra Bellmore shares the course of action regarding the mural controversy including email communication with Virginia Scharf and the provost committee. Audra Bellmore thinks we need interpretation asap regardless of how long the provost committee takes to meet.

Patrick Hogan and Portia Vescio both note the failure of the university to follow through with the interpretive materials created and that now is a good time to see it through with this committee. Claudia Miller added that it is necessary to also have the UNM Public Art Committee represented, too.

Patrick Hogan stated that original context of the murals needs to be included. Audra Bellmore said that there is more contextual info here in the archives to share and that this topic relates to the need for communication and collaboration with the UNM Public Art Committee. Bellmore secured donor funding for a campus-wide public art inventory and will soon hire a new fellow to conduct the work. Claudia Miller said to keep working with Chris Fenton and that the date of the Tingley move is unknown.

Audra Bellmore shared that she is negotiating some funding to pay photographer Robert Wreck for copyright use (about \$500) of his photos of art in the Tingley collection. Additionally, the CSWR is also doing photography for objects not already photographed, and supplemented with all views included. Audra Bellmore reiterated the importance of keeping that collection together and moved in full, whole. The public art inventory is vast. It has never been inventoried and it is complicated because of size, quantity, and divvy off chunks across campus. Kim Feldman is going to share the Hodgkin Hall inventory as she has rough inventory and some images. Claudia Miller said that she can identify recent purchases.

After the Carrie Tingley project, the public art inventory will cover murals, north campus, main campus, and the campus satellites.

Claudia said to share the inventory with the public art committee so they can plaque the artwork. She added that Chris Fenton lost her installer because of the budget rescission.

Audra Bellmore indicated that she is going to meet with Mike Tuttle in Risk Management and that the incoming fellow needs to know how to distinguish art from various miscellaneous objects. Claudia Miller added that past work done by students was unusable because they often could not discern a Picasso print from a random poster.

Agenda Item 1 (Resumed): Castetter Hall Basement Renovation

Brian Chalmer returns from phone call. He talked to David Graham and confirmed that the vents will go through the window and that the size of the louvre will match the size of window opening. No cuts will be made into the stucco and the louvres will be painted to match the building.

Audra Bellmore will send out info and the committee will vote via email.

The HPC recommendation will state:

"Recommendation: Castetter Hall Renovations and HVAC Upgrade

The Historic Preservation Committee accepts the proposal for the installation of the new ventilation unit and fan in Castetter Hall. The proposal for the ventilation unit and fan includes routing the vents through the existing window on the north first floor that faces the courtyard, with all louvres and framing color-matched to the building's existing exterior stucco color. With these considerations, the Historic Preservation Committee believes the character-defining characteristics of Castetter Hall will be preserved."

Agenda Item 3: MOU with State of NM

Patrick Hogan and Audra Bellmore shared that the HPC subcommittee that met to work on the MOU considered the original intention was to allow more purview over projects. However, they came to the conclusion that a state review would be beneficial and that we need clear procedures and guidelines as part of UNM policy that the regents know about, agree with as part of the policy manual. Bellmore added that other concerned parties will need to be informed that there is a pre-approved policy in place. Claudia Miller said that a policy would carry more weight with architects. Audra Bellmore is going to send out a draft to the whole committee and then at the next meeting the HPC will go over the draft. Then, Audra Bellmore will contact Pamina Deutsch for additions/revision and try to add a representative from history and alumni. The goal is for possible approval this semester.

Meeting adjourns at noon.