

**NEW MEXICO CULTURAL PROPERTIES REVIEW COMMITTEE**  
**Special Committee Meeting Thursday, January 25, 2024**  
**1:00PM**  
**Hybrid Meeting (Zoom or in person meeting in the HPD Conference Room, Santa Fe, NM)**  
**Draft Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair:** This meeting will come to order. The time is 1:00 p.m.

The CPRC is a statutory body established in 1969 under the Cultural Properties Act and it is charged with identifying and advising on the protection of the State's cultural properties. CPRC meetings are run by parliamentary procedure so please follow those rules and any action that we take by the committee during this meeting will be done by roll call vote. And with the added dimension of meeting virtually and in person I ask for everyone's patience as we follow these procedures in a virtual setting. One caveat is that any discussion on an agenda item may be suspended, and no Committee action will be taken in the event there is an interruption in the audio/video impacting our ability to move forward and will only resume when the issue is fixed. So, welcome everyone.

**Chair:** Will Irene please take roll call?

**Committee Members Present:**

Mr. Ronald Toya (Chair)---- Via Zoom  
Dr. Kelly Jenks (Vice Chair)---Via Zoom  
Dr. Audra Bellmore (Secretary)---Via Zoom  
Dr. Matthew Bandy--- Via Zoom  
Mr. Robert Martinez---Via Zoom  
Mr. Francisco Uviña---Via Zoom  
Mr. Garron Yepa--- Via Zoom  
Ms. Elizabeth Suina--- Via Zoom

**Committee Members Absent:**

Dr. Hannah Mattson

**Chair:** Let the record show that a quorum is present.

**Others Present:**

Blaine Moffatt, NM Office of the Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General  
John Taylor-Montoya, Office of Archaeological Studies  
Thatcher Seltzer-Rogers, Office of Archaeological Studies

**Staff Present:**

Dr. Jeff Pappas, State Historic Preservation Officer/Director  
Michelle Ensey, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Jessica Badner, State Archaeological Permits & New Mexico State SiteWatch Coordinator  
Irene Rubio, Business Ops Specialist

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Chair:** There is only one item on the agenda. Are there any additions or corrections to the agenda?

**Member Dr. Bellmore:** I motion to approve the agenda.

**Chair:** Do I have a Second?

**Member Mr. Martinez:** I second the motion to approve the agenda.

**Chair:** We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Not hearing any, at this time we would do a roll call vote to approve the agenda. We have a motion and a second all in favor say **aye**. All those who oppose say **no**. Not hearing any oppositions, the **ayes** have it, and the motion is carried unanimously, and we now have an agenda. The next item is the approval of the minutes from our previous meeting.

### 3. PERMIT MATTERS

#### a. Office of Archaeological Studies. Archaeological Monitoring and Burial Recovery Plan for Installation of a Water Suppression Line to Sininger Hall Dormitory, Las Vegas, New Mexico

**Chair:** We will go directly to HPD and Michelle.

**Ms. Michelle Ensey:** I will defer to the Office of Archaeological Studies, either Dr. Taylor-Montoya or Dr. Selzer-Rogers to give a little background on the permit.

**Guest Dr. Thatcher Seltzer-Rogers:** I will be presenting on behalf of OAS. Dr. John Taylor-Montoya is double booked currently unfortunately. This project, the permit that we are applying for is to conduct archaeological monitoring and potential burial recovery within the Historic Las Vegas Compo Santo Cemetery located directly under Sininger Hall on New Mexico Highlands University. We are currently assisting New Mexico Highlands University with the recovery of remains that were disturbed by trenching operations that occurred in August with approval of SHPO. The intent is to put in a new trench going the opposite direction along connecting the waterline to the building that they are renovating. They finally did an actual GPR study that identified that there were several anomalies, most likely historic graves relating to late 19 early 20<sup>th</sup> century occupation habitation at Las Vegas. We would have to excavate those remains as part of the monitoring project. So that is what this plan and permit application is for.

**Chair:** This project has been emailed to all CPRC members. Are there any discussions or questions regarding this request?

**Member Dr. Bandy:** I just have two pretty inconsequential comments, first of all it seems perfectly fine of course but on page 13 when you talk about artifacts to be collected it just says that diagnostics will be collected, and I would appreciate a definition of diagnostic. It is one of those words that have different meanings for everyone. So, if you could outline what you are actually going to collect in more specific terms instead of diagnostic. The other one, as part of your burial methodology you say you will continue to bisect the burial pit during excavation. It seems like that is a bad idea especially that you will be in a pretty confined space already and could be really difficult to do that. I am not sure if you want to commit yourself to bisecting the burial pit. I would be perfectly happy if you would eliminate that part of the methodology.

**Chair:** Dr. Rogers do you have a response to that?

**Guest Dr. Thatcher Seltzer-Rogers:** Yes, we will put in a precise definition of diagnostic, by that what we mean are artifacts that, most likely will be historic artifacts that provide precise dating of the individual of the grave feature as opposed to bottled glass that may have makers mark or something like that, unless its in direct association. As for bisecting of the pit we will revise it to state we will bisect the pit if convenient. If the individual is not an extended grave pit. We think that some are in shroud burials so they may be flexed in that case bisecting the pit is preferred. It is better to that to identify the exact elements in there, and their association.

**Chair:** Those two items have been addressed are there any further discussions or comments regarding the plan? Not hearing any it looks like we are prepared to move forward on approving or disapproving the plan. I will accept a motion to move forward. I am concerned that the motion be complete. Just as we study the plan, I want to make sure that the motion covers everything that needs to be covered. If we can have a motion, then we can discuss that motion please.

**Member Dr. Bandy:** I move that the monitoring and the burial excavation permits be approved contingent upon receipt of revisions acceptable to staff.

**Chair:** This is basic very to the point. Michelle, do you have any comments on this?

**Ms. Michelle Ensey:** No this sounds good to me. I think we know what we need to do.

**Chair:** I have a motion do I have a second?

**Member Dr. Jenks:** I second the motion

**Chair:** We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Hearing none, Irene will you call the roll please.

<b>Mr. Ronald Toya</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Dr. Kelly Jenks</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Dr. Audra Bellmore</b>	<b>YES</b>

<b>Dr. Matthew Bandy</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. Robert Martínez</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. Francisco Uviña</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. Garron Yepa</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Ms. Elizabeth Suina</b>	<b>YES</b>

**Chair:** Thank you, the motion passes unanimously. Is there any other business or comments today? Not hearing any I just want to thank the CPRC for making your time available for this special meeting with short notice, so thank you.

#### 4. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

- a. February 9, 2024
- b. April 26, 2024
- c. June 14, 2024

**Member Dr. Jenks:** Do we know if there has been any discussion in legislation about the meetings and the possibility of remote participation or the mandate for no remote participation going forward?

**Chair:** I have not heard anything like that. Jeff and Jane Egan monitor it at the legislature and until we hear otherwise our future meetings will be hybrid. We don't want to lose anybody for a technical thing like that. Thank you, Kelly, for bringing that up.

**Ms. Irene Rubio:** We do have a representative from the AG's office, Mr. Blaine Moffat. Maybe he can provide an update on any information on this.

**Guest Blaine Moffat, AAG:** Good Afternoon, I am the Assistant Attorney General here and we are monitoring and as you know we do an analysis of a lot of the bills during the legislative session. I haven't seen anything come across my desk specifically regarding that. Considering there are a couple more weeks of this session we should have a full purview of everything going on in a couple more weeks. So, we can better answer that question hopefully on time for the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, but if not, I can address it at a later date once the session is over.

**Chair:** Thank you very much Mr. Moffat and thank you for joining us today. The session will not be over until past our next meeting. I am very certain that anything passed will not take place until after the close of the legislature, if there is legislative action taken. We plan as normal for the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. I will be in California and will be joining by Zoom as well. Any other business before the committee? Not hearing any, I will accept a motion to adjourn.

#### 5. Adjournment

**Member Dr. Bellmore:** I motion to adjourn.

**Chair:** Do I have a Second?

**Member Mr. Uviña:** I second the motion to adjourn.

**Chair:** We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor say **aye**. All those who oppose say **no**. Not hearing any opposition, the **ayes** have it, and the motion is carried unanimously.

**Chair:** Motion carried unanimously, and we are now adjourned at 1:20 pm.