



**CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE,  
OLD TOWN PORTAL MARKET ADVISORY BOARD**

**May 18, 2016 - Minutes**

Board Members: Denise Pepin, Stella Naranjo, Lisa Carrillo, Alex Nunnally  
Citizens: Marcelia Lee, Betty Monnereau, Elisia Rodriguez, Ramona Tafoya  
City Represented by: James S. de Champlon

Lisa Carrillo established that there was a quorum and called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Stella motioned to approve the Agenda; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Alex motioned to approve the Minutes from the March 24, 2016 meeting, the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Portal Managers Report:** The question of including Social Security numbers on the Portal Market application has come up. At this point in time the Portal Market Ordinance requires applicants to provide SS#'s on their applications. The City has started an internal discussion over this matter and the Portal Manager will report back on the City's findings.

**Labeling Conventions:** The Board went thru the Materials Quality Guidelines sheet line by line and took comments from the artisan/vendors at the meeting. The leading topic of discussion under this category was stabilized turquoise. By Federal Trade Commission standards:

It is unfair or deceptive to fail to disclose that a gemstone has been treated if:

- (a) The treatment is not permanent.
- (b) The treatment creates special care requirements for the gemstone.
- (c) The treatment has a significant effect on the stone's value.

In comparing Stabilization to (a) and (b) the treatment is permanent and reduces any required care for the turquoise, but when you take into account the value of turquoise that has been stabilized compared to Natural turquoise there is a significant difference in value. And so even though there are many participants in the Southwest jewelry industry that are not acknowledging that their turquoise has been stabilized the Board recommended that Portal Market artisan/vendors return to the practice of labeling stabilized turquoise as such or by the common abbreviation "Stab Turq".

It was further agreed that the Portal Manager would include an updated Materials Quality Guidelines sheet in the acceptance packet for the FY17 permit cycle.

The Board also discussed if there might not be some conventions that could be adopted with respect to labeling that would help to clarify the content of the labels.

Denise Pepin announced the meeting adjourned.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 20th.