



Minutes

Present: Chuck Beaty, Patrick Brien, Marcia Campbell, Gerald Douglass, John Field, Bill Gardner, Lynn Anderson for Mike Gardner, Tera Harden, Vance Hardin, Barry Hildebrandt, Wolde-Ab Isaac, Nanci Larsen, Kirk Lewis, Shalini Lockard, Marty Lueking, Clarissa Cervantes for Andy Melendrez, Stan Morrison, Charity Schiller, David St. Pierre, Justin Tracy, Steve Wollman, Shelby Worthington, Al Zelinka, Andrew Guerra (ABP)

Excused: Miguel Cruz, Michelle Freeman, Jeff Kraus, Andrew Lazarz, Bob Nagle, Kris Whitehead, Ellie Uli

Absent : David St. Pierre, Cherie Russell

Staff: Janice Penner, Robbie Silver

1) Call to Order

Charity Schiller called the meeting to order.

2) Self Introductions and Public Comment

Bill Gardner acknowledged the passing of Justice John Gabbert.

3) Minutes of November 13, 2013

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of November 13, 2013

Motion made by: Chuck Beaty **Motion Seconded by:** Bill Gardner

Motion carried.

4) Chair's Report

Charity Schiller also acknowledged the passing of Justice John Gabbert. She commented on the Off the Wall event that was held at the Riverside Art Museum. She requested feedback from the Board regarding Small Business Saturday. No additional feedback was given.

Charity Schiller stated that Fritz Coleman from NBC 4 will be conducting a live broadcast of the Holiday Lights segment in downtown Riverside on Thursday, December 12th. Janice Penner said RDP would be assisting with providing businesses with collection boxes for the Toys for Tots campaign which was part of the segment.

4a) Approval of Strategic Plan for 2014 to 2016

Janice Penner referred to the Strategic Plan for 2014 to 2016 provided in the Board package and asked if there were any questions or feedback. There were no questions or additional feedback. Charity Schiller commended Janice Penner for her efforts.

Motion: To adopt the Strategic Plan for 2014 to 2016 as presented

Motion made by: Bill Gardner **Motion Seconded by:** Patrick Brien

Motion carried.

4b) Approval of Downtown Achievement Awards

Janice Penner listed the proposed recipients for the downtown achievement awards. The proposed recipients were:

Chair's Award – Chief Sergio Diaz for his leadership and contributions to the community.

Arts and Culture – The Riverside Art Museum for its innovative programming and outreach to the community.

Business Activity – The Mission Inn Hotel and Spa for their annual Festival of Lights celebration which brings hundreds of thousands of people downtown.

Downtown Event – The Chanukah Festival hosted by the Chabad Jewish Community Center that celebrates the first Festival of Lights and Riverside's diversity.

Downtown Improvement – Riverside City College for the Center for Social Justice and Civil Liberties and the restoration of a historic building.

Safety and Security - Community Development Department and the Riverside Police Department for the biweekly sweeps conducted by Homeless Services, Code Enforcement, and the police of homeless encampments in the downtown area.

Motion: To approve the recommended recipients for awards at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Motion made by: Kirk Lewis **Motion Seconded by:** Bill Gardner

Motion carried.

Janice Penner noted that the recipient of the Roy Hord Volunteer of the Year Award would be chosen by the Hord family in January.

4c) Nominating Committee – approval of officers for ballot

Janice Penner advised that the Nominating Committee had met on December 10th. She said that the committee had reviewed the officers for the upcoming Board term and adopted a motion to recommend:

Chair – Kris Whitehead
Vice Chair – Justin Tracy
Secretary – Kirk Lewis
Treasurer – Stephen Wollman

Janice Penner stated that the ballots for election of the officers and the at large Directors would be sent out by December 27th.

Motion: To approve the recommended officers for the 2014 Board Term.

Motion made by: Patrick Brien **Motion Seconded by:** Shelby Worthington

Motion carried.

5) Items for Information

5a) Public Hearing for Food Truck Ordinance December 10

Janice Penner stated that she attended the public hearing at the County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, December 12th for the revised ordinance for the operation of food trucks. She advised that the County Board of Supervisors approved the revised ordinance for Riverside County and noted that several Supervisors expressed concerns regarding the economic impact on certain districts and on brick-and-mortar restaurants. She noted cities would need to review

the revised ordinance to determine what changes if any they would make regarding the operation of food trucks. She said that RDP would be conveying its position on food trucks to the City and advocating for the same restrictions downtown as placed on hot dog and other food carts, namely that they not be allowed within 150 feet of an existing restaurant.

5b) RDP activities

i) Update on Security Forum and follow-up workshop

Janice Penner said RDP was working on three action items:

- Implementing an alert system for downtown that would improve communication between the businesses, Riverside Police Department and the City of Riverside. She said the effort was being organized by Councilman Mike Gardner's office and RDP.
- Expansion of the Ambassador Program to include foot and bike patrols. She said Staff would be investigating possible grants to assist with funding.
- Donating the security cameras to the City of Riverside and advocating for a strategic plan for security cameras within the downtown.

ii) Other activities

Janice Penner said RDP would be holding an informational meeting for downtown businesses on Tuesday, January 7th at 8:30 am at the Center for Arts and Philanthropy to discuss the intern program with CBU. Robbie Silver added that he had interviewed five students so far and hoped to have fifteen to twenty available for internships.

Janice Penner said RDP had refreshed the design of the BID Bulletin and monthly calendar poster to keep the brand fresh.

7) Financial Reports

7a) Financial report at November 30, 2013

Stephen Wollman advised that the financial report for the month of November showed a loss of \$13,738 compared to an expected loss of \$11,744. He advised that for the year to date there was a loss of \$62,595 compared to an expected loss of \$50,808. He said that the variance of \$11,787 was largely due to timing of certain expenses including deposits for the annual meeting and security projects. He said that RDP's financial situation was strong with its reserves.

MOTION: To accept the financial report at November 30, 2013

Motion made by: Stan Morrison **Motion Seconded by:** Patrick Brien

Motion carried.

8) City Council Updates

8a) Ward One

Councilman Mike Gardner said the grand opening for the Riverside Convention Center was scheduled for February.

Councilman Mike Gardner said there were no issues with Festival of Lights aside from certain carriage companies that did not clean up after their horses at the loading stations. He said the issue will be resolved shortly.

Councilman Mike Gardner discussed Live Nation's proposed changes regarding drink

consumption inside the Fox Theaters, and stated that there were concerns regarding allowing drinks inside the Fox Theater. Justin Tracy noted that the public perception of the Fox Theater needs to be improved. Patrick Brien said there could be options that included drinks with lids. Bill Gardner asked if Live Nation could sell naming rights to the Fox Theater. Councilman Mike Gardner said any proposal for naming rights would need to be approved by the City.

8b) Ward Two

Clarissa Cervantes reported on behalf of Councilman Andy Melendrez and stated that he had asked the Council to review the plans for the proposed sports arena to be located on the Ab Brown Soccer Complex and the old golf course. Councilman Mike Gardner said the City would be seeking input from the community on the proposal.

9) Security Update

Vance Hardin reported that 22 officers were on duty during the Festival of Lights Switch-On Ceremony and that no incidents were reported.

Vance Hardin reported on a robbery that took place in Lot 16. He added that the Universalist Unitarian Church on Mission Inn Ave and Lemon had signed a no trespassing authorization and that seemed to have resolved a number of issues in the area.

Vance Hardin advised said that he would be meeting with Live Nation regarding security for the Fox Theater.

10) Redevelopment Update

Al Zelinka reported that he had received positive feedback regarding the Riverside Community Hospital's plans for renovation.

Al Zelinka said a meeting would take place regarding the Clean and Safe strategy for the downtown entertainment on Thursday, December 12th.

Al Zelinka said that the first meeting of the Sign Code Review committee took place on Monday, December 9th. Janice Penner commented that the consultants' presentations were informative.

Al Zelinka said the Planning Commission would be meeting to discuss a residential project for downtown.

Al Zelinka said that the City's Planning Department had issued a Statement of Qualifications for a consultant to develop a Smart Code Specific Plan that would replace existing specific plans with one plan for most of the city and streamline the development process by establishing standards and guidelines for facilities and mitigation. Councilman Gardner said that there would be community meetings to discuss the Smart Code Specific Plan as it moved forward.

11) Arlington Business Partnership Update

Andrew Guerra said ABP would be updating their five year strategic plan. He added that ABP was having problems with graffiti on their murals so ABP would be looking into utilizing security

cameras from the local businesses.

Andrew Guerra commented on ABP's Winter Fest activities. He also noted that ABP would be updating their office systems.

12) New Business

Wolde-Ab Isaac said RCC would be looking into implementing a mass communication system to be used during an emergency on campus. He said RCC would be seeking feedback from the community.

Stan Morrison said The Unforgettables Foundation would be hosting an event at the Ronald McDonald House in Redlands at 3:30 pm on New Year's Eve to honor those children that have passed away.

Bill Gardner stated that there are efforts to purchase the property next door to the Harada House to develop it into an interpretive center. He encouraged RDP Board members to consider donating to the effort and asked RDP staff to send material to the board.

Chuck Beaty talked about the trip to Sendai, Japan that took place in 1994 and resulted in the creation of the Festival of Lights event at the Mission Inn Hotel and Spa.

13) Adjournment and next meeting date

Charity Schiller adjourned the meeting until the next one scheduled for January 8, 2014