



Minutes

Present: Chuck Beaty, Bruce Blomdahl, Patrick Brien, Ian Davidson, Gerald Douglas, Bill Gardner, Lynn Anderson for Mike Gardner, Debbi Guthrie, Brian Norton for Rafael Guzman, Laurie Hitt, Jeff Kraus, Nanci Larsen, Kirk Lewis, Andy Melendrez, Stan Morrison, RJ Rodriguez, David St. Pierre, Charity Schiller, Cara Swearingen, Justin Tracy, Shelby Worthington, Bob Nagle.

Excused: Michelle Freeman

Absent: Cherie Crutcher, Wolde-Ab Isaac, Marco McGuire, Kris Whitehead, Shalini Lockard, Steve Wollman, John Field, Wolde-Ab Issac, Marco McGuire, Brian Pearcy, RJ Rodriguez

Arlington Business Partnership: Lea Hernandez

Staff: Emily Minnick

1) Call to Order

David St. Pierre called the meeting to order.

2) Self Introductions and Public Comments

Chuck Beaty commented on the signage he observed while on the East Coast.

3) Minutes of May 11, 2016

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of May 11, 2016

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

Motion carried.

4) Chair's Report

David St. Pierre said he had no formal Chair's Report but mentioned that he and Patrick Brien were appearing in Shakespeare in the Courtyard at California Baptist University that night plus, Friday and Sunday.

5) Items for Discussion

5a) Event Update Riverside Arts Council and Riverside Downtown Partnership; Riverside Art and Music Festival

David St. Pierre said that RDP and the Riverside Arts Council were joining together and combining the Summer Street Jam and the Mayor's Ball (Festival for the Arts) events together for the Riverside Art and Music Festival. He said it would be on University Avenue between Market Street and Lemon Street on September 17, 2016. He said that during the day there would be art vendors, performances by local artists, and more.

Patrick Brien said that RDP and RAC met with IHeartMedia to look at possible headliners for the closing concert. He said the stage would have cultural performances in the late afternoon. He said it would be a fundraiser for the Riverside Arts Council through sponsorships and that he would be reaching out to the Board.

5b) Budget Approval

David St. Pierre referred to the material in the Board package and noted that the Executive Committee had reviewed the budget and recommended its approval.

Motion: To approve the proposed budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

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

Motion carried.

6) Items for Information

6a) Doors Open Riverside

David St. Pierre said the first Doors Open Riverside was successful, particularly for a first time event. He said participating buildings were pleased with the turnout with most reporting several hundred visitors. He thanked those Board members who came down and a special thanks to Nanci Larsen and the Mission Inn Museum docents who volunteered for the event. He said the event was a joint effort between the City of Riverside, the Mission Inn Museum, the Old Riverside Foundation, the Riverside Arts Council, and RDP. He noted that the event was a success in terms of cost per attendee with actual costs around \$2,000 with RDP picking up about \$750 of that cost.

6b) Update on CBSs and proposed Safety Ambassador Program

David St. Pierre said the RDP Land Use committee on Thursday, June 16th would include an update on the Community Benefit District proposal as well as an update from Jay Eastman on the Request for Proposals for the Safety Ambassador Program. He said Board members were welcome to attend but asked them to let staff know so there was adequate seating.

6c) Downtown Parking Meeting

David St. Pierre said the City had hired a consultant for a Downtown Parking Study and would be scheduling a meeting with downtown stakeholders at the Convention Center. He said that once the date had been finalized, RDP would assist with notifying downtown businesses.

6d) Workshop series

David St. Pierre said that RDP would be offering a series of free seminars for downtown businesses. He said the first would be a seminar on Cyber Security on Thursday, July 14th at 8:30 am, and the next a workshop on Succeeding Online scheduled for Wednesday, August 24th at 9 am. He said that RDP was also working with the City's Office on Economic Development on scheduling a seminar on using available tools on their website such as Size Up. He advised that all workshops would be held in the Boardroom at The Center for Arts and Philanthropy.

6e) Other RDP activities

David St. Pierre said Riverside Restaurant Week 2016 would run from June 17th to June 26th and be a joint promotion between the City, RDP, and the Arlington Business Partnership. He said RDP would be doing additional promotion of downtown businesses on its Facebook page, www.Facebook.com/RestaurantWeekDowntownRiverside.

Shelby Worthington said that when she went on the website for Riverside Restaurant Week the only restaurant listed downtown was Taco Station. She asked about other downtown restaurants signing up. Emily Minnick said there are four restaurants currently signed up and she would be going out to distribute posters, postcards, and coasters to encourage others to do so. She noted that there had been a delay with posting on the website.

David St. Pierre said the 2016 series of free Concerts at City Hall would run from Tuesday, June 21st to Tuesday, July 26th and be held at the Clock Tower by City Hall. Shelby Worthington commented that the emphasis needed to be on people patronizing downtown restaurants for to-go lunches.

David St. Pierre said that Supervisor John Tavaglione would be the speaker at the June 28th luncheon at the Chabad Jewish Community Center sponsored by Best Best & Krieger. He said the July luncheon would be at the Courtyard by Marriott with the hotel sponsoring.

David St. Pierre said that Movies on Main would start on July 7th and likely move after that to the Arts Block between University and Ninth due to the start of construction on Imperial Hardware Lofts.

7) Financial Reports

7a) Financial report at May 31, 2016

David St. Pierre said that for the month of May there was a deficit of \$8,573 compared to an expected surplus of \$21,862 due to BID levy income for the month being \$29,196 lower than budgeted.

David St. Pierre said that for the year to date there was a deficit of \$10,951 compared to an expected surplus of \$9,168 due to BID levy income for the year to date being lower than budget by about \$15,154. He said to anticipate adjustments in June for allocation of certain expenses to City Match monies.

Motion: To accept the financial report at May 31, 2016

Motion made by: Stan Morrison **Motion Seconded by:** Bill Gardner

Motion carried.

8) City Council Updates

8a) Ward One

Lynn Anderson represented Mike Gardner who was touring a homeless shelter in Coachella. She said that both of the ballot measures failed to pass and that Rusty Bailey was reelected as Mayor.

8b) Ward Two

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that the City was close to finalizing the budget. He said that he felt the City had its 4 ½% reductions. He said the shortfall of \$7.2 million would come from the general fund. He noted they needed an agreement with UCR and the UNET to keep the UNET intact.

Stan Morrison said that he had been a part of the University for years and believed strongly in maintaining the UNET. He said the UNET was able to cut off a lot of problems before they happened and pinpoint certain locations where gang and drugs exchanges were occurring.

Councilman Andy Melendrez said the Mission Lofts project was approved and the developers hoped to have it started by the end of the year. He said it was a four story development with 212 units. He commented on the pedestrian crosswalk planned to avoid traffic backup. ,

9) Security Update

Bruce Blomdahl said that 10 years ago the police were staffed at 406 sworn officers and now were at 353. He said it was a challenge considering the growth in the City.

Bruce Blomdahl commented on the shooting in Garage One and the resultant media on how dangerous it was downtown. He noted the confrontation started at the Hideaway Bar and then spilled out into the parking structure later on. He said the police were able to make arrests due to some video on the incident.

Bruce Blomdahl said there were also three attempted carjackings in the downtown area. He said that RPD detectives were able to find video footage from the Mission Inn Hotel which gave them a good description of the suspect who had distinct clothes and tattoos. He said patrol was able to recognize him when called for an overdose in the Casa Blanca area. He said the suspect confessed to the three carjackings and the case was submitted to the DA.

Bruce Blomdahl commented on several incidents in the river bottom, noting specific circumstances and that people were taken into custody quickly. He also commented on car break-ins in the downtown area, stating that RPD had made arrests on known individuals. He added that stolen items were often sold on the Internet website called "Offer Up".

Debbi Guthrie said that she hoped Bruce Blomdahl would attend the Hotel Partner meeting as the downtown hotel managers had been coming to her regularly about homeless problems.

Justin Tracy said he was trying to get people to use the term street people rather than homeless. He said most of the street people caused trouble and needed to be treated differently from those who needed and would accept help.

Bruce Blomdahl said RPD was currently working on a case where the Office of Education had three vans broken into where they store a lot of their equipment. He said someone was wise to this and broke into all three vans and took thousands of dollars worth of equipment. He said thanks to a lead they were able to get most of the equipment back.

Charity Schiller asked about the Monte Vista building. Lynn Anderson said that Councilman Mike Gardner was monitoring it. Bruce Blomdahl said he would like an update so that RPD could and look into it.

Chuck Beaty asked about White Park being open. Bruce Blomdahl said it was closed after the shooting. He said there had been discussion about making it an event park and that landscape repairs had been made while it was closed. Lynn Anderson said that it should be opened in about a week.

10) City Community Development Department Update

Brian Norton was in attendance for Rafael Guzman. He said Imperial Hardware Lofts was going through their last round of plan checks and hopefully would get their building permit within the next month and break ground in August. He said it was a mixed use project with 91 residential units and 8,000 square feet of retail.

Brian Norton said the downtown hotel to be located at the corner of Market Street and Fifth Street was a two-phase hotel project that would have 259 rooms when completed. He said the

first hotel going in would be the Hampton Inn.

Brian Norton said the Stalder Plaza was a mixed use project on the corner of Market Street and Mission Inn Avenue with 165 apartment units and 22,000 square feet of retail. He said it should be going to the City Planning Commission for final approval in a few months.

11) Arlington Business Partnership Update

Lea Hernandez said last weekend ABP had their annual Chili Cook-Off. She said she wasn't sure what the attendance number. She thanked Emily for working the event. She said they would be looking at the feedback received and taking it into account for next year.

Lea Hernandez said APB was working on getting restaurants to sign up for the 2016 Riverside Restaurant Week. She noted the delay in getting the materials.

12) New Business

Stan Morrison asked that Greg Lee of City staff had contracted West Nile disease and was now in San Francisco.

Stan Morrison said on June 17, 2016, ARC Riverside County would be honoring Jim Stream at their annual awards banquet and encouraged people to attend.

Chuck Beaty said that the fireworks at Mt. Rubidoux had been around for years but could be cancelled due to the budget cuts. He said that illegal fireworks would be an even greater problem if the Mt, Rubidoux fireworks were cancelled. He noted that the annual fundraiser for the maintenance of the Evergreen Cemetery would also be impacted. He said that a number of people planned to address City Council on the issue.

Motion: To support the decision to keep the fireworks on Mt. Rubidoux

Motion made by: Bill Gardner

Motion seconded by: Stan Morrison

Motion Approved

Bruce Blomdahl encouraged people to email him if they knew of people planning to shoot off fireworks.

13) Adjournment and next meeting date

The meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, July 13, 2016.