



Minutes

Present: Shelby Worthington, Shalini Lockard, Charity Schiller, Bud Sketchley, David St. Pierre, Michelle Freeman, Justin Tracy, Chuck Beaty, Patrick Brien, Bill Gardner, Rafael Guzman, Jeff Kraus, Nanci Larsen, Stan Morrison, Bob Nagle, Brian Percy, Cara Swearingen, Kevin Townsend

Excused: Ian Davidson, Sergio San Martin, Geoff Neely

Absent: Cherie Crutcher, Amir Mertaban, John Field, Wolde-Ab Isaac, Marco McGuire, Lou Monville

Guests: Bill Grace, Nathan Freeman, Ian Braza

Ex-Officio ABP / City Council: Councilman Mike Gardner, Councilman Andy Melendrez

Staff: Kate Stovicek

1) Call to Order

Shelby Worthington called the meeting to order.

2) Self Introductions and Public Comments

Self introductions were conducted.

Shelby Worthington stated that due to concerns about Streetplus she invited Bill Grace and Nathan Freeman to speak at the Board meeting. Bill Grace stated that the patrol footprint included University Avenue and Mission Inn Avenue from Vine to Market as well as Main Street from City Hall to the Convention Center. He added that the primary patrols took place Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 2:30 pm to 5 am. He stated that two patrol members started at 2:30 pm, four more at 6:30 pm and two more at 8:30 pm. He stated that Sunday through Wednesday there were two patrol members on shift.

Bill Grace stated that at October's Security Committee meeting, Janice Penner requested that Streetplus increase their contact with the hospitality establishments. He said that staff had done so. He added that in response to the issue of patrol members wearing black jackets during cold weather, Streetplus would be obtaining new yellow jackets with the logo for them within two to three weeks. He requested that if anyone had any questions or feedback to call him. He said that he is the office and area Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during the day time and Thursday and Friday starting in the afternoon.

Shelby Worthington thanked Bill Grace for remedying the jacket issue. She said that the concerns brought to her attention were that certain Streetplus patrol members' uniforms looked disheveled; patrol members were seen to congregate and talk for long periods of time, and they were not visible in critical areas. Michelle Freeman inquired if there was any chance of having the jackets available sooner due to the Festival of Lights. Bill Grace stated that the vendor would not be able to have them finished in time. Shelby Worthington inquired if the patrol members could wear Under Armour long sleeve shirts under their polo shirts to increase visibility. Bill Grace replied that they would consider doing so.

Michelle Freeman inquired if there were incident reports that could be sent to the board to see what RDP was receiving for its contribution. Nathan Freeman stated that Streetplus had been providing incident reports, but he, Bill Grace and the regional director would be meeting to fine tune the reports so that the information defined the impact. He stated that they would probably have an incident report for September and October in the next week or so. Shelby Worthington requested if the RDP Board could receive the incident report monthly to discuss at the Board meetings. David St. Pierre stated that he had noticed an increase in Streetplus' communication with bouncers at the bars.

Shelby Worthington inquired regarding the 311 app. Bill Grace stated that the 311 app goes through the city and it allows reports of graffiti, broken lights, etc and highly recommended it. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the app is called Riverside 311, can be used at any time, is user friendly and allows you to check the status of your service request. Justin Tracy mentioned that he typically has a good response when he emails the 311 service center.

Shelby Worthington inquired if the Streetplus patrol members wrote an incident report when they called in the police. Bill Grace stated that they did write incident reports but the reports were not available to the public. He stated that if the police report could be accessed by the Streetplus patrol member that called the police, then he could pick up that report.

Stan Morrison inquired what the most significant problem facing Streetplus was. Bill Grace stated that most of the problems were alcohol related. He noted that when an individual disturbing the peace was asked to leave an establishment, they typically moved to another bar in the area, which moved the problem. He suggested that it would be beneficial to have a system to identify those who had been asked to leave another bar. Shelby Worthington stated that PatronScan was a program used by Worthington's, Hideaway and Mario's. She said that the program scanned a patron's ID, took a video of the patron and allowed a bar to flag a patron who caused a disturbance or was escorted out of the establishment.

Bill Grace stated that the other issue was homeless. He stated that the homeless were typically asked to move along, but that just moved the issue to another area. He stated that he estimated that about 75% of the homeless population had a mental disorder which was a separate issue. Stan Morrison stated that the homeless issue was growing at an incredible rate and that Mayor Rusty Bailey was spending a majority of his time working on the issue. Nathan Freeman commented that Streetplus did escort individuals to their cars and encouraged everyone to use that service if they felt unsafe walking to their cars alone.

Shelby Worthington thanked Bill Grace for attending the meeting to speak regarding Streetplus.

Bill Gardner inquired who was responsible for replacing 12 missing chairs and repairing a number of broken chairs in front of Simple Simons. Nathan Freeman stated that the City was responsible and should be notified of the damage so they could be sent back to the manufacturer for repair. He thanked Bill Gardner for bringing the issue to his attention and said that he would address it.

3) Minutes of October 11, 2017

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of October 11, 2017

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

Motion carried

4) Chair's Report

Shelby Worthington stated that her Chair's report was the Streetplus discussion.

5) Items for Discussion

5a) Appointment of Nominating Committee

Shelby Worthington referred the Board to the attached document with the proposed nominating process and committee for the upcoming term of the RDP Board of Directors. She said that the By-laws required that a Nominating Committee be appointed to review and recommend the officers and board slate.

Shelby Worthington said that the proposed 2018 Nominating Committee consisted of Shelby Worthington as Chair, Shalini Lockard as Vice-Chair, and Michelle Freeman, Jeff Kraus and Geoff Neely as Board representatives. She said that those Board members who wished to serve were welcome to do so.

Motion: To approve the 2018 Nominating Committee.

Motion made by: Justin Tracy **Motion Seconded by:** Bill Gardner

Motion carried.

6) Items for Information

6a) Update on RDP Events

Shelby Worthington stated that the Fall Fashion Show took place on October 5th in partnership with The Pink Ribbon Place and Riverside community Health Foundation. She said that about 500 people attended the show, ten retailers provided outfits for the show and 55 outfits were shown. She said that there was a candlelight vigil at the end of the show and the pictures and video were on the Facebook page.

Shelby Worthington stated that Riverside Zombie Crawl took place on Saturday, October 21st with about 500 in attendance of which the majority of attendees were families with young children. She added that there were a number of other events on October 21st that might have contributed to the lower attendance of adults dressed as Zombies. She added that RDP staff had identified other activities and incentives for young adults to attend and that staff would be working on changes for 2018. She stated that photos and video were posted on the Facebook page. She added that one of the possible problems might have been that many businesses required that individuals not wear masks to enter due to safety reasons. She said that this might also have contributed to the fewer adult costumes seen.

6b) Other activities and items

Shelby Worthington advised that the Public Hearing regarding the BID levy renewal for 2018 took place on October 24th at City Council and passed unanimously.

Shelby Worthington stated that Tonya Kennon would speak at the November 28th luncheon at the Marriott sponsored by Tilden-Coil Constructors. She added that the January 23, 2018 luncheon would take place at the Life Arts Center where Rob Field would speak about the County of Riverside and Kathy Allavie would speak about the new community art project in Fairmount Park in May.

Shelby Worthington added that RDP was a sponsor of the Miracle on Main Street toy drive and health fair scheduled for Sunday, December 10th. She said that there would be a kick-off at ProAbition on November 15th. She added that RDP would be providing models and outfits for the Riverside Community Hospital Red Dress Fashion Show and Health Expo on February 24, 2018.

Shelby Worthington also noted that solicitations for nominations for the Roy Hord Volunteer of the Year Award had begun. She said that staff would be asking for recommendations for the Awards of Distinction and that sponsor solicitations for the Annual Meeting would begin shortly.

i) RDP Holiday Reception December 7th

Shelby Worthington stated that the holiday reception would take place on Thursday, December 7th from 11 am to 2 pm at Loft 84 and the invitations would be sent out mid-November. She added that she would request that Chef Laurent prepare beef fillet in honor of Janice Penner's late husband, Harold, who had prepared the beef fillet for previous holiday receptions.

7. Financial Reports

7a) Financial report at October 31, 2017

It was reported that the financial report for the month showed a deficiency of \$16,424 for the month compared to an expected deficiency of \$11,680. For the year to date, the report showed a surplus of \$3,587 compared to an expected surplus of \$5,075. BID levy income was higher than expected by \$17,727 but was offset by payments of \$10,417 for 2 ½ months of Streetplus Safety Patrol plus additional conference expenses and timing of other BID expenses.

Motion: To accept the financial report at October 31, 2017

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

Motion carried

8) City Council Updates

8a) Ward One

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that Riverside Public Utilities would be presenting on the proposed cost increase annually of 5% for electricity and of 8% for water that night at 6 pm in the Mayor's Ceremonial Room. He stated that he was not satisfied with the RPU presentation due to the lack of detail on what the funds would be used for and encouraged anyone who felt strongly about the topic to attend the meeting.

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that there was a distinction to be made regarding the homeless issue. He said that some of the people who were creating problems in downtown Riverside were not homeless. He stated that there was not much that could be done as punitive measures such as jail time. He stated that the city was looking to get transients off of the street and into homes and programs. He added that there would be a presentation to Council in December 2017 on potential facilities that could be used or built to house individuals and allow for more case management.

It was noted that the First American Title building was a county building and that homeless were camping in the parking lot. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that services could be offered to transients, but they cannot be made to accept. He added that if there was an individual with a misdemeanor warrant in a neighboring county that had jail space, Riverside PD could deliver

them to that jail, but it was extremely time consuming. Rafael Guzman stated that Homeless Outreach did offer a reunification program but the homeless individual had to identify a family member or friend who would accept them. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that Riverside had a disproportionate amount of homeless.

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the Imperial Hardware Project was finishing up paving the alley. He added that the construction had caused difficulties for the nearby businesses with parking, deliveries, trash access, etc. He stated that once the project was finished, there would be over 100 people living downtown to patronize those businesses. He added that the alley should be readily available throughout Festival of Lights.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that the new Metropolitan Museum director should begin in December 2017.

Bill Gardner inquired if the City would contact the Hyatt Hotel about using some of the parking available at the hotel due to the lack of parking in the downtown area, especially with the Stalder Plaza Project. He also suggested that there be some type of street cleaning action to discourage homeless loitering.

Brian Percy inquired if the electric gradient increase could identify justification for the use of the money so that there was no repeat of any of the previous projects. Jeff Kraus stated that the proposal was a result of the City approved utilities 2.0, which included a list of changes necessary for the twenty-first century. He stated that the hearing would be November 28th and the vote likely in January 2018 or February 2018 and cautioned that everyone needed to pay close attention because a five percent increase per year over a ten year span was about an 80 percent increase on a water bill.

Brian Percy stated that he had noticed homeless moving into doorways after hours as well as tents that are being put up. He stated that businesses might not even be aware of the presence of these encampments due to them taking place after hours. He inquired whether Homeless Outreach was going around Riverside after regular business hours to address the issue or if the Police Department had the ability to reach out to these businesses to make them aware of the issue.

Justin Tracy stated that the topic was raised at the Security Committee meeting and the conclusion was that tent encampment locations needed to be reported to 311. He stated that in reporting the information to 311 it would in turn go to the Homeless Outreach team, Police Department, Streetplus and so on. Shelby Worthington stated that RDP could send an email out to all of the businesses to post 'no loitering' signs up and call 311.

Councilman Andy Melendrez stated that there were a few tents put up at his business of 27 years. He stated that he had to hire security to handle the problem and after about a week of security waking them up and asking them to move along, the people and the tents stayed away. He added that some of the businesses felt that as long as the tents were gone when they open up, there was no problem.

8b) Ward Two

Councilman Andy Melendrez stated that Castle View Elementary School had a welcome back on November 6th and things were going well. He added that Mission Lofts on the corner of

Commerce and Mission Inn Ave were doing grading and that the complex would have 212 units and four stories. He stated that an unsolicited bid was received for the corner of Park and University Ave with the developer suggesting a four story building with retail on the ground floor and a parking structure. He said that the Canyon Springs Health Center would be going up near the Walmart and would have housing, clinics and a hospital and that the project would go to Council on November 14th.

9) RDP Security Update

Lieutenant Kevin Townsend stated that there had been a lot of planning for the FOL Switch-On Ceremony. He stated that there would be visible security features such as two RTA buses on Mission Inn Avenue at Market and Lime to support the water barricades as well as more officers and more officers with AR-15 assault rifles. He added that there would also be unseen security measures as security was a significant concern for such a large gathering.

Shelby Worthington stated that there was a news report regarding the shooting that took place on October 15th. Lieutenant Kevin Townsend stated that the shooting took place on University between Lime and Lemon and was related to the rogue business above the Menagerie. He stated that the business was ultimately shut down by red tagging and other means.

Bill Gardner inquired if the public could be informed as to why deadly force was used by a police officer. Lieutenant Kevin Townsend stated that the Community Police Review Commission (CPRC) assesses each case and comes to a conclusion and that the public was allowed to watch these presentations online through the CPRC.

10) City Community Development Department Update

Bill Gardner congratulated Rafael Guzman on being featured in an article about Riverside in Engineering News Record, a national magazine.

Shelby Worthington inquired if Imperial Hardware Lofts would be opening in May 2018. Nathan Freeman stated that May 2018 was still the goal and they were on schedule.

David St. Pierre inquired about the fallen pergolas at North Park. Rafael Guzman said they would be removed before the Festival of Lights and that replacement could to be added into the Capital Improvement Program for funding.

11) Arlington Business Partnership Update

There was no report.

12) New Business

There was no new business.

13) Adjournment and next meeting date – December 13, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned until December 13, 2017.