



Minutes

Present: Chuck Beaty, Patrick Brien, Marcia Campbell, Miguel Cruz, Gerald Douglass, John Field, Michelle Freeman, Bill Gardner, Mike Gardner, Barry Hildebrandt, Jeff Kraus, Kirk Lewis, Shalini Lockard, Marty Lueking, Chris Manning, Andy Melendrez, Oscar Moreno, Stan Morrison, David St. Pierre, Emilio Ramirez, Charity Schiller, Sharon Sola-Ahluwalia, Justin Tracy, Ellie Uli, Steve Wollman, Shelby Worthington, Teresa Rosales for ABP

Excused: Cynthia Azari, Lyn Cloninger, Tera Harden, Greg Lackey, Bob Nagle, Kris Whitehead,

Absent: Cherie Russell

Guest: Cynthia Wright, Interim Director of the Fox Foundation

Staff: Janice Penner

1) Call to Order

Charity Schiller called the meeting to order.

2) Self Introductions and Public Comment

Bill Gardner expressed regret that RDP would not be providing funding for the Cesar Chavez memorial but encouraged people to consider doing so personally. He provided informational packages on the memorial. He also expressed concern about the trash container by Simple Simon's, saying that it was becoming a major problem with overflow and staining. Janice Penner said that the matter needed to be referred to the City's 311 service.

Chris Manning advised that he would be transferred to another department and that Vance Hardin would be the new Area North commander effective July 20th. The Board thanked him for his service and presented him with a small token.

Chuck Beaty remarked that The Friends of Mount Rubidoux had a number of pictures that they would be selling as a fundraiser, including one of Henry Coil as a Boy Scout.

Sharon Sola-Ahluwalia said that the name Riverside Auditorium and Events Center as used for marketing purposes and that the formal name of the Municipal Auditorium had not changed.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that there would be a RFP issued for management of the Municipal Auditorium once the Convention Center had reopened.

3) Minutes of June 13, 2012

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of June 13, 2012.

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

Motion carried.

4) Chair's Report

Charity Schiller noted that she would have to leave the meeting early.

5) Items for Discussion

5a) Position on inclusion of Marketplace in Ward One

Janice Penner said that she had included the information about RDP's position on the Marketplace businesses being included in Ward One. She said that it had been decided at the City Council meeting that the issue should be referred back to the Governmental Affairs Committee for review and referral. Charity Schiller said that the item would be deferred to a future Board meeting once the issue had been reviewed by the City's Governmental Affairs Committee.

6) Items for Information

6a) RDP activities

i) Events

Janice Penner advised that Movies on Main would kick-off on July 12 with Kung Fu Panda 2. She said that the County would be coming to promote the Jurupa water park and RPD will be coming to do fingerprinting of children.

Janice Penner said that plans for the 2012 Fashion's Night Out were moving ahead. She said that as a registered participant in the global 'Fashion's Night Out', RDP had to report to New York and get approval on marketing material. She said that she hoped to have the marketing material printed in the next week. She said that Aurea Vista and the Culver Center would be participating and Sevilla will be doing a food tasting booth. She said that RDP was also working with Oscar Moreno of Oscar Capelli Salon on a hairstyling competition.

Janice Penner advised that staff had started preliminary planning for the 2012 Zombie Crawl. She said that instead of showing a movie, there would be a ticket give-away for the Arts Council's Haunted House.

ii) Website and Facebook

Janice Penner said that the new website was now live. She said that the Facebook had also been reorganized to be more user-friendly.

iii) Banners

Janice Penner said that RDP made arrangements to have the 'Art of the City' banners put up on Market Street until the Festival of Lights with the cost covered through City matching monies.

iv) Monthly luncheons

Janice Penner reported that the July luncheon would be held at the Old Spaghetti Factory. The Riverside Auditorium and Events Center was booked for September and Sevilla will open for the October luncheon. She said that the November luncheon would be held at the new Hyatt Place Hotel.

v) RDP staffing

Janice Penner said that they were interviewing candidates for the Communications and Events Liaison position and hoped to have a person in place by early August.

6b) Marketplace Sign

Janice Penner said that the Marketplace sign had been transferred to the City's Public Works

Department. She said that RDP was contacted by the City and asked to resubmit its proposal to manage the advertising banner on the sign, and that she had done so and was awaiting the City's response.

Bill Gardner commented that the location of the sign was distracting and wondered if it could be moved. Janice Penner responded that the cost of relocation would be about the cost of rebuilding.

7) Financial Reports

7a) Financial report at June 30, 2012

Marcia Campbell said that the statements represented the preliminary financial results for the fiscal year-end and that there could be changes once the financial review by the CPA had been completed.

Marcia Campbell said that the income for the year was greater than budgeted due mostly to higher BID levy income. She said that a large part of the variance was due to the amount received in June which was greater than expected due to including monies that were usually received in July. She noted that RDP had also not been able to complete all of the special projects that had initially been budgeted.

Motion: To accept the financial report as at June 30, 2012.

Motion made by: Chuck Beaty **Motion Seconded by:** David St. Pierre

Motion carried unanimously.

8) City Council Updates

8a) Ward One

Councilman Mike Gardner said that the Council meeting had gone quite late the previous night. He said that the Council dealt with three major items. He said that the first was redistricting and that the Council had decided to send the issue back to the Governmental Affairs committee for review. He said that there was time to come to an agreement about the Ward boundaries and the issue would likely come back to Council by the end of the year.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that the second issue was the rate increase due to the recycled water project. He said it was sent by to the Land Use committee as there were unanswered questions about Proposition 218 and its application to the rate increase. He said that there was also questions about use of recycled water in certain areas but noted that he believed the problems were due to use of unfiltered water with particulates and not recycled water.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that the third issue was the discontinuance of the red light camera program. He said that a decision was being postponed for sixty days as the company felt that they could come back with a revenue neutral option. He said that while the program was worthwhile from a safety perspective, it cost over \$600,000 each year in its present form. He noted that the red light tickets cost over \$400 of which over half were fees tacked on by Sacramento. He said that in Riverside, much of the cost was due to the review process used before sending out the tickets.

Councilman Mike Gardner noted that the Fire Station had encountered some problems due to over-extension by the contractor. He said that the Surety Bond company had taken over the project and

engaged a new general contractor to proceed with the project. He said that the Fire Station would be completed by the end of the year which would be six months behind.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that the Fox Entertainment Plaza was proceeding with the garage likely to open in the fall and the black box theater and exhibit space likely to open in the first quarter of 2013. He said that the restaurant pads would follow once there were responses to the RFP for operators that were issued.

Marcia Campbell raised a concern about the diagonal parking on the east side of Lime just north of Mission Inn Avenue blocking drivers' sight when exiting from the Mission Lakes development. Councilman Mike Gardner said that he would look into it along with the issue raised by Bill Gardner about the trash by Simple Simon's.

Councilman Mike Gardner noted that San Bernardino was filing for bankruptcy. He said that there were other cities such as Compton in the same situation. He said locally, four cities were looking at disincorporation due to loss of funds that they had expected from the state. He said that Riverside was in relatively good shape with reserves and that most of the issues stemming from redevelopment assets had been resolved or were in the process of being resolved in Riverside's favor.

8b) Ward Two

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that some of the public comments made during the discussion on the red light camera program were interesting. One comment was that people who went to downtown or the Tyler mall and got a ticket were far less likely to return due to the negative experience.

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that the opera camp was the prelude to the music school that was likely to open in the fall. He said that there were a number of upgrades to the Cesar Chavez facility in preparation for the opening of the school and that the City would be looking for sponsorships and support from local foundations.

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that a new health clinic had opened up on University near Park and would have its grand opening that evening. He said that UEI was also expanding on its campus near Chicago.

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that they had finally opened up communications with the property management at University Village. He said that he hoped it would assist with the development discussions regarding the connections along University and with UCR.

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that the LA Galaxy team was looking at establishing a reserve team. He said that there was a league for the reserve team and Riverside was being considered as a location for a 5,000 seat stadium and home for the Galaxy reserve team. He said that two of the largest soccer associations were also looking at Riverside as a location for games. He said that one requirement was that there had to be twenty soccer fields available but there would be an economic benefit in having players in town for a monthly tournament along with the spectators. He said that they would be looking for private public partnerships to build additional venues. He said that the RFP was out and they would have more information once the responses were in.

Chuck Beaty noted that the Abe Brown fields had more land available for spectators. Councilman

Andy Melendrez said that there were some issues that would need to be addressed. Shelby Worthington noted that watching soccer was very popular. Councilman Andy Melendrez said that the Riverside area was considered to be the fastest growing for the popularity of the sport. He said that Riverside was attracting national and international attention as a result.

9) Security Update

Charity Schiller asked Chris Manning to give his report, noting with regret that it was his last one in his current position. Chris Manning reported that violent crime was down but theft was significantly up. He said a large part of the problem was that people were not locking their garages or putting items away and thieves were quick to take them.

Chris Manning said that Vance Hardin would take the North Area commander position and that he would move to the Watch Commander position. He said that Lisa Williams had elected to go back to uniform and Officer Shane Shorts was going back to patrol. He said that Sargent Dailey and Officer Hammer were now assigned to the North Area command.

Sharon Sola-Ahluwalia expressed concern about security for the Gem show at the Auditorium. She said that they would have security in the building but the gemologists would be walking to their cars in the evening. Chris Manning said that he would advise the Watch Commander.

10) Redevelopment Update

Emilio Ramirez said that the update on the Homeless Strategic Plan would be going to the Community Resources Committee on August 6th.

Emilio Ramirez said that the City had a property management plan that would be submitted to the State as part of the dissolution of redevelopment requirements. He said that the plan needed to identify how the City would handle the redevelopment assets including disposition.

11) Arlington Business Partnership Update

Teresa Rosales was unable to attend and so there was no report.

12) New Business

Bill Gardner advised that the Citizens University Committee had adopted a new scholarship program in the name of John Gabbart and was seeking endowments. He encouraged Board members to speak to him about making a contribution.

Janice Penner said that she had attended a meeting regarding the Long Night of Arts and Innovation with Councilman Mike Gardner and Laylit Acharia. She said that RDP had been asked to make a \$25,000 sponsorship contribution. She said that she had responded that RDP would consider an amount between \$5,000 to \$10,000 pending approvals through normal channels. She said that the request would go to the RDP Cultural committee the next day and then an email vote would be put to the Executive. She noted that RDP had now been asked to sit on the event committee.

Councilman Mike Gardner noted that the Long Night of Arts and Innovation had been modeled after

an event in Germany showcasing their technology achievements. He said that the Riverside event included the arts because of Riverside's focus. He said that Jackie Olds from UCR was chairing the event committee. He said that he felt that the event had potential and was scheduled for the same evening as the October Arts Walk on First Thursday.

Shelby Worthington said that a radio station had voted Riverside the best place for a reasonable vacation. She said that unfortunately when the station called the Chamber of Commerce and then the Visitors Center for a list of things to do, they couldn't answer or didn't respond. She said that hopefully events like the Long Night of Arts and Innovation would get the message out.

Shelby Worthington said that it was important to make downtown more welcoming and that meant dealing with some of the homeless issues. Janice Penner said that there was the Homeless Plan that was moving forward. Councilman Mike Gardner said that he was also holding a homeless summit on July 23rd to bring the various groups together and discuss issues and solutions. He said the groups included not only the City and County but the faith based groups and downtown stakeholders.

Janice Penner said that the Tuskegee Airmen event at UCR had requested additional funding from the City Sponsorship Program. She said that RDP would be providing \$750 towards the event similar to the amount provided to the travelling Vietnam Memorial in recognition of Riverside's military history.

13) Adjournment and next meeting date

On behalf of Charity Schiller, Kirk Lewis noted that there was no meeting in August and adjourned the meeting until the next one scheduled for September 12th.