



Minutes

Present: Chuck Beaty, Patrick Brien, Marcia Campbell, Lyn Cloninger, Miguel Cruz, Gerald Douglass, John Field, Bill Gardner, Mike Gardner, Barry Hildebrandt, Jeff Kraus, Kirk Lewis, Andy Melendrez, Peter Meyers, Oscar Moreno, Bob Nagle, Brian Percy, Cherie Russell, Justin Tracy, Charity Schiller, Sharon Sola-Ahluwalia, Kris Whitehead, Steve Wollman, Teresa Rosales for ABP

Guests: Scott Barber, Stan Morrison

Excused: Cynthia Azari, Ian Davidson, Greg Lackey, Chris Manning, David St. Pierre, Emilio Ramirez, Ellie Uli, John Worden, Shelby Worthington

Absent: Marty Lueking, John Matheson

Staff: Natasha Ferguson, Janice Penner

1) Call to Order

Peter Meyers formally called the meeting to order.

2) Self Introductions and Public Comment

Marcia Campbell thanked Janice Penner for sending the YouTube link to the City's video. Janice Penner thanked Teresa Rosales for sending her the link.

Patrick Brien informed the Board about changes to the Mayor's Ball for the Arts this year. The date will be September 6th (instead of the usual 3rd Saturday in September) to coincide with the City's new program '*Long Night of Art & Innovation*'.

Lyn Cloninger announced that Phood on Main would be open for Valentine's Day with a special menu for \$30 for a 3-course meal.

Brian Percy reminded everyone about the Mardi Gras Ball and the Pub Crawl, both fundraisers for Community Connect. He also reminded people about the Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner to celebrate law enforcement on April 19th.

Councilman Mike Gardner mentioned that new elevations of the Convention Center would be presented to City Council. He said that City Council would also have a workshop about renovating versus rebuilding the Downtown Library. He said that there were arguments for both options.

Sharon Sola announced that the Convention Center was supposed to close in May but it had been extended to June. She said that they would move into the Auditorium with a maximum seating of 1,600 people and a lower level with two break-out rooms and an outdoor patio. She shared information about their '*Give it Back*' program through Community Connect for non-profit organizations to have complementary meetings at the Convention Center.

Bill Gardner shared information about the Kiwanis Club of Riverside's open period for groups to apply to their Endowment Fund for up to \$1,000, and that the grant application was online.

Janice Penner noted that Charity Schiller had been featured in the Press-Enterprise as taking over as Chair of the Board.

3) Minutes of January 11, 2012

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of January 11, 2012.

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

Motion carried.

4) Chair's Report

Peter Meyers welcomed the City Manager, Scott Barber. He reminded everyone about the Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony on February 16th.

5) Items for Discussion

5a) Final Slate for RDP Board

Peter Meyers referred the Board to the final Board Slate for the year March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2013 which was attached. He reviewed the new Executive Committee members, as well as the retiring and new Board members.

Motion: To approve the Board Slate for the year March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2013 as presented.

Motion made by: Bill Gardner **Motion Seconded by:** Brian Percy

Motion carried.

6) Items for Information

6a) Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony

Janice Penner advised that a 'Save the Date' email was sent out on Friday, January 20th and that the invitations were sent out on Tuesday, January 24th. She noted that they had added the recipient of the Roy Hord 'Volunteer of the Year' to the invitation. She said that reservations were coming in and reminded the Board that all members were asked to attend the event if at all possible.

Janice Penner said that they were still low on opportunity drawing items and asked the Board to donate items if they could. She said that the proceeds from the opportunity drawing helped offset the cost of the dinners for the award recipients.

6b) Support for City on redevelopment

Janice Penner advised that RDP had joined the coalition to support SB 659 which was the bill to postpone the deadline date for dissolution from February 1, 2012. She said that she had attached the letter and ad for reference.

6c) Letter to Mayor on PBID

Janice Penner said that the Board had decided to delay any action on a PBID until a more appropriate time as it was felt that the economy didn't warrant asking for additional dollars. She said a letter was sent to the Mayor, signed by Peter Meyers and Charity Schiller, advising him of that decision. She said that no response from the Mayor regarding the letter had been received but she believed that he understood the decision.

6d) RDP activities

i) Workshops

Janice Penner said that RDP hosted two free classes on security awareness with about ten people at each, including a number from the City. She said that RDP also hosted a free workshop on social media. She commended Georg Burwick, Director of Digital Media for the UCR Arts Block / Culver Center for the Arts, on a great job. She said that RDP would like at other opportunities for workshops, including another one on social media.

ii) Meet and Greet

Peter Meyers said that the first *'Meet and Greet'* was scheduled for Tuesday, February 21 at the Mission Lakes office complex boardroom. He recommended that a few Board members attend the session if possible to help get the word out about what BID dollars accomplished.

iii) Events

Janice Penner said that there was a Facebook page, Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube Channel in the 'Love in Riverside' name as well as the website, www.loveinriverside.com. She said that a number of people had done video Valentine messages already including the Mayor and Councilmen Gardner and Bailey. She said that there would be associated events with entertainment and prizes on the Saturday before Valentine's Day and on Valentine's Day itself. She said that the Black History Month Parade and Expo event was also planned for the Saturday so some logistics needed to be worked out as a result. She said that the collateral had been produced by Geographics to be used in the future. She said that Georg Burwick at the Culver Center had been fantastic. She encouraged the Board to check out the YouTube channel.

Janice Penner said that the Easter event was scheduled for Saturday, March 31st. She said that 3,000 empty plastic Easter eggs would be filled with RDP candies and approximately 150 filled with special Easter notices that would enable the person to get a larger Easter chocolate at the RDP booth. She said that the system would avoid the problems encountered last year with the merchants giving out the eggs. She said that the event would include entertainment, Easter photos, face painting with Easter tattoos, and arts and craft activities.

Janice Penner said that RDP was assisting the Riverside Convention and Visitors Bureau with the National History Day California competition coming to Riverside on the last weekend in April. She said that Ted Weggeland was trying to secure Riverside as the Southern California home of the competition in alternative years. She said that RDP was providing an outdoor movie for the students on the plaza outside of the Riverside Convention Center in partnership with Park and Recreation, and was helping to coordinate other activities with the museums.

Janice Penner said that RDP had confirmed *'Movies on Main'* this summer with Park and Recreation, and will do six movies, three each in July and August.

Janice Penner said that RDP had confirmed its partnership with the Arts Institute of California – Inland Empire for Fashion's Night Out 2012 for September 6th. She said that by confirming early, the event could then become part of the school's fashion design curriculum. She said that RDP would be providing three cash prizes to students for designs to be featured in the fashion show, and that the contest should result in very positive PR.

iv) Other

Janice Penner said that RDP did provide funding for security initiatives. She said that RDP was funding a security camera for North Park with the City picking up installation costs. She said that

RDP was also funding security lighting for a property on 11th Street to deter the increasing number of homeless using the area for inappropriate activities.

Janice Penner said that RDP had been assisting the Riverside Cultural Consortium and the Riverside Arts Council with the transition of the sidewalk vendors into Lot 44 for the monthly Arts Walk. She said that RDP funded the repair of the security lighting on the Relish building and the removal of the trees on Lemon blocking the street lights and wrecking the sidewalks.

Andy Melendrez commended RDP for funding the camera. He said that he felt the camera and the work of the City's Homeless Outreach team would assist with the ongoing problems experienced at North Park. Janice Penner explained that the camera was consistent with the other cameras purchased by RDP and would enable the police to access the camera with its own ISP address.

7) Financial Reports

7a) Financial report at January 31, 2012

Peter Meyers provided the report on behalf of David St. Pierre. Peter Meyers advised that the financial report at January 31, 2012 showed a surplus of \$24,800. He said that there were a number of unbudgeted items such as the Marketplace sign income and expenses for Fashion's Night Out and Zombie Crawl but overall income and expenses were tracking as expected. He said that RDP was financially strong with reserves to take on additional projects.

Motion: To accept the financial report as at January 31, 2012.

Motion made by: Patrick Brien

Motion Seconded by: Marcia Campbell

Motion carried unanimously.

8) City Council Updates

8a) Ward One

Councilman Mike Gardner gave an overview regarding the workshop held on the Charter Review Committee's recommendations. He said that the recommendations had to be adopted by 2/3's of the membership of the Charter Review Committee before coming to Council to decide if any should go on the ballot. He said that there were eight recommendations made but that a number were made to address housekeeping issues and consistency with current practices. He said that one change recommended that the internal auditor report to the Council rather than through the City Manager to become another Charter level office. He said that the change was recommended to address the perception of the City not being transparent on finances.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that the Council decided to put the recommendation to form a Sustainability Commission on the ballot but would wait until it was approved before adopting an ordinance on its specific responsibilities. He said the decision was made to address the concern that the Sustainability Commission would become another regulatory body.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that currently the Utilities Board had a say in the appointment of the Utilities Director. He said one recommendation from the Charter Review Committee was to give the Utilities Board that same say over dismissal and termination of the Utilities Director rather than leave it in the hands of the City Manager. He said that he had voted against the recommendation.

Councilman Mike Gardner said that seven of the eight recommendations would go on the June ballot. Bill Gardner confirmed that each recommendation had its own vote.

Bill Gardner noted an item in the paper reporting that requests for Public Works' bids would no longer be in print form. Councilman Mike Gardner said that the City now did all of its bids online. He said that there were printed PDFs at the library branches of any bids issued. He said that there was public notice required for certain projects and the City complied with that requirement. John Field said that the County followed the same procedure.

Jeff Kraus asked about the majority requirement to pass the recommendations. Councilman Mike Gardner said that a simple majority was required.

8b) Ward Two

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that he felt the City could do a better job at accountability and transparency and that there had been some recommendations made by the City Financial Officer in that regard such as putting documents online. He said that an internal auditor really meant an internal audit department and that there would be additional costs as a result. He said that that recommendation generated a lot of discussion by the Council and expected that there would be more in the future.

Councilman Andy Melendrez reported that Walgreens had its ribbon-cutting ceremony recently, the music school being established at the Cesar Chavez Community Center was expected to open this spring, that more construction would take place on University Avenue, and that the sandwich shop was open. He said that the Super Walmart at Canyon Crossing was proceeding and that the AYSO was having their tournament during President's Day. He noted that one of the changes AYSO made was to have all of their tournaments headquartered in Riverside. He said the change would mean a direct economic benefit since the tournament filled downtown and smaller local hotels.

Peter Meyers said that the transparency recommendations were a sign of the times, and that transparency was being more and more demanded.

9) Security Update

Janice Penner reported in Lt. Manning's absence. She said that the RDP Security Committee had met and discussed the North Park problems. She said that the RDP budget included an amount for security initiatives from the City Matching Monies. She said that the committee approved the expenditure of up to \$5,000 for the purchase of a security camera in North Park. She said that the committee also discussed the problems with the dumpsters in Lot 16A between the Metropolitan Museum and University Avenue businesses. She said a meeting was scheduled on February 9th at 10 am with the businesses, the Congregational church, the museum and others to discuss solutions to the problem. She reminded the Board to securely lock their vehicles and not leave anything in view because of an upsurge in vehicle break-ins.

10) Redevelopment Update

Scott Barber expressed his appreciation for RDP's support on redevelopment. He said that since the Governor did not sign the Assembly Bill, effective January 31, 2012 the redevelopment agency ceased to exist and on February 1st the successor agency came into effect. He said that one of the key issues for the City was the establishment of an Oversight Board to make recommendations and oversee the agency's activities and disposal of assets. He outlined some of the issues that the City

was facing including clarification of the legislative language. He said that some language appeared to indicate that loan agreements between the City and the agency made two years after formation of the agency were no longer valid. He said that there were pending lawsuits on certain issues.

Scott Barber explained that although redevelopment had ended, there were existing agreements and liabilities that would be handled by the Successor Agency, that is the City, and that there would be expenses incurred for staff and other costs. He said that it would be very important to have the right people on the Oversight Board who would have the best interests of the city and community in mind when disposing of agency properties. He said that the Oversight Board had to be in place by May 1st and its work done by 2016. He said that there were a number of properties to be resolved and noted that where appropriate, the City had transferred properties to its successor Housing Authority.

John Field stated that the County took action in support of AB654 and AB1585 and suggested that RDP consider doing so as well. Peter Meyers said the RDP Executive Committee would review it.

Scott Barber concluded his remarks by stating that he had established economic development as the number one priority for the City and for the employees. He was thanked on behalf of the Board by both Marcia Campbell and Bill Gardner.

Bill Gardner asked about the current status of the 'Seizing our Destiny' Strategic Plan. Councilman Mike Gardner said that there was progress on a number of Routes and suggested that Bill Gardner might want to get involved on one of the teams. Councilman Andy Melendrez said that he was involved in the Route that focused on health care and the UCR Medical School.

11) Arlington Business Partnership Update

Teresa Rosales reported that ABP was in the process of hiring a new Marketing Director. She gave an overview of ABP's Physical Improvement Program and the \$1,000 grants. She also announced information on the Chili Cook-off on May 26th and encouraged participation as chili cooks. She said that entry forms were on their website.

12) New Business

Natasha Ferguson reported on the Riverside Arts Walk Tenth Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, March 1st at the Life Arts Center. She said that significant contributors to the Arts Walk would be recognized.

Janice Penner advised that RDP was considering doing a mayoral forum sometime in April or May.

Chuck Beaty shared information about students at Ramona High School who recently did a project on racial profiling. He noted the contribution of Lt. Chris Manning and expressed his appreciation for his community support.

13) Adjournment and next meeting date

Peter Meyers adjourned the meeting until March 14, 2012 at 7:30 a.m. at The Center for Arts and Philanthropy.