



## Minutes

**Present:** Shelby Worthington, Shalini Lockard, Charity Schiller, Michelle Freeman, Corinne Awad, Chuck Beaty, Patrick Brien, Erin Edwards, Bill Gardner, Rafael Guzman, Wolde-Ab Isaac, Nanci Larsen, Marco McGuire, Stan Morrison, Geoff Neeley, Cara Swearingen, Kevin Townsend

**Excused:** Brian Percy, Sergio San Martin, Bud Sketchley, Justin Tracy

**Absent:** Cherie Crutcher, Ian Davidson, Jeff Kraus, Amir Mertaban, Lou Monville, Bob Nagle, Andy Melendrez, David St. Pierre

**Ex-Officio ABP / City Council:** Henry Ayala / Mike Gardner

**Staff:** Janice Penner, Kate Stovicek

### 1) Call to Order

Shelby Worthington called the meeting to order.

### 2) Self Introductions and Public Comments

Chuck Beaty stated that RDP was honored to have the President of Riverside City College on the board. He added that as of December 12, Wolde-Ab Isaac was made the new Chancellor of Riverside Community College and congratulated him on the position. Stan Morrison also congratulated Wolde-Ab Isaac and stated how much Riverside had benefitted from his work. Councilman Mike Gardner congratulated Wolde-Ab Isaac as well, stating that the board could not have chosen a better person.

Wolde-Ab Isaac stated that he was honored and privileged to be on the board. He said he was thankful for the support, guidance and unwavering commitment from the community he served, and for faculty, staff and students helping him complete the journey. He extended his deepest respect and appreciation to everyone at the board meeting and added that Riverside was his home. He added that everyone had placed their confidence and trust in him to lead the century-old institution and he pledged to do all that he could.

Chuck Beaty said that George Flower, a well known volunteer particularly for Friends of Mount Rubidoux, passed away on December 11. Bill Gardner suggested that the RDP Board adopt a resolution of sorrow on behalf of George Flower's passing.

Bill Gardner followed up regarding his comment at the November board meeting about some of the Hyatt's parking lot being used for public parking. He stated that he spoke with the manager of the Hyatt, Bonnie Gardner. He said she advised that their parking lot at times was completely full and that they leased spaces in Garage 7 so were unable to give up any of their parking lot to the public. He added that the City was still overcharging for time when using a credit card at the parking meters.

Councilman Gardner said that City Council adopted some changes to their housing element on December 12<sup>th</sup>. He stated that state law required provisions for adequate housing for all ranges of income and the City of Riverside did not have enough areas zoned for multi-family usage to

meet their requirement. He stated that the City was sued by an advocacy group to remedy the issue and so zoning was being changed in various areas. He said that the rezoning was being done by the City rather than having it done by the State so the City could take into consideration problematic areas within Riverside.

### **3) Minutes of November 8, 2017.**

**Motion:** To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of November 8, 2017.

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

**Motion carried**

### **4) Chair's Report**

Shelby Worthington stated that the Chapel on Fourteenth Street will be holding its first wedding ceremony on December 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. She stated that there would be an open house in January.

Janice Penner noted that Shelby Worthington and her business partner covered the costs of funerals for the families of victims of the Las Vegas Massacre held at Citrus Park. She stated that their doing so was very much worth recognizing and appreciating.

Shelby Worthington stated that Miracle on Main took place the prior weekend and was very successful. Marco McGuire stated that the 1,000 children received presents, haircuts, and health care, and that there were workshops throughout the event. He added that there were many terrific sponsors and thanked everyone who was involved in the event.

### **5) Items for Discussion**

#### **5a) Recommendations for Downtown Achievement Awards**

Janice Penner said that the Executive Committee had recommended recipients for the 2018 Downtown Achievement Awards and outlined them for the Board.

**Chair's Award** – Supervisor John Tavaglione for his dedication to improving the economic and social future for the residents of Riverside County and the Inland Empire Region, including downtown Riverside, and for being a supporter of collaborative programs that provide educational and growth opportunities for the County's youth population.

**Arts and Culture** – Encore High School for the Arts for helping young people find their passion in art and the opportunities to make sure art and music continue for generations to come.

**Business Activity** – Ratkovich Properties for its investment in downtown Riverside with two mixed use projects to bring new residential and retail opportunities.

**Downtown Event** – Miracle on Main Street as an annual Christmas event and health fair benefitting Riverside's Youth and involving downtown businesses and organizations.

**Downtown Improvement** – Ruhnau Clarke for the distinctive renovation of its office on Market at Tenth incorporating the original brick walls with a modern design for the interior and exterior.

**Downtown Safety and Security** – City of Riverside for its 311 App that allows residents to submit service requests for code violation, removal of graffiti, maintenance issues, and other items affecting safety and quality of life.

Janice Penner stated that for the Roy Hord award, nominations would be accepted until January 5. She added that sponsoring one of the awards included a table at the Annual Meeting.

**Motion:** To approve the recommended recipients for the 2018 Downtown Achievement Awards.

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

**Motion carried**

### **5b) Nominating Committee and ballot to be sent to Members**

Janice Penner said that the Nominating Committee met on Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Board and the Executive Committee for the upcoming term. She said that the ballots for the election of the officers and the at large Directors needed to go out by December 29<sup>th</sup> so the Board needed to approve the officers for the upcoming Board term. She said that the request for RDP members to run for one of the at large Directors position went out in mid-November with responses due back by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion:** To approve the following recommended officers for the 2018 term of the RDP Board of Directors; Shelby Worthington as Chair, Shalini Lockard as Vice Chair, Bud Sketchley as Treasurer and Charity Schiller as Secretary.

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

**Motion carried**

Janice Penner stated that the individuals running for the Elected-at-Large positions included Chuck Beaty, Bill Gardner, Nanci Larsen and Brandy Marion.

## **6) Items for Information**

### **6a) RDP Holiday Reception**

Shelby Worthington thanked everyone for attending the RDP Holiday Reception and added that there were 115 attendees, making it the highest attended reception yet.

### **6b) Update on RDP activities and items**

Shelby Worthington stated that RDP provided information to downtown businesses on Festival of Lights including parking.

Janice Penner stated that RDP did offer the City a platform to provide information through the BID Bulletin, such as the Active Shooter information in the December 2017 issue as well the ad on reporting suspicious behavior. She said that RDP would be including information regarding changes to the parking meters in the January 2018 issue. She stated that some meters would no longer accept credit cards because they are old meters that can't be updated. She said that the meters that no longer accept credit cards would have stickers to notify individuals.

Stan Morrison stated that at the last hospitality meeting there was a presentation regarding active shooter training that was exceptional. He recommended that RDP arrange for the same training at one of the board meetings or at a separate meeting. Janice Penner asked Lieutenant Kevin Townsend if RDP could have the training at one of the luncheons. Lieutenant Kevin Townsend stated that the presentation was about 45 minutes to an hour with the video. Janice Penner said that she would follow up with Kevin Townsend to see what could be arranged. Shelby Worthington stated that as the risk would continue in the future, having an update each

year might be wise. Michelle Freeman requested that if the meeting was scheduled, that it be held in a larger facility so that employees could attend. Janice Penner stated that with a larger space for the presentation, businesses in the Arlington Business Partnership could attend as well.

Shelby Worthington said that RDP was a partner in Miracle on Main Street toy drive and health fair held on Sunday, December 10 and provided \$500 towards the event.

Shelby Worthington said that there would be no luncheon meeting in December and that the January luncheon would be at the Life Arts Center and sponsored by Provident Bank. She added that the speaker would be Rob Field of the County of Riverside and Kathy Allavie on the Riverside Art Museum's community art project.

### **6c) RDP Annual Meeting**

Shelby Worthington stated that the Annual Meeting was booked at the Mission Inn Hotel and Spa for Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. She said that RDP staff was working with the banquet staff on the menu and pricing, and a ticket price should be set by mid-December.

Shelby Worthington stated that Riverside Community Hospital was returning as the title sponsor. She said that sponsorships, particularly for the awards, and donations for the Opportunity Drawing were being solicited.

## **7) Financial Reports**

### **7a) Financial report at November 30, 2017**

Janice Penner said that the financial report for the month showed a deficiency of \$9,202 compared to an expected deficiency of \$9,486. She said that for the year to date, the report showed a deficiency of \$5,615 compared to an expected deficiency of \$4,411. She said that BID levy income was higher than expected by \$25,131 and offset in part by payments to date of \$14,583.35 for Streetplus Safety Patrol. She said that other Variances were largely due to timing and expected to balance out by year end.

Janice Penner reported that RDP had \$22,656 in Checking and \$195,362 in Money Market with Citizens Business Bank, and that RDP reserves included three CDs with Pacific Premier Bank totaling \$234,184 and one with Provident Bank of \$84,487 for the total reserves of \$318,671.

**Motion:** To accept the financial report at November 30, 2017.

**Motion made by:** Bill Gardner      **Motion Seconded by:** Cara Swearingen

**Motion carried**

Bill Gardner asked about RDP membership and if there was a need to acquire more members. Janice Penner stated that Shirley Schmeltz sent a welcome package to every new business that joined the BID that included a request to become a member. She added that there had been several members that joined as a resulted including Brandy Marion and Phillip Makhoul. She said that although RDP had not pushed the Board to seek out new members, staff and Shelby Worthington were doing so.

## **8) City Council Updates**

### **8a) Ward One**

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that there were two fires that began the night of December 12<sup>th</sup> in homeless encampments, one in the Van Buren Creek and the other near Ryan Bonaminio Park, and that there was no real threat to other structures. He stated that there was a new office in charge of Homeless and Housing which focused on those efforts.

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that Council was looking for a place in every Ward to provide housing, health, job training, and substance abuse services to individuals living on the streets. He stated that the goal was to get individuals who were physically and mentally able back into society, and the population that was physically and/or mentally impaired with no familial support placed in a facility. He said that there were possible sites for these facilities, and he would pass the information on sites suggested for Ward One along to Janice Penner. He said that the intent was to spread these housing facilities across the City so that no one area got an undue share of them. He added that if the facilities were well-run, they were not typically recognized for that purpose. He said that the City would partner with a non-profit similar to Path of Life or Mercy House. He said that it was hoped individuals would spend more time at these facilities rather than wandering in residential areas or downtown.

Bill Gardner suggested having a free transportation service to transport homeless individuals to homeless shelters. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that there were two Homeless Outreach teams that provided transportation. Rafael Guzman stated there was also transportation provided out of the City if the individual had a family member they could be reunited with. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the Police Department would take an individual with a warrant in another jurisdiction to that jurisdiction if they would take them.

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the City found a receiver to be appointed over the Monte Vista Terrace property but that was appealed. He said that the owner of the property had an idea to remodel the building to make it a market rate senior living center, but it was unclear if they would proceed.

### **8b) Ward Two**

There was no report.

## **9) RDP Security Update**

Lieutenant Kevin Townsend stated that Festival of Lights had no major security incidents to date but there had been issues with parking and traffic. Shelby Worthington inquired if the Police Department was satisfied with the work of the Streetplus Safety Patrol. Lieutenant Kevin Townsend stated that he was pleased with the program and that they were responsive to requests and feedback. He stated that they had increased their interaction with the bar employees and owners. Shelby Worthington stated that she continued to hear that Streetplus seemed scarce on the weekends. She added that the Police Department was very visible and thanked Lieutenant Kevin Townsend for that.

## **10) City Community Development Department Update**

Rafael Guzman stated that Imperial Hardware Lofts was well under construction and should open in May 2018. He stated that walking tours were available on Wednesdays and that if anyone was interested they could contact the developer or himself to set a tour up.

Rafael Guzman stated that the Stalder mixed-use project construction would begin early January so as to avoid any conflict with the Festival of Lights. He added that the Hampton Inn on Market groundbreaking would be in January. He said that the Riverside Food Lab would be finishing construction in February 2018 for the tenants to make improvements.

Rafael Guzman said that Riverside needed to do a better job of sharing its recognition and awards. He stated that the Daily Meal ranked Duane's Steakhouse as 39th in the America's 50 best steakhouses for 2017. He said that Duane's Steakhouse had also been awarded four diamonds by AAA every year since 1996. He said that construction growth by city across the U.S., Riverside was ranked number 5 in the country. Stan Morrison inquired if there was a way to have a 'brag' sheet circulated to organizations to share this information. Rafael Guzman stated that there was one on the city website, but he would work on sending it out to more individuals and businesses. Nanci Larsen said that she could distribute it to the docents of the Mission Inn Museum to share with guests and tour groups.

Bill Gardner inquired about Mission Lofts project to which Rafael Guzman stated that it included over 200 residential units. Shelby Worthington inquired if there was an update or site on the tenants in Riverside Food Lab. Rafael Guzman stated that Artec had a website where they had been announcing tenants about every two weeks. Shelby Worthington inquired if all of the retail/commercial/restaurant spaces on the ground floor of Imperial Lofts had been filled. Rafael Guzman stated that it was still in discussion, but there was interest in every space.

#### **11) Arlington Business Partnership Update**

Henry Ayala stated that ABP had successfully partnered with the City of Riverside - Parks and Recreation and Community Service Department to present the 2017 Winter Wonderland Event on Saturday, December 2 at Arlington Heights Sports Park. He stated that the event attracted over 1,500 families with 55 tons of snow, over 30 vendors, raffle prizes, and games.

Henry Ayala stated that ABP had piloted a Clean and Safe program with Barry's Security that would expire at the end of December. He said that it had been extremely successful and dedicated eight hours a day for five days a week to deal with homeless within the Arlington district.

Henry Ayala stated that the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off would be May 26, 2018. He also stated that ABP is working with Park Staff to install a flagpole in Arlington Park with a dedication to the Veterans on the base.

#### **12) New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **13) Adjournment and next meeting date – January 10, 2018.**

The meeting was adjourned until January 10, 2018.