



## **Minutes**

**Present:** Chuck Beaty, Patrick Brien, Cherie Crutcher, Ian Davidson, Erin Edwards, Bill Gardner, Rafael Guzman, Irving Hendrick, Jeff Kraus, Nanci Larsen, Marco McGuire, Stan Morrison, Geoff Neeley, Sergio San Martin, Charity Schiller, Bud Sketchley, Kevin Townsend  
Justin Tracy, Shelby Worthington-Loomis

**Excused:** Shalini Lockard, Bob Nagle,

**Absent:** Corinne Awad, Michelle Freeman, Amir Mertaban, Lou Monville, Brian Pearcy, David St. Pierre, Cara Swearingen, Andrew Guerra

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

**Staff:** Janice Penner, Kate Stovicek

### **1) Call to Order**

Shelby Worthington called the meeting to order.

### **2) Self Introductions and Public Comments**

Conducted. Bill Gardner stated that the Pedestrian Mall and the patio area in front of Simple Simon's were in horrible condition and the area was filthy. He stated that when the chairs break, they are not replaced or repaired for a long period of time. Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that the situation was discussed at the previous board meeting and it was advised that new chairs were being ordered.

### **3) Minutes of December 13, 2017.**

**Motion:** To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of December 13, 2017.

**Motion made by:** Bill Gardner

**Motion Seconded by:** Chuck Beaty

**Motion carried.**

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

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that the Rose Parade Float won the Golden State trophy. She added that the Inland Empire had a significant presence in the Rose Parade. Chuck Beaty suggested that there be a plaque in the Mission Inn or on the Pedestrian Mall with a rendering of the float and the sponsors. Nanci Larsen stated that Mayor Bailey represented Riverside very well.

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

#### **5a) Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony**

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that emails were sent to the award recipients to confirm that they had received the letters. She added that sponsorship/donation solicitations were being sent out. She said that the form was included out in the Board package for board members who wished to sponsor/donate, or knew of other companies and organizations that might be

interested. Janice Penner stated that the Chair's Award, as well as the Business Activity, Arts & Culture and Downtown Improvement Awards had sponsors. She said that the Safety and Security and Downtown Event awards still needed sponsors. She stated that the Roy Hord 'Volunteer of the Year' Award selection process was underway with a record eight nominations and a broad range of individuals nominated. She noted that as in previous years there was a discount on the tickets for the event if a reservation was made before January 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **5b) Nominating and Board update**

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that the Nominating Committee completed its work and the ballots for the election of Officers and for the four At-Large Directors positions were sent out with a return date of January 12<sup>th</sup>. She added that the final Board Slate would come to the Board for approval at the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and that the new Board term would start with the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **5c) RDP Activities**

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that RDP assisted the City's Public Parking Services in reviewing the Request for Proposals submissions to manage the City's parking services (garages, lots, and meters). Janice Penner stated that she had attended the meeting to review the submissions on January 9<sup>th</sup> and that she was one of two outside panelists.

Bill Gardner inquired if the meters unable to accept credit cards had stickers on them to notify individuals. Janice Penner stated that stickers had been placed on the appropriate meters and that the meters had been rearranged so that there were some meters that accepted credit cards at every location. She said that the issue with the meters was that they no longer complied with certain security guidelines and rather than risk a security breach, the City had those meters no longer accept credit cards. She added that there were many cities in the same situation because of advancements in technology and a high cost of meter replacement. She stated that this particular meter issue was discussed the previous day during the parking RFP reviews.

Bill Gardner inquired about the lot on the corner of First and Market Street. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the lot was entitled for a residential project that would be a mirror image of Mark Ruben's apartment complex with 141 units. He added that until construction began the lot would be paved and striped as a City operated metered parking lot to replace the lost parking with current and future developments. Marco McGuire inquired if the meters could be made payable through Smart Phones. Janice Penner stated that the topic of better utilizing technology was raised in the parking RFP interviews.

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that the City's Office of Housing Services would be presenting the draft Housing First Plan at RDP's Land Use committee on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at Noon. She added that board members were welcome to attend but staff asked that advance notice be given so seating could be arranged. Janice Penner inquired from Rafael Guzman when the implementation of the plan was. Rafael Guzman stated that the date was still to be determined as the plan still needed to be approved by Council.

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that the January Luncheon would be at the Life Arts Center and would be sponsored by Provident Bank. She added that the speakers would be Rob Field on the County of Riverside and Kathy Allavie on the Riverside Art Museum's community art project.

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said that RDP would be participating in the Riverside Community Hospital's Red Dress Fashion Show and Health Expo slated for February 24<sup>th</sup> at the Riverside Convention Center. Janice Penner added that the theme of the show was Fun, Floral, Fantasy and the Riverside Art Museum planned to create some items for the show.

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that as requested at the previous board meeting, staff would be working with RPD to arrange 'Active Shooter Training' for businesses.

## **6) Financial Reports**

### **6a) Financial report at December 31, 2017**

Bud Sketchley stated that the financial report for the month showed a deficiency of \$10,045 compared to an expected deficiency of \$6,189. He said that for the year to date, the report showed a deficiency of \$15,660 compared to an expected deficiency of \$10,600. He stated that the BID levy income was higher than expected by \$22,817 and offset by payments to date of \$18,750 for Street Plus Safety Patrol. He added that other variances are largely due to timing and expected to balance out by year end.

Bud Sketchley reported that RDP had \$13,361 in Checking and \$195,390 in Money Market with Citizens Business Bank. RDP reserves included three CDs with Pacific Premier Bank totaling \$234,215 and one with Provident Bank of \$84,487 for total reserves of \$318,702.

**Motion:** To accept the financial report at December 31, 2017.

**Motion made by:** Bill Gardner

**Motion seconded by:** Patrick Brien

**Motion carried.**

## **7) City Council Updates**

### **7a) Ward One**

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the main body of the fire that started in Fairmont Park stayed North of Mission Inn Avenue and luckily was contained before it caused a major loss of housing. He complimented the fire department and police department on the interagency cooperation in conducting evacuations, traffic control and containment. He stated that the plan to deal with these types of situation was being modified to ensure it was most efficient. He said that all of the encampments in the wilderness portion of Fairmont Park had been cleared and would be monitored regularly. He stated that due to the moving out of the encampments in Fairmont Park, downtown Riverside might see more homeless individuals. He said that he would be encouraging any replanting with native vegetation which does not burn as easily or carry embers as far.

Councilman Mike Gardner added that the Housing First Plan would be aimed at housing homeless individuals and that the proposed locations for those facilities were in every ward throughout Riverside. He stated that there were eight suggested sites for the housing facilities in Ward One and encouraged everyone to review those sites. He stated that such housing facilities in other cities had been successful in managing the homeless issue. Shelby Worthington-Loomis inquired if all eight suggested Housing First sites for Ward One were located in the downtown core and how many individuals would be housed at one property. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that there were two sites within the downtown core, one at Third Street and Fairmont and the other at Lemon Street and Eleventh Street. He also stated that there would be a maximum of 25 individuals in the larger facilities. He said that the house at

Eleventh Street and Lemon Street would accommodate six to eight individuals. Janice Penner stated that some of these individuals needed to be off of the streets because they were a danger to themselves and others as well as being health hazards.

Stan Morrison inquired how the rain was affecting the homeless encampments. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the City's helicopter made announcements over air regarding the flashflood area and encouraged individuals to seek higher ground.

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that he had a few updates regarding the developments on the west side of Market Street. He stated that as the apartments were not built in time, the entitlement lapsed and the developer must start over. He said that the commercial center had signed a contract with 7-11, but would not sell alcohol at this location. Jeff Kraus said that the 7-11 at University Village was under a conditional use permit with the agreement to not sell alcohol, but six months later, the 7-11 demanded the right to sell alcohol stating that alcohol sales were necessary for the facility's survival.

Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the Stalder Project postponed construction until after Festival of Lights. He stated that it would be about an 18 month construction project and the traffic lanes and sidewalk would be out of use during most of that construction.

Chuck Beaty inquired what percentage of voters supported the marijuana initiative. Councilman Mike Gardner stated that the percentage was about 55% in support across Riverside. He added that it was supported in every ward excluding Ward Four and added that Ward One had the highest votes. He said that the Council had a workshop on recreational marijuana on January 9<sup>th</sup>, and that a few Council members, RPD and RUSD representatives were flying to Denver to discuss issues related to recreational marijuana use such as functionality, revenue, problems, etc. with.

Stan Morrison stated that he was astounded that California residents were still voting in favor of recreational use and commercial sale of marijuana after what happened in Colorado. He stated that within the first year of marijuana legalization, Colorado's DUI statistics increased 150%. Jeff Kraus inquired if there would be a vote on how tax revenue gained from marijuana sales would be used to which Councilman Mike Gardner said yes.

## **7b) Ward Two**

Councilman Andy Melendrez stated that a four story structure with 50 affordable housing units would be constructed at Park and University Avenue and would have retail on the ground floor.

Councilman Andy Melendrez stated that the scrap-yard at Third Street had been closed. He added that the site was contaminated and that a notice had been delivered to the owner to decontaminate the property.

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that there are about 530 housing units going up in various locations throughout Ward Two including about 60 or more affordable housing units. He stated that there would also be a medical facility, hospital, assisted living and senior living complexes constructed. He stated that these were just a few of the projects, and that there were additional concepts being discussed.

Councilman Andy Melendrez stated that there was also a significant amount of community activity. He said that there was a partnership with Riverside Art Museum, City staff, the

community and Riverside Housing Development Corporation for an affordable housing complex to be built on Park Avenue between Fourteenth Street and University Avenue. He said that it would serve the community with art and pop-up projects.

Councilman Andy Melendrez stated that 3,000 year old figurines were discovered from the Tlatilco culture around Mexico City. He said that the exhibit of these figurines would begin on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and continue until the end of the year with both the Smithsonian and Los Angeles Art Museum bringing in additional figurines for the exhibit. He stated that the exhibit would be hosted by the Riverside Metropolitan Museum, but due to its temporary closure the exhibit would actually be held at the Riverside Art Museum.

Councilman Andy Melendrez said that the Mundos Alternos exhibition at the Culver Center had been the most successful exhibit ever.

### **8) RDP Security Update**

Lieutenant Kevin Townsend stated that he did not have any major crime trends to report. He added that the Festival of Lights' main problems were traffic flow and parking issues. He estimated that there had been an 8 to ten percent crime reduction in 2017, but was waiting on statistical confirmation.

Cherie Crutcher stated that Riverside Community Hospital was conducting a 'Stop the Bleed' campaign to educate the public on how to stop profuse bleeding and potentially save lives in active shooter situations. She stated that many of the deaths that occurred in these situations were due to significant blood loss. She said that RCH was working with RPD and school districts to conduct the training. She said that a trauma nurse was sent to do the training which was free and offered to any organization

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

Rafael Guzman stated that the Hampton Inn would have a ground breaking on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. He added that Imperial Hardware Lofts were scheduled for completion in May 2018. He added that the Ratkovich Properties would be updating the website shortly and that there would be tours available on Wednesday afternoons. He stated that the lot on Main Street and Ninth Street would start staging in the next 60 days. He added that the Riverside Food Lab was about 30 to 45 days away from finishing construction and the 14 eateries had an additional 45 days to build out their space. He noted that the tenants that have been announced can be seen on Riverside Food Lab's website [www.RiversideFoodLab.com](http://www.RiversideFoodLab.com).

### **10) Arlington Business Partnership Update**

There was no report.

### **11) New Business**

There was no new business.

### **12) Adjournment and next meeting date – February 14, 2018.**

The meeting was adjourned until February 14, 2018.