



## Minutes

**Present:** Chad Milby, Charity Schiller, Cherie Crutcher, Chuck Beaty, Donna Stephenson, Gregory Anderson, Jeff Krauss, Jesse De La Cruz, Nanci Larsen, Nathan Freeman, Nick Pacific, Paloma Montes, Patrick Brien, Paul Gill, Per Nilsson, Philip Makhoul, Randy Hord, Bob Nagle, Sergio San Martin, Shalini Lockard, Shelby Worthington-Loomis, Stan Morrison, Jake Orta, Val Ceballos

**Excused:** David St. Pierre, Debbie Rose, Justin Tracy

**Absent:** Andrew Walcker, Bill Gardner, Brian Percy, David Bristow, Erin Phillips, Lou Monville, Oz Puerta, Todd Turoci, Tom Portugal

**Ex-Officio ABP / City Council:** Andy Melendrez, Erin Edwards

**Staff:** Janice Penner, Shirley Schmeltz

### 1) Call to Order

Shelby Worthington-Loomis called the meeting to order.

### 2) Self Introductions and Public Comment

Gregory Anderson mentioned the Riverside City College is hosting a Shrek Production live on campus that is the first live event since the pandemic started.

### 3) Approval of Minutes of April 14, 2021.

**Motion:** To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of April 14, 2021

**Motion made by:** Chuck Beaty    **Motion Seconded by:** Gregory Anderson

**Motion carried.**

### 4) Chair's Report

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated Cinco De Mayo was very busy in downtown Riverside. she noted that there was a large turnout, but people were maintaining social distancing protocols. She said the same occurred on Mother's Day.

### 5) Items for Discussion

#### 5a) Strategic Plan Process

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said the recommended 5-year Strategic Plan process was attached. The plan is based on a purpose-driven process focused on who RDP is, who RDP serves, and what RDP values as an organization. The first step will be to survey both the Board and committees, and then downtown businesses, on what they consider RDP's Core Purpose and Values to be.

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said the survey was attached for information, and the link to complete the survey online on Survey Monkey should be sent out the week of May 10. Those who prefer to complete the survey in paper form will be able to do so and send via fax 951-781-6951 or email a scan.

As indicated by the timeline, the Board and committees will then collectively discuss the survey responses and develop the framework for the plan, followed by determining RDP's Core Purpose and Values, and then how to implement those values through the Strategic Plan. Staff will then prepare the draft plan for review by either the Executive or a designated committee prior to approval by the Board.

Janice Penner said that if anyone had any questions in regards to the survey or its questions, to please send her a message.

## **6) Financial Reports**

### **6a) Financial Report at April 30, 2021 – Motion**

Janice Penner said the financial report for the ten months to date showed a deficit of \$69,457 compared to an expected deficit of \$6,950 resulting in a negative variance of \$62,508. BID Levy income for the ten months to date was \$10,672 higher than budget which slightly offset the negative variance.

Non-budgeted but approved expenses to January were \$98,417 for the external safety patrol funded through RDP reserves. Offsetting those expenses were budgeted expenses that were not paid due to events not taking place, plus cost savings in other areas.

As of April 30, 2021, RDP had \$195,910 in two Checking and one Money Market accounts with Citizens Business Bank and Provident Bank. RDP reserves include four CDs with Pacific Premier Bank and Provident Bank for total reserves of \$329,649.

The Accounts Receivable equaled \$42,685 which consisted of \$29,466 from the City for the March 2021 BID levy, and \$13,219 for the external garage patrol. The Accounts Payable equaled \$32,751.

### **MOTION: To approve the financial report at April 30, 2021**

**Motion made by:** Randall Hord      **Seconded:** Patrick Brien.

**Motion Carried.**

## **7) City Council Updates**

Erin Edwards mentioned that 36.3% of the City of Riverside's population is fully vaccinated, rising to 55% being fully or at least partially vaccinated.

Slater's 50/50 is scheduled to open in late May and The Roots restaurant is set to open in late June. The CenterPointe apartment complex is also set to open by the end of June. The Mark is expected to be completed by the fall of 2021 and the Cheech, now in construction, is expected to be completed by spring of 2022. The Riverside Main Library will open this summer in June.

The City Council will hold its next budget discussion on May 18 and will be sent for final approval on June 22.

The American Rescue Plan will provide the City of Riverside with \$73 million. On June 1 there will be a discussion on how the money will be used or allocated.

Cherie Crutcher thanked Councilwoman Edwards and Mayor Patricia Lock-Dawson for coming to Riverside Community Hospital, taking a tour, and visiting with the executive members of the hospital staff.

Andy Melendrez stated the Cask & Clever, Hacienda Hotel, and surrounding buildings have all been demolished. There were continued issues with homeless, as well as code issues which various property owners decided were best solved by taking down the buildings.

The 1923 Naval Packing House that was vacant for many years has burnt down. The property manager had someone watching the place but obviously not very well. The Royal Citrus Packing Housing is in danger of being torn down. The RCTC is looking to expand their railways and it would involve demolishing this historic site in order to accomplish their goals. At this time RCTC does not appear receptive to the idea of re-utilizing the property to be included in their plans. Andy Melendrez encouraged anyone who wished to preserve this historic landmark to advocate for the cause.

The Street Car Survey as to its feasibility has been started.

The Eastside Marketplace event will be returning either late May or early June.

## **8) City Community Development Department Updates**

Nathan Freeman said new tables and chairs for the area by Simple Simon's should be delivered within the next few days. He said 30 to 40 extra tables and chairs were ordered so if something happens in the future, they will be prepared to handle it.

Stone Church Brewery was approved to take over the old So China location on Main Street. The brewery that was already in the same building, Route 30, sent in a letter to the City stating they were not against Stone Church coming in and were rather looking forward to it.

## **9) RDP Security Update**

Chad Milby addressed the ongoing issue of homelessness in the downtown area. Since the last meeting, Chad Milby had a meeting with ETS and RPDC to find out more information on what happens to the individuals once they are released. He found that the individuals are given a bus ticket to return to the place of origin but no one is making sure they actually get on the bus and leave. Chad Milby is working with City Management to try and resolve this issue.

Charging for evening parking has been reinstated but crimes are still being committed and people are still setting up shop in the structures at night. Chad Milby is working with Parking and City Management to see if the parking attendant hours can be extended and perhaps automating the parking.

## **10) Items for Information**

### **10a) Update on RDP Activities and Items**

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program Round 5 applications closed March 31. RDP received an email that it was waitlisted and automatically rolled over to

Round 6 that opened April 28. Hopefully, RDP may yet receive its requested amount of \$15,000 which was the maximum allowable.

Staff met on April 12 with staff members of the Behavioral Health department of the County's Riverside University Health System. The meeting was to discuss the situation with homeless downtown who are mentally distressed and potentially a risk to themselves and others, and to learn what programs and services were available. The department then made a presentation to the RDP Security Committee on Wednesday, March 5 at noon via Zoom on the services and programs they provide. Copies of the presentation can be sent out to Board members who are interested.

A meeting of the Downtown Entertainment District Restaurants and Bars will be held May 12 at 1 pm at Loft.84. The meeting is to discuss trends in the Downtown Entertainment District and how to collectively work together to mitigate problems from occurring inside and outside the establishments.

RDP continues to provide masks to businesses who request them.

RDP both posts and shares pertinent posts on Facebook at least once daily. Once the intern starts, she will assist with social media for RDP and downtown businesses who can use those services.

The Security meeting and the Land Use meeting continue to be held monthly using Zoom.

The RDP budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 will be presented to the Board for approval at the June 9, 2021 meeting.

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

No update was provided.

#### **11) New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **12) Adjournment and Next Meeting Date – June 9, 2021**