



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
7:30 AM WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2022
WALLING BUILDING – UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE**

Minutes

Present: Bill Gardner, Brian Percy, Bryan Crawford, Charity Schiller, Chuck Beaty, David Bristow, Debbie Rose, Gregory Anderson, Jesse De La Cruz, Justin Tracy, Lou Monville, Patrick Brien, Paul Gill, Philip Makhoul, Randy Hord, Bob Nagle, Sergio San Martin, Shelby Worthington-Loomis, Shalini Lockard, Sherry Shimshock, Stan Morrison, Teryn Henderson

Excused: Nanci Larsen, Per Nilsson

Absent: Andrew Walcker, Cherie Crutcher, Jean Eiselein, Miguel Lujano, Oz Puerta, Todd Turoci, Val Ceballos

Ex-Officio ABP / City Council: Clarissa Cervantes, Erin Edwards, Paloma Montes

Staff: Janice Penner, Shirley Schmeltz

1) Call to Order

Shelby Worthington-Loomis called the meeting to order.

2) Self Introductions and Public Comment

Self introductions and public comments were conducted.

3) Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2022.

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of January 12, 2022

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

Motion carried.

4) Chair's Report

Shelby Worthington-Loomis commented that with the nice weather lately, more people are eating outside.

5) Items for Discussion

5a) Approval of Board of Directors Election for 2022- 2024 Term – MOTION

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said ballots were due Monday, February 7. The final count of ballots was made at the RDP office on Monday, February 7 by staff. The majority of ballots received were for the slate as presented to the Board.

The new Board term will be effective March 1, 2022, and the first meeting of the new Board will be March 9, 2022. New and retiring Board Members will be recognized at the rescheduled Annual Meeting on April 20, 2022.

Motion: To formally adopt the elected Board of Directors slate for the years March 1, 2022 to February 28, 2024 as presented.

Motion made by: Chuck Beaty **Motion Seconded by:** Paul Gill

Motion carried.

5b) Strategic Plan Update

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated that with the approval by the Board of the unbudgeted expense for the consultant, a signed agreement and deposit of \$5,500 was sent to Matt Lehrman of Social Prosperity Partners. At this point, the Executive Committee focus groups have been completed, and invitations sent out to just under 40 identified stakeholders to participate in one of four focus groups starting February 7. One-on-one interviews will be set up with four identified key stakeholders in the next two weeks.

Next steps include an Executive retreat tentatively scheduled for April 25. An additional survey of downtown business and property owners may be undertaken depending on the findings.

The consultant will provide a written document that reflects the Executive Committee's consensus direction – a strategic plan document suitable for advancement through the Board's consideration process, encompassing its vision, mission, values, and goals. That document will provide RDP with the framework to move forward on implementation.

6) Financial Reports

6a) Financial report at December 31, 2022 - MOTION

Reporting on behalf of the Treasurer, Janice Penner said the financial report for the month of January showed a year-to-date deficit of approximately \$60,424 compared to a budget deficit of \$78,390. The \$17,966 positive variance was due in part to BID levy income received to date being \$34,286 higher than budget. However, the extension of the external security patrol to March 31 plus the deposit for the consultant fees for the Strategic Plan, added \$16,971 to the deficit in January. She noted that BID levy income was still difficult to predict due to fluctuations each month.

As of January 31, 2022, RDP had \$192,143 in two Checking and one Money Market accounts with Citizens Business Bank and Provident Bank. RDP reserves included two CDs with Pacific Premier Bank and one CD with Provident Bank for total reserves of \$273,367.

The Accounts Receivable was \$7,098 from the City; \$6,998 for the external garage patrol and \$100 additional payment. The Accounts Payable equaled \$21,357.

Janice Penner said that the budget would be restated in March to reflect the extension of the external patrol to March and the payment for the consultant. That would increase the deficit of approximately \$67,000 to over \$100,000.

Motion: To approve the financial reports at January 31, 2022.

Motion made by: Charity Schiller **Motion seconded by:** Bill Gardner

Motion carried.

7) City Council Updates

Ward One - Erin Edwards said City Council meetings would start back up as hybrid meetings starting next week. The Mayor's State of Address would take place on February 24 as a completely virtual event. The Park Ranger program will start in March and be fully staffed by the summer.

New businesses in downtown set to open soon include the Arcade coffee shop set to open in March, and The Roots which hopefully be opened by the end of March after the original opening

date was stalled. A new toy store called The Things They Love will take over the old Curves and plans to open either early Spring or Summer.

The City Council meeting on February 15 will include the proposed parking rate increase as well as amending the Riverside Municipal Code on food trucks. Shelby Worthington-Loomis said there was a taco truck parked at 14th Street with over 300 people there, which hurt every business in the immediate area. A discussion broke out in regards to the negative impact on businesses, the safety issues, and the problems with having food vendors/trucks operating until after the bars close with no enforcement of time limits.

The Economic Development Committee meeting on February will discuss include lifting the ban on the retail sale of cannabis, and the proposed residential project for garages 1 and 2. One garage would become housing units with 25 percent being 'affordable' and the other garage would be brought up to code and serve as the residents' parking with some spaces left for public parking. Shelby Worthington-Loomis asked which garage would be used for housing and which for ongoing parking. Janice Penner said garage 2 would be housing and garage 1 would be retrofitted for parking based on the report.

New grant opportunities, and business grant opportunities will be coming up in the next few weeks including a security matching grant. The second round of funding for rent relief will begin in late February/early March.

The Housing and Homelessness Committee will discuss Inclusionary Housing and the percentage of affordable housing policy in the City at their February 28 meeting.

Ward Two - Clarissa Cervantes said RCTC extended the public comment for the Metrolink expansion until February 18 due to the website having technical problems. No one was able to post comments on the original deadline.

KRCB conducted a Ward 2 cleanup and 4000 tons of trash was picked up.

Tree People will be coming into the community on the next two weekends from 9 am to 12 pm to plant trees off 9th Street and Kansas Avenue. This is part of the ongoing process to plant 1000 trees in the Eastside Ward 2. There are about 700 trees that still need to be planted.

The Arts and Culture grant for the fiscal year 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 includes a proposal for an artist program in downtown. If approved, \$75,000 would be allocated for three artists to apply and implement three mural projects within the city. The Emergent Artist grant will be renamed to the Public Arts grant so artists all across the city can be included. Many artists didn't feel comfortable applying because they were not emerging artists. The amount will be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 so supplies can be included in the cost.

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said the walkability of the alleyways is now better due to the increased lighting. Noting that the Mariposa alley murals are beautiful, she asked how murals could be added to the alleyways from Mission Inn to 9th Street. Erin Edwards said that could happen through the above-mentioned grants.

8) City Community Development Department Updates

Sherry Shimshock said that the Economic Development Committee meeting in March would discuss the RFP for the Charette for the Fairmount Park Golf Course. The Charette is intended

to engage the community in the discussion of what the community value of the golf course is and what potential opportunities could be put in its place. The process would be one year and the consultant hired for this project has a person on their team who specializes in golf courses. A discussion ensued about the history of the golf course and the significance it had in the city over the years.

The small Microenterprise Grant, which the Community Development Department is focused on, will be used for businesses most impacted by the pandemic in underserved communities who might not have received help the first time around but were able to survive up to this point. Long term resiliency for these businesses is the ultimate goal. Sherry Shimshock discussed the qualifications/boundaries of how this money could be used as it is federal money. Ultimately a consultant will need to be hired to help manage this grant.

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said it would be a good idea to have someone reach out to the small businesses, especially the Spanish speaking business owners, to let them know of the new grant and how to apply for it. Sherry Shimshock said part of this grant includes marketing and there would be several bilingual individuals on staff to help people fill out the applications and apply.

9) RDP Security Update

Bryan Crawford said there was a DUI checkpoint in downtown on Friday night, and 13 people were arrested for DUI and another 15 arrested for driving without a license.

Bryan Crawford discussed the new stance the POP officers are taking, with the focus now on enforcement more so than deterrents as in the past. For the last few days the POP team was focused in other areas of Riverside dealing with encampments and other issues, but they will be back in downtown today.

Bryan Crawford attended the Mayor's Pop-up Tent Tour at the Main Library on Saturday and not one person brought up crime being an issue in downtown. The stats for 2021 were finalized yesterday, and both property and violent crime in nature were down from last year.

Bryan Crawford provided an update on one of the more problem homeless who vandalized Farmer Boys and attempted to rob a pedestrian. The individual is currently in jail and the Office of Homeless Solutions advised so that services can be provided on the day of release and hopefully transit back to the place of origin.

With respect to homeless drop offs, if a drop off from another county is observed, the date, time, and city/county doing the drop off needs to be provided so less time is spent by the police trying to find out that information.

The RFP to install security cameras, fencing, and such at city parks to help reduce crimes will go to council soon.

10) Items for Information

10a) Annual Meeting Rescheduling

Due to a lack of time, this section was not discussed at the meeting. Rather Shelby Worthington-Loomis asked Board members to refer to the notes provided as follows.

The date change was announced on Facebook. Award recipients have been notified of the change in date. The Hord family has been asked to confirm the recipient of the Roy Hord 'Volunteer of the Year' Award by mid-February so it can be announced in the March BID Bulletin. The event has been confirmed for April 20 at the Mission Inn Hotel & Spa and the deposit rolled over. Donation request letters were mailed out on January 24. Save the date emails will go out in late February with invitations going out in early to mid-March.

10b) Update on RDP Activities and Items

Due to a lack of time, this section was not discussed at the meeting. Rather Shelby Worthington-Loomis asked Board members to refer to the notes provided as follows.

Staff continues to participate in the SCAG Curb Space Study as part of the City's advisory group. RDP updated the District Coupon for local businesses and provided the file to the Riverside Convention Center and downtown hotels for their guests.

The March 20, 2022 luncheon with Sherriff Chad Bianco is still scheduled. Staff will be rescheduling speakers for May, June, and July.

Planning for Doors Open Riverside, scheduled for June 25, will start in February.

RDP is working with the Miracle and Dreams Foundation on a children's event in July at the Main Library.

Staff submitted RDP's request for City Sponsorship for September 24, 2022 Riverside Art and Music Festival, specifically waiver of rental costs and fees. That is the only event planned for the second half of 2022.

RDP is participating in planning for the 2022 Long Night of Arts and Innovation on October 13, 2022. The 2022-2023 budget will include a sponsorship.

RDP is still providing masks to those who request them. The County has advised more masks, including N-95s, are available should they be needed.

11) New Business

There was no new business.

12) Adjournment and Next Meeting Date – March 9, 2022