



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
7:30 AM WEDNESDAY APRIL 13, 2022  
WALLING BUILDING – UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Bill Gardner, Brian Percy, Bryan Crawford, Chuck Beaty, David Bristow, Debbie Rose, Jean Eiselein, Joe Guzzetta, Justin Tracy, Lou Monville, Nanci Larsen, Patrick Brien, Paul Gill, Philip Makhoul, Randy Hord, Bob Nagle, Shalini Lockard, Sherry Shimshock, Stan Morrison

**Excused:** Amy Hoyt, Collette Lee, Gregory Anderson, Shaya Edwards, Shelby Worthington-Loomis

**Absent:** Andrew Walcker, Clarissa Cervantes, Jesse De La Cruz, Miguel Lujano, Oz Puerta, Sergio San Martin, Teryn Henderson, Val Ceballos

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

**Staff:** Janice Penner, Shirley Schmeltz

**1) Call to Order**

Acting as Chair, Shalini Lockard called the meeting to order.

**2) Self Introductions and Public Comment**

Self introductions and public comments were conducted.

**3) Approval of Minutes of March 9, 2022.**

**Motion:** To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of March 9, 2022

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

**Motion carried.**

**4) Chair's Report**

Shalini Lockard commented that Per Nilsson had resigned from the Board effective at the end of the month due to his taking a new position in Phoenix, Arizona.

**5) Items for Discussion**

**5a) Annual Meeting Update**

Shalini Lockard stated the budget for the event anticipated 200 reservations and it was expected to meet that target with 191 tickets sold already. It was expected that the event will net a small surplus. Sponsorships and donations for the Opportunity Drawing will be pursued until April 18. The 2021 Annual Report will be on the tables as well as a program, pens and notepads, and floral arrangements.

All awards being presented are sponsored and the awards ordered. Presenters for the Downtown Achievement Awards have been asked and accepted. The presenters for the Roy Hord "Volunteer of the Year" Award and the Chair's Award are the Hord family and the Chair in that order.

### **5b) Strategic Plan Update and April 26 Retreat**

Shalini Lockard said the Executive Committee would be sent an agenda and document in advance of the retreat for them to review. The document has the findings from the focus groups and interviews as a reference. Following the retreat, the Executive Committee will decide on the process for the Board to discuss and adopt the Strategic Plan and on the timing. The goal is to have a plan in place by the end of July.

## **6) Financial Reports**

### **6a) Financial report at March 31, 2022 - MOTION**

Nanci Larsen said the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was revised to reflect the approved but not previously included extensions of the external security patrol (\$33,050 plus \$33,488) and the consultant fee for the Strategic Plan (\$12,000). The March 31, 2022 financial statements reflect that revised year-to-date budgeted deficit of \$96,066.

The financial statements for the month of March 31, 2022 show a year-to-date deficit of approximately \$29,958 compared to the budget deficit of \$96,066. The \$66,108 positive variance was due largely to BID levy income received to date being \$52,686 higher than budget, plus \$4,500 proceeds from the sale of a surplus GEM, and savings in other areas.

As of March 31, 2022, RDP had \$223,681 in two Checking and one Money Market accounts with Citizens Business Bank and Provident Bank. RDP reserves include two CDs with Pacific Premier Bank and one CD with Provident Bank for total reserves of \$273,528.

The Accounts Receivable was \$17,067 from the City; consisting of \$6,610 for the external garage patrol, \$10,080 for the Annual Meeting, and \$378 other. The Accounts Payable equaled \$31,768.

**Motion:** To approve the March 31, 2022 financial reports

**Motion made by:** Bill Gardner **Motion seconded by:** Stan Morrison

**Motion carried.**

### **6b) Approval of Secretary Brian Peary as Check Signer and Signatory - MOTION**

Shalini Lockard said Brian Peary was voted in as Secretary effective March 1, 2022. A separate motion was required to approve him as a check signer for RDP (non-payroll checks over \$2,000 require two signatures and payroll checks are direct deposit), and as a signer when required for certain documents.

**Motion:** To approve Secretary Brian Peary as check signer and signatory

**Motion made by:** Bill Gardner **Motion seconded by:** Paul Gill

**Motion carried.**

## **7) City Council Updates**

Erin Edwards said the City Council's first budget workshop will be on April 18 and held all day. A list of critical unfunded or underfunded programs will be discussed and considered. Items include increased funding for the Festival of Lights, expansion of the PSET team (public safety and engagement teams), increased funding dealing with homeless, tree trimming, outreach staff, window cleaning, etc. Added to the discussion will be a wild lands engagement team to go down into the river bottom to engage with the homeless there, and enforce keeping the homeless out of there due to danger of fires and floods.

New businesses recently opened include the Arcade Coffee Roasters and Carlos Tijuana Tacos. Every Table will be opening later this summer. The housing project for garages 1 and 2, where garage 2 would become 59 housing units with 25% being affordable, and garage 1 retrofitted for tenant and some public parking, is still being discussed. A student housing project by the new Main Library is in the works. The Mark will officially open this Summer.

The first 4 park rangers were sworn in. The Magnolia project is nearing completion and should be done by the end of April. There is a virtual meeting for the Riverside Gateway Parks Project, which will discuss eight sites located along the river and what should be done with them. The City's 5-year plan to reduce homelessness is moving forward with meetings to engage the public. The County and city are discussing the site of a new police headquarters.

On April 21 the Economic Development Committee will discuss hiring a consultant to help with envisioning the future of the Fairmount Golf Course, as well as hear an update on the Riverside Alive Project. Bill Gardner asked if the City had run the numbers on the golf courses making or losing money. Erin Edwards replied it had and the golf course loses money. She said the discussions are taking place because money is not the sole determinate on what will happen.

Bill Gardner also asked about the cost of the fires in the river bottom, specifically the costs for the fire department response compared to the costs for policing the area. Erin Edwards said it was tricky to determine because the fire department always on call when/if a fire occurs, but she was working with the fire department to get some numbers together.

Janice Penner asked if there is allowance in the budget for additional code enforcement personnel. One of the concerns from businesses is that sidewalk food vendors are not being monitored for improper food handling and storage and non-compliant operations. Erin Edwards replied she would need to look at the budget documents but that the proposed expansion of the PSET team and wildlife enforcement team would each include a code enforcement officer.

Paul Gill asked about the surplus assets list the City developed and the sale of those properties. Erin Edwards said many of the properties on the list that were declared as surplus, including garages 1 and 2, have not been sold as of yet.

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

Sherry Shimshock stated Excite has their grand opening at their new location on April 24.

In 2021, over 2000 hours of training and counseling were conducted through the partnership with IESPCD in the support of small businesses, just the Riverside area only. The contract with them is up for renewal in July and they are trying to make sure all the areas are covered.

## **9) RDP Security Update**

Bryan Crawford said the City owns 21 percent of the river bottom with the rest owned by other jurisdictions. The ordinance Erin Edwards spoke of to prevent people living in the river bottom will have no "teeth" to it unless the County creates a similar ordinance at the same time. RPD will be meeting with the County this week to discuss the idea of like ordinances.

There have been a high number of thefts of catalytic converters and burglaries in the day time hours in the garages. There are no rhyme or reason or no apparent patterns or specific type of cars being targeted to the thefts.

There have not been many concerns/complaints about food truck vendors. Gary Merk has promoted an individual to help assist with monitoring and enforcing the food trucks.

Over the weekend there was an armed robbery of an employee of the Mission Inn who was taking a smoke break. The police are working with nearby businesses to obtain video of the suspect. Farmer Boys has experienced three significant thefts over the weekend alone, and RPD will be meeting with them later in the week to discuss the issue.

Bill Gardner spoke about the Flood Control's interest in the river bottom in times past, and how that name is not mentioned as of late. Bryan Crawford said they are still very much involved along with San Bernardino and Jurupa Valley County.

Justin Tracy commented on the number of broken windows along Main Street between 2 am and 5 am. Some suspects are throwing rocks, others carry bats, others shot BB guns. The businesses over there need help.

Brian Percy asked if anyone was checking/enforcing food vendors who set up tables and chairs and stringing up lights, etc. in various locations. Bryan Crawford said probably not as he hadn't even heard of it until now. Brian Percy says it was happening after hours when code enforcement was off shift. This prompted a discussion on all the areas throughout the city where it was occurring and what can or cannot be done in regards to the matter.

## **10) Items for Information**

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

Shalini Lockard said the staff continued to participate in the SCAG Curb Space Study as part of the City's advisory group. Janice Penner said the study was ongoing for months, and one of the areas looked at was the curb space on University from Lime to Market. One of the goals was to provide constructive recommendations on how to deal with curb space demands such as delivery vehicles parking in the middle of the street at times when there is no parking on the street.

There is no luncheon in April due to the Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony. The May 24 luncheon will be at the Riverside Convention Center and feature a presentation on the parking changes going into effect on July 1, 2022. The June 28 luncheon meeting location has not been confirmed but the speaker will be Maria Esther Fernandez of The Cheech. The July 26 luncheon will be at the Life Arts Center and feature a downtown development presentation.

RDP is working with the Riverside Convention and Visitors Bureau/Riverside Sports Commission on promoting downtown restaurants and bars through social media. New social media opportunities have also opened up through a relationship with Visit California.

## **11) New Business**

Janice Penner said RCTC sent a request for RDP to support the Community Project funding request for the third street grade street separation. RDP would like approval to send a letter of support for RCTC's 3-million-dollar request to have a train bridge created with an underpass for the cars to continue driving along.

**Motion:** The send a letter of support for RCTC's funding for the grade separation at Third Street.

**Motion made by:** Lou Monville **Seconded by:** Bill Gardner

**Motion carried.**

A second motion was made to send a second letter to RCTC to preserve the Citrus building when the new terminal is created. After a discussion the motion was tabled for now until staff was able to speak with RCTC.

Debbie Rose said the County has a good relationship with everyone involved with the river bottom. Flood Control regularly does maintenance to make sure the trees and bushes are not hindering water flow or creating a fire hazard. Debbie Rose said she will come to the next meeting with more in-depth information for discussion.

It was agreed to add updates from the County as a regular agenda item.

## **12) Adjournment and Next Meeting Date – May 11, 2022**