



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
7:30 AM WEDNESDAY MAY 11, 2022
WALLING BUILDING – UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE**

Minutes

Present: Amy Hoyt, Bill Gardner, Bryan Crawford, Collette Lee, Chuck Beaty, David Bristow, Debbie Rose, Jean Eiselein, Joe Guzzetta, Nanci Larsen, Oz Puerta, Patrick Brien, Paul Gill, Randy Hord, Sergio San Martin, Shalini Lockard, Shaya Edwards, Shelby Worthington-Loomis, Sherry Shimshock, Teryn Henderson, Jake Orta

Excused: Gregory Anderson, Jesse De La Cruz, Justin Tracy, Lou Monville, Philip Makhoul, Bob Nagle, Stan Morrison

Absent: Andrew Walcker, Brian Percy, Clarissa Cervantes, Miguel Lujano, AJ Licon

Ex-Officio ABP / City Council: 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 April 13, 2022.

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the Meeting of April 13, 2022

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

Motion carried.

4) Chair's Report

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said she had nothing much to report.

5) Items for Discussion

5a) Strategic Plan - Update

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said the Executive Committee participated in a retreat on April 26 with the consultant for the Strategic Plan, Matt Lehrman. During the retreat, the Executive Committee discussed a framework to define RDP's vision, mission, values, and goals that would form the basis of its strategic plan. Following the retreat, the consultant prepared a 'Strategic Plan Worksheet' with the Executive version of the vision, mission, values, and goals for the Executive Committee plus the Consultant's refinement to review and decide upon next steps.

Once the Executive decides on the vision, mission, values, and goals to move forward, staff will prepare a first draft of the plan including a basic framework to achieve the goals including tactics and time frames, and suggested measurements to evaluate success. The objective is to have the Strategic Plan ready to adopt in July.

Bill Gardner asked if RDP qualified for charitable deductions. Janice Penner said RDP is a 501c6 not a 501c3) so contributions made to it do not qualify it for that type of deduction.

6) Financial Reports

6a) Financial Report at April 30, 2022 - MOTION

Nanci Larsen said the financial report for the month of April 30, 2022 showed a year-to-date deficit of approximately \$40,881 compared to a budget deficit of \$112,323. The \$71,442 positive variance was due largely in part to BID levy income received to date being \$52,922 higher than budget, plus savings in other areas as well as selling the surplus GEM.

As of April 30, 2022, RDP had \$217,383 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 \$273,661.

The Accounts Receivable was \$7,438; consisting of \$6,998 for the external garage patrol, \$270 for the Annual Meeting, and \$170 other. The Accounts Payable equaled \$26,755.

Motion: To approve the April 30, 2022 financial reports

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

Motion carried.

Collette Lee asked if RDP would qualify for the ARPA funds. Debbie Rose said she would look into whether 501c6)'s qualified and if so, help RDP fill out the necessary application paperwork. Janice Penner said she understood only 501c3)s qualified and noted that RDP will be looking at becoming one to qualify for certain grants and financial assistance.

David Bristow said it is often the tax-exempt status that qualifies an organization for a grant, not necessarily its charitable status.

6b) Update on July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 Budget

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated a basic operating budget will be prepared to use prior to RDP's finalizing its Strategic Plan. The budget will then be revised to reflect the adopted goals.

7) County of Riverside District 2 Update

Debbie Rose provided information on the County's progress with the river bottom. All the fire agencies have been brought together to help with the effort of cleaning the river bottom including County fire, City of Riverside fire, and the City of Corona fire. All the cities with interests in the river bottom are creating a MOU to distribute funding between all the agencies and organizations to both help prevent fires in the river bottom and deal with the homeless problem there. Flood Control focuses only on the water way within the river bottom, not the river bottom itself. Flood Control will be spearheading a four-year levy restoration project beginning in September which will require the relocation of everyone in the river bottom. The agencies involved will include the County's Behavioral Health Department.

Collette Lee asked if the Park and Neighborhood Specialist (PANS) group would be involved. Erin Edwards noted four such individuals were in the field.

There is a Fentanyl Taskforce within the County. In recent years/months there has been an increase in the amount of Fentanyl related cases and overdoses. All it takes is one gram of Fentanyl, which is less than a grain of salt to kill someone. Last year an educational campaign

was created along with a campaign to have the antidote to Fentanyl available to all first responders.

The budget review for the County will be on May 17 at the Riverside Convention Center and the budget hearings will begin on June 13.

Environmental Health only responds to food vendor issues on a complaint basis as there is not enough staff to do any regular patrols. Chuck Beaty asked how someone would know if a food vendor was in compliance. Debbie Rose said a vendor would be displaying a sticker if they were permitted through County Environmental Health. Debbie Rose provided a handout regarding illegal food vending which included a number for people to call if they have suspicions about a particular food vendor.

8) City Council Updates

Erin Edwards mentioned a number of people who have left or are leaving the City of Riverside including the City manager and Nathan Freeman. The City is working on a smooth transition of work plans within the departments and working on filling the open positions as soon as possible.

The City is working on its budgeting as well. The City has created and prioritized a list of unfunded needs. There is about \$21 million in additional support funds being budgeted to help with these needs, including increasing the Public Safety and Engagement Team (PSET) in the river bottom and urban areas, and strengthening the ordinance regarding the anti-camping laws. Also being budgeted is more funding to repair streets, sidewalks, trim trees, and infrastructure maintenance in buildings.

Collette Lee asked if the funding was coming from Measure Z. Erin Edwards said it was. Collette Lee then commented that the City needed to re-post the metric information on how the City money was being used, as well as the information and phone numbers of the PSET and outreach teams which was taken down awhile ago but never put back on line. A discussion broke out about the City's 5-year plan and its multiple tiers to better help deal with homelessness.

Roots Restaurant is set to open mid to late June and Fuego Hibachi will be opening in January 2023. Every Table, which will be by Slater's 50/50, will have their lease go before City Council on May 24 and will open in the Summer if approved. The patio in front of Slater's and the surrounding buildings will be getting a makeover to look more aesthetically pleasing. The Cheech will be opening on June 18.

Chuck Beaty said it was important for the City to show the public the numbers and how they are spending the money for several reasons. It was previously stated that homeless couldn't be removed from the river bottom unless there was somewhere to put them so it's necessary for the City to show they are taking that into account. Erin Edwards said the City has studied the Boise Case which is where the statement came from. They are also working diligently to map the river bottom where the camps are, where the fire danger is, and where the flood zones are in order to show those individuals that they will have to move to safer locations in the river bottom. Shelby Worthington-Loomis commented that people are required to have permits to camp at parks but don't need one to camp on city streets and right of ways. Erin Edwards said she would need to talk to the police about that.

Paul Gill mentioned the utilities fund being in jeopardy and if there was any contingency by the City to deal with this issue. Erin Edwards said Paul Gill was talking about Measure C which

allowed utility funds to be placed into the general fund. Erin Edwards said every department has been looking at what the ideal and worst-case scenario would be if the City loses Measure C, and putting plans into place where the City would still be able to function adequately if Measure C is discontinued.

9) City Community Development Department Update

Sherry Shimshock said they are in the final stages of hiring a consultant to do an economic analysis. The point of the analysis is to develop an understanding of the economic landscape and build the metrics to measure success.

Bill Gardner asked about the Simple Simon's outside eating area and umbrellas, and whether there was any intention to replace the outdated outdoor furniture. Sherry Shimshock replied she would look into the matter. Shelby Worthington-Loomis said perhaps Habitat for Humanity could be contacted as they had an abundance of oversized umbrellas that could be used as a temporary solution for the summer.

Collette Lee commented on the Fox Theater and the unsatisfactory conditions surrounding the Entertainment Plaza portion. She and her husband attended a red-carpet event at the Fox and the elevator to the parking garage was slow and filthy, and they were concerned that they would be robbed.

10) RDP Security Update

Bryan Crawford provided numbers from the PSET Team. In the last three days they went to 47 different locations where 40 individuals were contacted. Five of those accepted services with three getting vouchers for a driver's license or ID card from the DMV, two were referred to shelters, five arrests were made, and 32 thousand pounds of trash were cleaned up.

Overtime officers will start to work in the parking structures on a roving patrol on Saturday and Sunday nights throughout the summer. The patrols start Memorial Day weekend with the hopes of continuing beyond the summer if funding is provided.

Fairmount Park had significant wire thefts over several days. Copper wiring was stolen out of many of the light fixtures in the park and the electrical box was broken into as well. There was roughly \$30-40,000 worth of damage done. The culprits were caught after three days and two of the three people were released by the next day. Reed Park was vandalized in a similar manner the day after the two people were released. Since then those suspects have gone quiet.

The DED Team has been quiet with no major significant incidents other than bar fights at 2 am. Off road enforcement has been receiving a lot of complaints out of the river bottom regarding homeless and off roaders. Two weeks ago the enforcement team cited a lot of people in the river bottom for operating off road vehicles there.

Garage 2 is being hammered with car burglaries during the day. Most burglaries appear to be crimes of opportunity. No suspect has yet been identified and it is believed they are coming from the stairwells, not from the gates. There have been 20 vehicle burglaries in the last two weeks in garage 2 alone. No one is reporting these burglaries to the police, just to the parking attendant.

There are residential burglaries occurring City wide to homes where the residents are out of town. The losses at those properties have been substantial with near a quarter of a million in losses. There is a viable suspect for the thefts.

There was a double homicide on the West end at an illegal gambling house. There was a memorial at that location for one of the people killed and at that memorial, a fight broke out and another person was shot and killed.

The Homeless Outreach Team has asked the police to accompany them to various locations. There is not enough police to fulfill that request so officers are accompanying them on their days off.

Bill Gardner expressed his concern about the earlier comment about the Fox Theater and proposed a motion from RDP expressing concern about unsafe conditions and the need for optimal maintenance of the facility. A discussion broke out in regards to what the motion would entail. Janice Penner stated that there is a process to be followed where a motion that is not on the agenda is made at a Board meeting. The motion is referred to the appropriate committee and then to the Executive and then to the Board. She said she would refer to Land Use.

Collette Lee mentioned a situation at one of her businesses where an individual entered the building, obviously on drugs, and wearing a hospital ID bracelet. When the ambulance came, the EMT said it was a fairly normal occurrence. Erin Edwards responded that the City is working on an ordinance with regards to hospital drop offs. The initial one is under review as the language was faulty and would put an undue burden on hospitals.

11) Items for Information

11a) Update on RDP Activities and Items

Shelby Worthington-Loomis said the SCAG Curb Space Study advisory group will present an update on the project at the May 19 Land Use Committee meeting. Board members are welcome to attend if they wish, but asked to contact the RDP office if so.

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 sponsor is the Riverside Convention Center which is waiving fees, enhancing the meal, and providing complimentary parking.

The June 28 luncheon location will be the Avila's Historic 1929, where Sevilla used to be, and the speaker will be Maria Esther Fernandez of the Cheech. The July 26 luncheon will be at the Life Arts Center, however staff is working on a different speaker.

RDP will start working with the Riverside Convention and Visitors Bureau/Riverside Sports Commission on several promotional endeavors using social media.

11b) Annual Meeting Debrief

Shelby Worthington-Loomis stated the event went well with 186 paid reservations, all awards sponsored, and favorable reviews from attendees. Sponsor and donor thank-you letters have been sent out and award recipient photos will go out shortly.

The 2023 event has not been booked yet. The Executive Committee has approved moving the event to March subject to not conflicting with Spring Break. The additional month would be helpful in arranging the event and awards recipients yet still be close to the start of the board year. Janice

Penner said March 15 is the proposed date. The various school systems have been contacted and there is no spring break conflict, the Mission Inn has been contacted to see if the date is open and RDP is currently waiting on confirmation.

12) New Business

Oz Puerta said the Arlington Business Partnership is looking to bring back their clean and safe program next fiscal year. RFPs are currently in process. The ABP is also looking into becoming a 501(c)(3) to qualify for more grants.

Janice Penner said the LA Ram's Championship Trophy will be available for public viewing at the Riverside Convention Center on Saturday.

Collette Lee said the RAA is having a mural unveiling on Saturday at 11 am.

13) Adjournment and Next Meeting Date – June 8, 2022