

DDA

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
202 Railroad Avenue - P.O. Box 1908 - Rifle, CO 81650
Phone (970) 625-2121

MINUTES OF April 7, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson, Sally Brands, called the meeting to order at 7:05 a.m.

Members Present: Gil Frontella, Randy Winkler, Jeanice Freeman, and Andrew Legg,

Members Absent: Kathy Runia, Michael Langhorne, Tom Stuver, Jay Rickstrew

DDA Manager Present: Helen Rogers

Guests Present: Rifle Area Chamber of Commerce CEO; Annick Pruitt, City Manager; John Hier, Assist. City Manager; Matt Sturgeon, City Planner; Nathan Lindquist.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion to approve the minutes of March 3rd was made by Winkler, seconded by Freeman, and approving unanimously.

3. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** The January and February Financial Reports were available for review. A motion was made by Winkler, seconded by Freeman, passing unanimously.

4. **BILLS TO BE APPROVED:** 1) VIP Trash: \$140.00, 2) Mr. Power S: \$750.00. A motion to pay the bills was made by Freeman, seconded by Frontella, passing unanimously.

5. **CHAMBER UPDATE:** Annick Pruitt, Chamber CEO, presented the Chamber Updates. 'Business After Hours' will be held at The Hampton Inn, April 8th. Project clean Sweep will target Downtown Rifle again this year, starting at 8:30am on Sat. April 24th. Business-4-Lunch Networking meeting will be on Thursday, April 15th from noon -1:30 at Creekbend Bistro.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **GEO Grant for Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings (EEHB)**

Rogers attended a meeting with CLEER staff, Mike Braaten, and Annick Pruitt, regarding a new Audit and Retrofit Program the CLEER staff will be initiating in the near future. Several grants have been applied for. One includes Garfield, Eagle and Pitkin Counties for \$250,000 for EEHB Projects. Another grant of \$600,000, partnering with Boulder and Garfield Counties for Energy Retrofit Programs was submitted. Garfield County was awarded \$137,000 from the State Regulatory Commission, passing it through to CLEER, for use toward projects in Rifle and Parachute exclusively.

CLEER staff would like to meet with the DDA and present more material and updates on what rebates are available and how they can act as an 'energy coach' to help business become more energy efficient. Rogers will set up a time after the May 5th meeting (8:30am) for their presentation.

B. Downtown Clean-Up, April 24th

A joint project with the Chamber, Alpine Bank, DDA and the City will occur on Sat. April 24th from 8:30-noon, with lunch provided by Wing Nuts.

C. Report from Board Coordination Meeting

REDC – new board officers are Michael Langhorne - President, Jim Voorheis – Vice President, Sally Brands – Secretary, and Jay Rickstrew – Treasurer. Langhorne will be presenting a 'Place Branding' presentation to the DDA in the near future.

Chamber – Fireworks Display will happen this year, but money slow to come in. WestFest agreed to come to Rifle Aug. 13-15th. Contracts need to be signed.

City of Rifle – Fall Festival idea may not happen as WestFest may need lots of volunteers and too close together. Rifle Rendezvous is slated for May 14-16th. The new wall for the Civic Parking Structure has been receiving a lot of comments, asking what it is for. The owner of Snow White Linen will be tearing down the building soon on Railroad Ave., asking for suggestions on how the land should be used. The City will be getting 3 electric vehicles and 3 natural gas conversion kits for existing cars. (Obtained through grant money).

D. New Signage

It was recommended that the Assistant Building Inspector act as the Code Enforcer until the position can be replaced. It was noted that a few business are not complying with the 25% rule of window obstruction as well as off premise signs being placed on building facades for other businesses a block away. Matt will look into it and will address issues as they are notified about them.

6. PROJECTS:

A. Museum Wall Restoration

Rogers met with Nini Shroyer, original artist on the project. A signed Agreement was drawn up, with completion slated by May 31st. A check of 1/3 the total amount (\$6,615) was given to her and she will start on Monday, April 12th. She will submit invoices on a weekly basis, until complete. Rogers will coordinate parking and electrical issues.

B. Downtown Murals, Lease Agreement, Appropriation of Funds

The second Mural, depicting JQS Trail, is underway and should be finished within the next two months. It will be placed on the south wall of the Rifle House Building.

C. New Ute Theater Society (N.U.T.S.)

Frontella reported on the completion of the State Historic Funds grant application submission for the exterior façade restoration and interior rehabilitation. Total estimates for the project come in close to \$400,000 with City of Rifle matching 25% of the total.

D. Downtown Zoning – Building Design Committee

Matt Sturgeon stated Vandewalle and Assoc. are reviewing the document and feel that a glossary of terms would be helpful for people in understanding it for those outside of the architectural community. It will then come back in May for the Design Review Committee to review.

E. Graffiti, 9th Judicial District Probation Dept.

No new graffiti has been spotted in the DDA District.

F. Moose Lodge
Brands and Rogers will meet to discuss further.

G. Planters
Rogers presented new figures for the hanging baskets and large patio planter for the downtown. Rogers met with Jackie at the Rifle Garden Center, who assisted with plants in 2009. New hanging baskets (16" diameter) will cost \$45 each. Planters will cost \$280 each. A motion was made by Frontella, seconded by Legg, to purchase 16 new hanging baskets, and 4 planters, passing unanimously.

Watering labor costs in 2009 were \$2,000. Plants were \$789.60 for a total of \$2789. Alpine Bank contributed \$2500, so total costs were \$289.60.

Other issues brought before the board.

- Rogers was approached by a merchant asking when striping would commence on 3rd St. John Hier stated the city crews are presently working on clean-up, and striping the streets should come after that.
- John Hier also mentioned the Rifle Police Dept. has been handing out tickets to those not stopping at the pedestrian crosswalk on 4th and Railroad.
- Matt Sturgeon mentioned the proposed Downtown Round-a-Bout has been sent to the Federal Highway Commissioner for review and comment.

8. MAINTENANCE

- A. Traffic / Pedestrian Issues:
- B. Curb Extensions – Planters, Weeds
- C. Parking Lots:
- D. Alleys:
- E. Street Lights:
- F. Trees:
- G. Snow Removal:

9. ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Rogers,
DDA Project Manager