

DDA

Downtown Development Authority
Rifle, Colorado

MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, April 1, 2015 Rifle City Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Acting Chairperson, Jay Rickstrew called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.
Members Present: Nella Barker, Tom Stuver, Randy Winkler, Wilma Paddock and Michael Langhorne
Members Absent: Sally Brands, and Gil Frontella.
DDA Manager Present: Helen Rogers
Guests Present: Nathan Lindquist; Rifle Planning Director, Ed Arnold

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Barker, seconded by Stuver to approve the minutes of March 4, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Reports were presented for review. A motion was made by Paddock, seconded by Stuver to accept the financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. BILLS TO BE APPROVED:

1) VIP Trash Removal; \$150.00 2) Alan Duncan Roofing; \$1,360 (removal of gutters from old banner poles on Pruett's Bldg.) A motion was made to approve the bills by Barker, seconded by Paddock, approving unanimously.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT:

DDA Administration – 58.5 hrs.

- The Rifle Main Street Committee continues to meet bi-monthly. The UTE Plaza Area is coming along and a bid will be awarded at the next Council Meeting. Cost for concrete came in at around \$60,000. The plan is to have the project completed by Rural Philanthropy Days starting June 24th.
- Renew Rifle Spring Community Day is Sat., April 25th. Growing Food Forward will be joining us and giving away seed packets. The areas we are targeting are mulching the curb extensions, Rifle Creek Clean-up north and south of the 3rd St. Bridge, and possibly painting the jersey barriers in Centennial Park. Lunch will be provided by Shooters up on the Library Sun Deck.
- The Rifle Farmer's Market committee continues to meet. We have two major produce vendors so far, Early Morning Orchard and Clark's Orchards. Starts Thursday June 18th. Applications are coming in from bread and baked good vendors to Juice Plus

Vitamins. The Friends of the Library will also be a vendor with their used book collections. We hope to have a good variety. The music is all booked. The Lemonade Stand still needs volunteers. We've received \$5,000 from VIF, \$1,000 from Live Well Garfield County and applied for a \$2,000 grant from Rifle Community Foundation.

- Attended Garfield Economic Development Meeting. Everyone concerned about the Bridge. Expected to be closed for two months in 2018. Another topic was broadband infrastructure and how to fund the 'middle mile'. Garfield County and Mesa counties were awarded \$150,000 from DOLA to create a master plan for the estimated \$20 million dollar cost of completing a Broadband System in Garfield County. Likely will go to a vote for funding. Being connected is essential for Economic Development.
- Maintenance issues included clean-up of the tree wells on East, West and 4th Street.
- Obtained downtown Flower Pot Bids which we'll discuss later in the meeting.
- Includes daily emails and communication with City Staff and others, prep for DDA Meeting, DDA Meeting and Minutes, Regular Budget Report, and Manager's Report.

UTE Theatre and Event Center Update – 15.5 hrs.

The Johnny O Band performed on March 14th for a New Ute Theatre Society Membership Drive. We still have people coming to the UTE who have never been before. Started a Family Movie night on the third Thursday of the month. March's movie was Mary Poppins. April will be The Lego Movie. We're holding a competition with various age groups and ribbons and prizes will be awarded at the beginning of the night for the best Lego structures.

We will be attending the Rural Philanthropy Days workshops and events asking for support for the retractable seating system. Also, NUTS will be sponsoring the Glen Miller Orchestra on Wed. night along with hosting a reception on Thursday night.

Visitor Improvement Fund – 2 hrs.

The City was invited to apply for the Fishing Is Fun Grant again recently. We'll probably need to go over to Denver and present the project at their Regional Offices. If we don't get all the request for the ramp portion, the City will likely request the County release the Conservation Trust Fund money for the 2016 budget year for the proposed Boat Ramp Area.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Downtown Flower Bids

Rogers obtained 3 bids from area growers. Alpine Gardens came in at \$3,050.00 Lady Bug Florist, \$2,786.74 and Niemann's Gardens, \$2,278.00. A motion was made by Stuver, seconded by Paddock to approve the bid by Niemann's Gardens. Rogers will coordinate getting the pots to Niemann's Gardens as soon as possible.

B. RREDC Update

Langhorne stated the Rifle Garfield County Airport was awarded the state's Firefighting Center for Excellence Training Facility. They have had additional inquiries from manufacturing companies who may want to relocate to be closer to the training

facility. The Revolving Loan Fund has awarded low interest loans to two businesses so far. CMC will be expanding to the downtown in the newly renovated space on West Ave. in July and will start holding classes there. Two coffee shops will be opening soon in the downtown.

C. Main Street Update

Rickstrew indicated he has been attending a 'Chairs' meeting along with other Board Chairs; Michael Langhorne (RREDC), Casey Pearson Lord (Rifle Chamber), Ryan Gilbert (VIF) along with Matt Sturgeon (City Manager) and Nathan Lindquist (Planning Director). It has been facilitated by a DOLA Representative. The topic has been trying to define 'Main Street' for Rifle and understanding what all the boards are working on. There are 7.7 full time employees working on similar events. The group is trying to determine how they can undergo a reorganization to fund a full time coordinator as well as encompass all of Rifle and not just the downtown. More emphasis on communication needs to occur.

D. Other

Rickstrew recently encouraged Ed Arnold to become a board member of the DDA. A motion was made by Stuver, seconded by Paddock to recommend to City Council the appointment of Ed Arnold to the DDA Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Alpine Bank has been four times as busy with loans so far this year.

Stuver suggested creating a cooperative Farmer's Market Booth for locals this summer. Rogers will talk with the committee and see if it's something they want to help coordinate.

Paddock indicated the Library is holding a Sales Tax Campaign meeting on April 30th in New Castle to try and inform the public how sales tax is used throughout the County and what it funds. Shopping local will be a focus.

Rogers indicated Planning and Zoning passed a CUP for the additional water tank, to be located NE of the existing one. The City will have a capacity of 5 million gallons of water. The older tank will be repaired as soon as possible. Also, P&Z annexed and changed the zoning of the Garfield Communications Center up on E. 1st St. and Clarkson. The County would like to expand the building at some point. During the 6pm workshop area business owners north of town attended and asked P&Z to consider changing the A-Frame Sign Code so they can place them on Railroad Ave. Staff will continue to explore options. A-Frame signage is only allowed in the Central Business District.

7. PROJECTS

A. UTE Plaza Area Design Update

The bids for the concrete work came in. The awarded bid came in around \$60,000. The plan is to start concrete work either April or May to be completed by June.

B. Renew Rifle Spring Community Day, Saturday, April 25th

Growing Food Forward has committed to being involved with the morning activities. The Library outdoor patio has been reserved for the volunteer lunch.

Clean-up sites include Rifle Creek by the 3rd Street Bridge, mulching the curb extensions and possibly painting the jersey barriers in Centennial Park.

- C. Farmer's Market, starting Thursday, June 18th
See above.

8. MAINTENANCE

- A. Power Spray Parking Lots

Buddy Rogers indicated he would power spray the parking lots towards the end of April as they have had no snow removal duties due to lack of snow.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen Rogers
DDA Manager