

VISITOR IMPROVEMENTS FUND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 10, 2008
REGULAR MEETING
Noon * Conference Room

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Chairperson Scott Becker.

PRESENT ON ROLL CALL: Board Members Gil Frontella, Michael Langhorne, Trent Pierson, Helen Rogers, Matt Sturgeon, John Savage, Jim Voorheis, and Chairperson Scott Becker.

OTHERS PRESENT: Wanda Nelson, City Clerk.

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 13, 2008 MINUTES

Mr. Frontella pointed out several corrections to the minutes. Mr. Savage moved to approve the Minutes as amended; seconded by Ms. Rogers. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

CITIZEN INPUT ON FUTURE PROJECTS

The Board created a list of priorities at the July meeting. It was suggested that an Open House be held in the spring to obtain citizen input on future projects. Mr. Sturgeon will bring a schedule of upcoming Planning & Zoning issues.

BENCHES AND TRASH RECEPTACLES

Ms. Rogers received three quotes for benches and trash receptacles for the downtown, and recommends purchasing these items from Keystone Ridge Designs. Keystone will customize the benches with the City's name. Mr. Frontella moved to approve the purchase of 25 benches and 22 trash receptacles from Keystone Ridge Designs in an amount not to exceed \$53,900; seconded by Mr. Langhorne. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Rogers will present the Board's recommendation to City Council at their next meeting.

NEW LIBRARY

Mr. Sturgeon is working with the Library Board on the design of their new building. They have hired the architect firm of Barker Rinker Seakat. Progress reports will be given at future meetings.

HEALING GARDEN WATER FOUNTAIN

Grand River Hospital wishes to have a water fountain in their Healing Garden. At present time, the Board is not pursuing this project.

GATEWAY PLAN

Mr. Sturgeon reviewed the Gateway Plan. It was suggested that pedestrian access be considered in the Plan.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ms. Rogers stated that the cattle drive sculptures for the roundabouts are moving forward. The cows will have historic brands on them.

The historic structure assessment on the theatre is moving forward. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be signed between the City and the DDA for this project.

Mr. Becker received an email from the Chamber Director, asking that their budgeted funds be disbursed in two payments, rather than four. Mr. Becker will attend the next City Council meeting to discuss the Chamber's request.

Mr. Frontella would like to discuss the possibility of hiring a part-time coordinator to manage the projects outlined by the VIF Advisory Board. Mr. Sturgeon has discussed this notion with current City employee Kathleen Morse, and she is interested. Ms. Morse will be invited to attend a future meeting to explore this further.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Wanda Nelson, City Clerk

Scott Becker, Chair