

VISITOR IMPROVEMENTS FUND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 14, 2009
REGULAR MEETING
Noon * Conference Room

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order at 12:08 p.m. by Vice Chair, Helen Rogers.

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

Mr. Langhorne moved to excuse Mr. Savage and Mr. Becker from today's meeting; seconded by Mr. Frontella. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHERS PRESENT: Erin Sims, Deputy City Clerk.

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Frontella moved to approve the August minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Sturgeon. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Sturgeon moved to approve the September minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Frontella. The motion passed unanimously.

THEATRE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Mr. Frontella explained the agreement with some downtown business owners and the City of Rifle to take over management of the UTE Theatre. The group is calling themselves "NUTS". They have their incorporation papers, and are working on receiving a Non-Profit 501 c-3 status. Mr. Frontella spoke about options for the Theatre when the current lease expires on July 1, 2010. Options for renovations, leases, and program options will be presented to the City Council at the October 21, 2009 City Council meeting.

CONTINUING PROJECTS

Mr. Sturgeon spoke to the Board about continuing to fund special projects around the City through the recession. With the Library, Western Rockies Credit Union, and others continuing their Capital improvements over the next few years, Mr. Sturgeon thinks it is very important for the DDA, VIF, and other groups to continue to do as many improvements as possible around the City. He stated that we

need to promote the City's stability, and send a message to private investors that Rifle Colorado is the place to be.

DOWNTOWN MURALS

Ms. Rogers stated that the mural designs are ready, just waiting on funding to purchase the supplies. Mr. Sturgeon suggested that an invoice should be sent in to the City for half of the approved amount. The next question of importance is who should own the murals? Should they be given to the City of Rifle?

UNDERPASS PROJECT

Mr. Sturgeon presented design concepts for the project. Board members expressed concerns about the durability of the current design options. Most Board members believe that natural vegetation landscaping should be used, and that the current options are too maintenance intensive. Mr. Sturgeon reminded the Board that their vision was derived from the formal and manicured look in Grand Junction on Horizon Drive. Mr. Sturgeon will formalize the Board's comments and concerns and send them to Winston & Associates, the design consultants.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ms. Rogers would like to see a final copy of the VIF 2010 Proposed Budget. Mr. Sturgeon will email that document to Board members.

The Board discussed several projects they would like to pursue including: Moose Lodge exterior and parking lot; Certain houses in the Downtown District need paint, xerascaping and possible picket fences; Cohesive landscaping on Railroad Ave. and Highway 6. Discussion will be pursued at following meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Erin Sims, Deputy City Clerk

Helen Rogers, Vice Chair