

GREATER RIFLE IMPROVEMENT TEAM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday April 04, 2020

Noon City Hall Conference Room

A regular meeting of the GRIT advisory board, held remotely utilizing video call, is called to order at 12:05 p.m.

Present at Roll Call: Garrick Frontella, Kristine Llacuna, Barb Clifton in for Brian Conde, Helen Rogers, Tanya Doose, Samm Young, and Kari Slappey.

Also Present: Kim Burner, Quiriat Portuguez, and Nathan Lindquist

MARCH MINUTES: Kristine Llacuna motions to approve the minutes form March. Samm Young seconds the motion and it passes.

Partner Group Updates:

- **EDC-** Kim Burner updates the board that Co-Work is closed to the public due to COVID-19. Katie Mackley has been working with local business owners answering questions about the E. I. D. L. (Economic Injury Disaster Loans) program and the P.P.P. (Payroll Protection Program) application process. A grant application has been submitted, which if granted, will be used to “refill” the RREDC revolving loan fund for Colorado River Valley businesses.
- **D.D.A. -** The downtown clean-up that was scheduled for April has been canceled. Helen Rogers asks if there will be a small loan plan like other cities in the valley until the Small Business Administration loans come in.
- **The Chamber-**Tanya Doose; The Chamber has been reaching out to local businesses one on one to get data on how they are doing. A Western GarCO Community and Business web page was set up to help promote local businesses. March events have been canceled, and April events will be virtual, as well as the annual dinner being pushed until June 2020.

LIFT-UP- Nathan Lindquist updates the board that LIFT-UP is working with REACH OUT CO to help low income families in Rifle with food and bills. A foundation out of Carbondale called MANAUS is giving \$100,000.00 to encourage savings accounts with 3% interest, and this builds as more money is put in. The part-time Recreation Department employees have been helping with food distribution to ease that need. Trail building is booming and could be an outdoor activity that can be paid in gift cards to citizens out of work. The gift card payment would not affect unemployment benefits status and the GarCO Health Department could be a potential partner in the program. Garrick Frontella adds that he has connections with individuals that can train people with dirt work skills.

Funds Discussion-

Mayor Barb Clifton informed GRIT that City Council is open to discussing an emergency loan program for Rifle businesses. There is a discussion revolving around where funds for the program could potentially be found. The reserves being looked at for funds are the Marijuana taxes, Visitor Improvement Fund as

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well as the General Fund. Helen Rogers mentions that the DDA also has \$85,000.00 in reserves. General consensus of the GRIT Advisory Board would be in support of such a program.

Meeting adjourns at 1:07 P.M.

Quiriat Portuguez- Administrative Assistant

Garrick Frontella - Chair