

**GREATER RIFLE IMPROVEMENT TEAM
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday June 9, 2020

Noon City Hall Conference Room

A regular meeting of the GRIT advisory board, held remotely utilizing video call, is called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Garrick Frontella.

Present at Roll Call: Garrick Frontella, Kristine Llacunna, Helen Rogers, Evin Sartin, Tanya Doose, Kari Slappy, and Katie Mackley in for Michael Langhorn.

Also present: Main Street Manager Kim Burner and Administrative Assistant Quiriat Portuguez.

◆ NO VISITORS PRESENT

MAY'S MINUTES: Helen Rogers motions to approve the minutes from May and Kristin Llacunna seconds the motion. The motion carries and the minutes from May are approved.

PARTNER GROUP UPDATES

E.D.C.:

Katie Mackley speaks for the E.D.C. and updates the board on the Emergency Loan Program. There were a total of 42 applications submitted and they all closed on or before 06/10/2020. The second phase of the loans is for the Outdoor seating modifications (park-lets) and has been extended to businesses outside of the downtown core. They are up to \$5,000 loans that will be forgiven if the businesses meet the requirements.

D.D.A.:

Helen Rogers speaks for the D.D.A. and updates the board on the success of the park-lets. Two out of five park-lets have been completed so far. The Farmer's Market is opening on an online market place concept. Z's Orchard, Maria's Farm, and The High Water Farm are just a few vendors that have been secured, as well as, a few additional vendors. The City Clerk Kristy Christensen has moved forward with the process of the alcohol permit, if the possibility of opening the market at Heinze Park arises. The Bands that were originally contracted to play live at the Farmer's Market will be recorded at the Ute Theatre, and presented as "LIVE from The Ute" or "Covid Home Companion Concert Series". They will be playing at 6 p.m. on KMTS. Promotions for the concerts are facilitated by the transfer of some of the unneeded funds from the contract with Align Multi Media for signature event marketing to the marketing of the Farmer's Market.

THE CHAMBER:

Tanya Doose updates the board on Chamber activities. The Fair Parade has been canceled. Based on multiple scenarios and public health guidelines during this pandemic, the parade is unable to take place. The Garfield County Fair and Rodeo have also been canceled.

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W.A.W.:

Kim Burner updates the board on the Western Adventure Weekend event and the possibility of canceling the event. The board reviews their options and how restrictions will impact attendance. After the board discusses the restrictions given by the Garfield Health Department on social distancing guidelines, the board makes a unanimous decision to cancel the event and to conserve the funds for next year's event.,

A motion made by Kristine Llacuna to cancel Western Adventure Weekend in 2020 and hold funds for 2021 event. The motion is seconded by Evin Sartin, and the board votes with I's across the board.

The Rifle Heritage Center:

The topic of the G.R.I.T. board funding the R.H.C. and its building needs is discussed once more. The request is for \$35,000.00 for repairs on the heating and cooling system; \$30,000 for heating units and \$5,000 for cooling units. Many of the board members agree that The Heritage Center is an integral part of Historic Preservation in The City, but clarity is necessary for further funding.

Kari Slappy motions to deny the grant in its current form with the recommendation that The City of Rifle, The Heritage Center, and The GRIT Board convene for further conversation. Evin Sartin seconds the motion, and the motion carries with a board vote of I's unanimously.

Colorado River Recreational Development:

Helen Rogers speaks on this topic. She informs the board that Laurie Rinker is formulating a document that highlights recreation on the Colorado River on the western slope. Helen reiterates the needs of access development and signage near Rifle. Katie Mackley agrees that it makes absolute sense to move forward with facilitating the access from Rifle, because the river is identified as a unifying feature for the entire Colorado River Valley. Garrick Frontella adds that boat access in Rifle would be huge for recreation on the river and the tourism that it would bring to The City of Rifle.

The meeting adjourns at 1:07 p.m.

Garrick Frontella
GRIT Chair

Quiariat Portuguez
Administrative Assistant

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