

DDA

Downtown Development Authority
Rifle, Colorado

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

The meeting was held in the City Council Chambers with social distancing in place.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

DDA Chair, Randy Winkler called the meeting to order at 7:05am.

Members Present: Jacquelyn Johnson, Theresa Hamilton (Council Rep), and Kevin Atchison.

Members Absent: Gil Frontella, Ed Arnold, and Daniel LeMoine, Jay Rickstrew, Christine Campbell, and Raquel Mendizabel.

DDA Part-Time Manager; Helen Rogers

Guests Present; Nathan Lindquist

***Due to lack of a quorum, discussion continued on several topics.

Rogers presented the manager's report:

- The final meeting for the Farmers Market was held Sept 30th. We've had several requests to continue the online Marketplace but will have to see if the Vendors want to do both in person and online orders. The Bands really appreciated playing at the UTE and hopefully next year we can have more 'local band' events at the UTE if the Covid Pandemic subsides.
- The VIF/GRIT meeting included discussion about the Historic Structure Assessment for the bridge across the Colorado River. Garfield County Commissioners approved moving forward on the State Historic Fund, which is funded by History Colorado for \$10-15,000. The Grand Hogback Mountain Bike Trail up by the Rifle Arch has begun, with parking expansion to accommodate more volunteers. A River Visioning Meeting will be held Monday, October 12th from 1-3 pm to discuss the community's vision of what the River Frontage could look like. If you'd like to be a part of this please let Kim Burner know or send me your suggestions and I'll pass them along.
- Staff from the Daily Sentinel Newspaper will take a look at the 3 sets of Newspaper Racks this week or next that were placed in the downtown in 2007. The springs are failing and rust showing through around the bottom as well as windows needing replaced. The 3 sets cost around \$8,500 in 2007 plus freight.
- Replaced and added 3 Wheel Bumps in the 4th St. parking lot which were \$48 each. I took my trailer down and used petty cash to purchase them.
- Put up the Welcome Hunter Banners. Helps the downtown feel normal!
- Other activities are admin related with regard to agendas, manager's report, documentation, emails, and obtaining invoices from vendors.

Topics of Discussion

- Winkler suggested to email Board Members for approval of the bills.
- As GarCo Commissioners agreed to sign the Historic Structure Assessment, the assessment will move forward to evaluate the integrity of the steel and flooring. Coordination is through local architect Jeff Johnson and a GJ Structural Engineer.
- A River Visioning Workshop led by Community Builders will take place Monday, Oct. 12th at the Rifle Boat Ramp from 1-3pm. Theresa Hamilton questioned the time of day as most people can't attend and suggested an additional meeting on a Saturday or through Zoom. Rogers asked the DDA Members to send thoughts and ideas as to what they'd like to see along the river. The homeless population seems to still be locating in the area, possibly moving further west.
- Nathan Lindquist presented three options for the Construction of Railroad Ave and 3rd Street. A workshop will be held with City Council, Wed., Oct. 14th to determine which option to take. He is asking the DDA to participate in the decision and state an opinion on which option to take.

Option 1: All project elements are included and built in 2021 at a cost of \$5,499,000.

Option 2: Build an extended Phase 1 at a cost of \$3,700,000. Includes Railroad Ave 3rd to 5th and both East and West 3rd St. Leaves out 200 block of Railroad Parking improvements and alley improvements. Less expensive, but would increase costs for eventual completion.

Option 3: Improve Railroad Only at a cost of \$2,500,000. Solves the most critical infrastructure issues but does not reconstruct 3rd St., the 200 block of Railroad parking areas or the alleys.

Included in these costs are a contribution from DDA for \$50,000 coming from the reserve fund which the DDA Board would need to vote on.

A letter from the DDA, stating their position, to the Council was requested for the Oct. 14th workshop to help Council with their decision.