

GRAND JUNCTION DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2011
248 SOUTH 4TH STREET
7:30 A.M.

PRESENT: Harry Griff, Peggy Page, Steve Thoms, Cynthia Burke, PJ McGovern

ABSENT: Kevin Reimer, Bennett B.

STAFF: Diane Keliher, Kathy Dirks, Felicia Sabartinelli-Abeyta

GUESTS: John Shaver, Jacquie Chappell-Reid, Tillie Bishop, Kevin Williams, John Hopkins, Scott Mercier, Tim Foster, Rich Englehart

CALL TO ORDER: Peggy called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Harry made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 14th meeting; Steve seconded; minutes were approved.

LEGENDS OF THE GRAND VALLEY: Tillie thanked the board for supporting the Legends Project financially and morally. The Committee is made up of a variety of people. It was started after the Dalton Trumbo sculpture with "Five Sculptures in Five Years". The Committee tried to make the selections relevant to the community. They have raised \$400,000 to date.

The installation of the John Otto sculpture will be October 7th at 5:30 p.m. The site is located at 2nd and Main. "Man with a Monumental Vision" is the name of the piece and Lorena Davis is writing the historical plaque.

Ron Chapel is designing the Operation Foresight sculpture which showcases the cooperative efforts of city, county, businesses and citizens. The piece features Joe Lacy, Leland Schmidt, and Dale Hollingsworth.

The Legends Committee was approached by Mesa County to recognize the Prinster family with a sculpture located at the new county office building. The County is offering \$40,000 from their landscape fund. The Committee would like the DDA to consider participating with \$10,000. They would like to install the sculpture in 2012. Harry and Felicia met to discuss Art on the Corner and had concerns about maintenance expenses and locations of Legends sculptures.

PJ made a motion to support the next Legends sculpture to be located at the new county building with the condition that the County will be responsible for future maintenance; Steve seconded; motion passed.

GRAND VALLEY DRAINAGE DISTRICT: Heidi had contacted the District about contributing the other 50% of their TIF funds and invited them to explain to the DDA board what they do. Suzie Chamberlin has put together a presentation.

The GVDD office is located on 23 Road. They service 100 square miles. The District is a quazi-municipality with its own separate Title (37). There are 42 river outlets and 136 miles of open drains from Grand Junction to Gunnison. Piped drains run from Grand Junction to Eagle. They work with city and county boards regarding issues with new development. They support bike paths along canal banks with regulations and 20-foot easements for ditch burning. The GVDD's role is to address vegetation management, storm water management, erosion management and canal breaches. They are sponsors of the Annual River Cleanup.

The District is mill levy funded with a revenue stream of \$1.3-1.5 million. Most of the budget is spent on maintenance. Tillie added that they are the only drainage district in Colorado. It was formed and controlled by the Federal Free Water Act to clean the water before it reaches the Colorado River.

Cynthia left the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

USA PRO CYCLING EVENT: John, Scott and Tim are three co-chairs of a local group that is proposing to bring a stage of the USA Pro Cycling event to Grand Junction. It was Gov. Ritter and Lance Armstrong who decided to have a race in Colorado similar to the tour de France. They acquired a sponsorship from Quizno's and the inaugural race is set for August 22, 2011. This year's tour will include Colorado Springs, Crested Butte, Vail, and Breckenridge. Organizers are excited about coming to Grand Junction. In the past, the group has tried to get the Colorado National Monument to participate without success. The hope is that with new management the tour could include the Monument.

This is an international level event with teams and media from all over the world. The community exposure is tremendous. The group wants to feature downtown as the final destination. They need a strong collaborative effort from the community. The tour will start in Gateway, Palisade, Grand Junction, Fruita, and finish downtown with an expo including vendors, food and a street fair.

The group is asking for support in the form of street closure permits and/or financial sponsorship. There was discussion of the date and length of any street closures. PJ would prefer to have the Monument involved and he made a point that the money would come from the BID, not the DDA. The group representatives are here today to let the DDA board know what's going on and to start looking at the budget. Kathy is representing the BID on the stirring committee. She would like to have the co-chairs give a presentation to the DTA board. Kathy will put it on the agenda for the next DTA meeting.

SUPPORT FOR GOCO GRANT: Mesa Land Trust is asking the DDA for a letter of support for the acquisition of the Three Sisters property to be developed and deeded to the City.

PERSONNEL PROCESS: Harry, Cynthia & Peggy will review resumes for the Executive Director position today. The City determined there were possible improprieties with the first selection committee. Steve asked about the idea of combining GJEP, DDA/BID, and The Business Incubator. PJ had arranged a meeting earlier in the week with the three groups to explore all possibilities, since all three entities are hiring Executive Directors. There was discussion of the need for better communication between the DDA & GJEP as well as the Chamber of Commerce and the VCB. There will be a new date set for the assessment center for the final DDA candidates.

OTHER: Rich asked who would be signing time sheets and permits in the Executive Director's absence. It was determined that Peggy Page would sign these documents.

ADJOURN: Steve made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of real, personal, or other property interest under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(a); Harry seconded; the board adjourned into executive session at 9:10 a.m.