

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

April 29, 2002

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, met on Monday, April 29, 2002 at 7:09 p.m. in the City Auditorium to discuss workshop items. Those present were Harry Butler, Dennis Kirtland, Bill McCurry, Jim Spehar, Janet Terry, Reford Theobold, and President of the Council Cindy Enos-Martinez.

Summaries and action on the following topics:

1. **BRIEFING ON PDR PROJECT:** Tom Latousek, Land Protection Specialist with the Mesa Land Trust along with Keith Fife of Mesa County Planning updated Council on this purchase of development rights project. Buffer zones were created by the four entities (Mesa County, City of Grand Junction, City of Fruita and Town of Palisade) where only very low density and agriculture is allowed. Funds are committed for matching of GOCO monies to purchase conservation easements (development rights in perpetuity). Mr. Latousek summarized the sense of urgency due to the increase in land values and the rapid development taking place.

Action Summary: Councilmember Spehar urged the development of a market for transferable rights. He questioned the likelihood of the governmental entities in the valley contributing enough funds to acquire all the development rights in the buffer zones. Keith Fife said the committee is working with the Smart Growth Committee on that issue. Councilmember Theobold said he had heard of Fruita trying to develop “receptor” areas. There may be areas in Grand Junction that would be appropriate “receptors.”

2. **HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD:** This Board will discuss their bylaws and the Williams House Historic Structure Assessment. Kristin Ashbeck, Community Development, reviewed the packet, which describes the HPB activities. HPB worked on by-laws, the Board has passed them but has concerns by the term limitations. Extending the terms is a possibility. With a letter from the Board, Council could consider making that change in the Code.

Regarding historic assessment on the Williams House, a grant was applied for and received. The assessment says the house is salvageable. It could be moved a small distance. Repairing it was also looked at. Mr. William Jones, chair of HPB, stated that stabilizing the outside would be the only possibility for present.

Action Summary: Councilmember Terry urged that security measures be continued and upgraded. At Ms. Ashbeck’s suggestion that the architectural features be removed and stored until the building is secured. Councilmember Butler suggested “No Trespassing” signs. Councilmember Kirtland questioned the use of this many resources for

this project.. Councilmember Spehar did not object to stabilization as long as that does not result in an unrealistic expectation that the building is inviolate.

Council directed that security be put back into place and Staff was authorized to work on a grant application with the Historic Preservation Board, keeping in mind there may be TABOR implications.

3. **COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS:** Council will discuss their assignments to various boards and committees.

Action Summary: Council updated the list of assignments and determined who will serve on what. Staff was directed to put the resolution on Wednesday's agenda.