

GRAND JUNCTION DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016
437 COLORADO AVENUE
8:30 A.M.

PRESENT: Kirk Granum (Chair), Duncan Rowley (Vice-Chair), Shane Allerheiligen, Marty Chazen, Jason Farrington, Jodi Coleman-Niernberg, Dan Meyer, Vance Wagner

ABSENT: Tom LaCroix

STAFF: Vonda Bauer, Kathy Portner, Allison Blevins, Robin Brown

GUESTS: John Shaver (City Attorney), Tim Moore (Deputy City Manager), Mike Wiggins (The Daily Sentinel Reporter), Bennett Boeschstein, Scott Peterson

CALL TO ORDER: Kirk called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Meeting of August 25, 2016

Shane made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2016 meeting; Jason seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

AOTC OVERVIEW

Robin summarized the Art on the Corner program (see attachment). In 1984 the Art on the Corner program was approved to temporarily install sculptures on Main Street in an effort to revitalize the downtown area. Artists receive a \$500 honorarium if their piece is accepted which provides an incentive to quality artists. Awards include cash prizes for Best in Show 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. Artists loan their pieces to the DDA for one year free of charge. All of the pieces in the temporary exhibit are for sale and the DDA receives a 25% commission on any sales. Committee members and FCI donate the installation team, which consists of 15-20 construction crew that remove and install the new exhibits. The DDA hosts an artist's reception for the Board, AOTC Committee, and all participating artist's on the evening of the installation.

In the past there was a Buy a Piece Program, which raised money to purchase the People's Choice winner. The program was created to provide an incentive for artists to submit their work. Over the years many pieces were purchased for the permanent collection. In addition to the Buy A Piece program, the DDA budgeted funds each year to purchase pieces from the temporary exhibit to grow the permanent collection. The DDA currently owns 106 permanent sculptures.

Robin stated that the DDA has recently partnered with Mesa County Library to install pieces on their property. This will expand the collection to Grand Avenue.

Robin receives many calls from other cities regarding the DDA's AOTC program as well as tour bus drivers who are passing through the area. VCB has indicated that the Art on the Corner is the most visited attraction in the valley.

There have been some concerns in the past regarding claims for damaged and vandalized pieces. The City currently insures the pieces. City Attorney John Shaver recommended clarifying actual ownership because there are permanent sculptures that are owned by the DDA and the temporary sculptures are owned by the artist. John suggested possibly creating a separate nonprofit entity that would allow structure for the temporary exhibits.

Robin recommended the AOTC committee create a policy and strategic plan for maintaining the permanent collection which would include cleaning the sculptures and pedestals, replacing worn out plaques, publishing a brochure of the sculptures, and creating a records management program.

Kathy indicated that the Art on the Corner program has been a DDA function, however, the management of the program over the past four years has been run by Robin. For two years Robin was a subcontractor hired by the DDA. In 2015 Robin became an employee of the BID and continued to manage the AOTC program.

Robin has submitted a resignation letter and her last day of employment is October 10, 2016. Robin indicated that she would like to continue managing the AOTC program as a subcontractor. After Board discussion, it was decided that any decisions regarding the AOTC program should be discussed with the new DDA Director.

UPDATES:

White Hall RFP

The deadline for the responses for White Hall and R-5 have been extended to September 22, 2016.

R-5 RFP/Ameritowne/Transfer to DDA

Kathy has received the agreement from Ameritowne. John Shaver (City Attorney) and Nathan Carruth (Risk Manager) will review the agreement.

Train Depot

Dustin received the agreement between the DDA and his company, Realty One Group, however, we have not received a response yet.

TRCC Letter to City Council

Duncan stated that a letter has been drafted to the City Council regarding recommendations of the DDA Board for the operation of Two Rivers Convention Center. Duncan will send the letter to the Board for review. The subcommittee will finalize the letter and either present it to City Council or email it to Mayor Norris.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The City Traffic Division installed some wayfinding signs at 5th & Main Street for the Museum of Western Colorado.

ADJOURN:

Marty made a motion to adjourn; Jodi seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.