

DDA

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
202 Railroad Avenue - P.O. Box 1908 - Rifle, CO 81650
Phone (970) 625-2121

MINUTES OF January 6, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairperson, Michael Langhorne, called the meeting to order at 7:02 a.m.

Members Present: Jeanice Freeman, Gil Frontella, Tom Stuver, Randy Winkler, Andrew Legg, Jay Rickstrew, and Kathy Runia

Members Absent: Sally Brands

DDA Manager Present: Helen Rogers

Guests Present: Mayor; Keith Lambert

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rickstrew, seconded by Frontella, and approving unanimously.

3. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** The November Financial Report was available for review as well as the latest detail ledger. A motion to table approval was made by Stuver, seconded by Frontella, approving unanimously. A question surrounded the \$46,915 which was placed in both the Assets and Liabilities sections. Rogers will speak with Finance Director, Charles Kelty.

4. **BILLS TO BE APPROVED:** Langhorne presented the bills. 1) V.I.P. Trash: \$140.00. 2) Rifle Chamber of Commerce, 2010 membership of \$75.00. A motion to approve the bills was made by Frontella, seconded by Stuver. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **CHAMBER UPDATE:** City Council Board Representative, Randy Winkler, presented the Chamber Updates. The Annual Ice Fishing Tournament will be held on January 16th and 17th. Over 500 people have entered the tournament thus far. Sammy's on Park Avenue will have 'Business After Hours' On Jan. 28th. The 5th State of the Community Luncheon will be held on Thursday, February 4th at Columbine Restaurant.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Library Update**

Amelia Shelley presented a new concrete 'frieze' design element for the east and west sides of the entrance and exit for the parking garage. The general consensus was positive as everyone thought it would add some interest to the structure. It is undetermined as to what the design will look like.

B. **Rifle Shopping Incentive Program Update**

Rogers reports according to Mike Braaten, the City has given out over \$40,000 to merchants participating in the Rifle 'Buck' program. The last day to turn in the reimbursement forms is Thursday, Jan. 7th. After that date they will know how much sales tax revenue the program generated.

C. New Signage / Building Improvements

No new signage was presented.

Rogers presented a grant idea, derived from Grand Junctions' DDA 'Façade Improvement Grant Program' obtained on their web site. The program is paid for by Tax Increment Financing (TIF) garnered within their DDA district and is a matching grant from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per property. The purpose of the grant is to eliminate blight, promote a healthy business environment, as well as preserving the unique historic character of the downtown.

Board members thought it was a good idea, however with limited funding; creating a similar form with what the Rifle DDA has already in place might be a better direction to go at this time. Rogers will create a new form, including signage and paint reimbursements to be placed on the City's Web Site. Rogers will also look into funding sources.

D. Independent Contract Agreement, 2010

Rogers contract needed to be renewed for 2010. The contract amount of \$23,888 remains the same as 2009. No new changes were made. A motion was made by Rickstrew, seconded by Runia, approving unanimously.

E. Holiday Decoration Storage

Rogers stated she had been in contact with City staff, but has not heard a response as to where they would like to see the Holiday Decorations stored. Several options, such as shipping containers, to the Valley Lumber site were talked about. Rogers will follow up with City staff and obtain pricing for shipping containers.

7. PROJECTS:

A. Downtown Murals

Rogers reports the first Mural is about 98% complete. The frame is being constructed by Bill Pickett. With Winkler's help, the mural will be installed on the East wall of the Moose Lodge. Stuver stated the DDA only needs to request the money from the Rifle Community Foundation and then a check will be issued to the DDA. They will be meeting in two weeks. A motion was made by Randy, seconded by Frontella to request the money from the Rifle Community Foundation, passing unanimously.

B. New Ute Theater Society (N.U.T.S.)

Frontella reports the non-profit board continues to meet and discuss the future operation of the theater as well as planning for façade and interior renovations. An agreement is underway with the City to define the details. Memberships are available and continue to come in, generating several thousands of dollars.

C. Downtown Zoning – Building Design Committee

Frontella reports the group has met and established guidelines. Matt Sturgeon is working on how the document will be presented to the public.

D. Graffiti, 9th Judicial District Probation Dept.

Rogers reports she will continue to coordinate with Ed Rosendale, Supervisor for the 9th Judicial Probation District and other probation officers to assisted juvenile offenders in removing graffiti as well as participating in general Downtown Clean-up.

- E. Moose Lodge
Rogers and Brands will keep searching for brick layers who might be interested in block repair on the Moose Lodge and Rifle Creek Theater building facades.
- F. Other Matters Brought Before the Board
Mayor, Keith Lambert, stated the GNECI (Garfield New Energy Communities Initiative) has released a grant of \$87,000 for solar panels to be placed on two municipal buildings – the Justice Center and the new City of Rifle Parks Maintenance building. They are looking for a third building and it was suggested it be the Ute Theater. It is estimated Xcel Energy will rebate \$55,000 back to the City.

8. MAINTENANCE

- A. Traffic / Pedestrian Issues:
B. Curb Extensions – Planters, Weeds
C. Parking Lots:
D. Alleys:
E. Street Lights:
F. Trees:
G. Snow Removal: Board members differed on how they felt the City's snow removal went recently with the big snow occurring in December.

- 9. ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 8:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Rogers, DDA Manager