

DDA

Downtown Development Authority
Rifle, Colorado

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

The meeting was held by a Zoom conference call due to the COVID -19 Pandemic.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice DDA Chair, Kevin Atchison called the meeting to order at 7:06am.

Members Present: Randy Winkler, Ed Arnold, Christine Campbell, Daniel LeMoine, Theresa Hamilton (Council Rep), Raquel Mendizabel, Jay Rickstrew and Jacquelyn Johnson.

Members Absent: Gil Frontella.

DDA Part-Time Manager; Helen Rogers

Guests: Nathan Lindquist, Craig Spaulding

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from December 2nd were presented for review. A motion was made by LeMoine, seconded by Arnold to approve the minutes from December. The motion passed.

3. BILLS TO BE APPROVED:

1) HR Design/Helen Rogers; \$1,350. 2) Mountain Waste & Recycling; \$75.08
3) All Around Property Maintenance, Snow Removal; \$960. A motion to approve payment of the bills was made by Johnson, seconded by Campbell, approving unanimously.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT:

The DDA Financial Reports from the City were available for review along with the working budget spreadsheet. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Hamilton to accept the financials as presented. The motion passed.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT:

DDA Administration – 45 hrs.

- The Office of Economic Development and International Trade offered a Rural Theaters COVID-19 Support Initiative Grant for Rural Counties. There was a short one week turn around, due Dec. 4th. We (NUTS) were awarded \$10,000 to be used by May 31st. It can be used for small capital improvements, programming and staffing.
- The online VIF/GRIT meeting occurred Tuesday, December 8th. Reports from the 2020 grant recipients were presented, the Bookcliff's Art Center received \$5,000 for on-line performances, stage renovation and production. The Rifle Farmer's Market received \$4,000 for all the bands which were to perform in the gazebo at Heinze Park. All were paid at \$300 per band and performed at the Ute Theater, streamed on-line through KMTS Radio, NUTS Facebook page and the City of Rifle. NUTS later

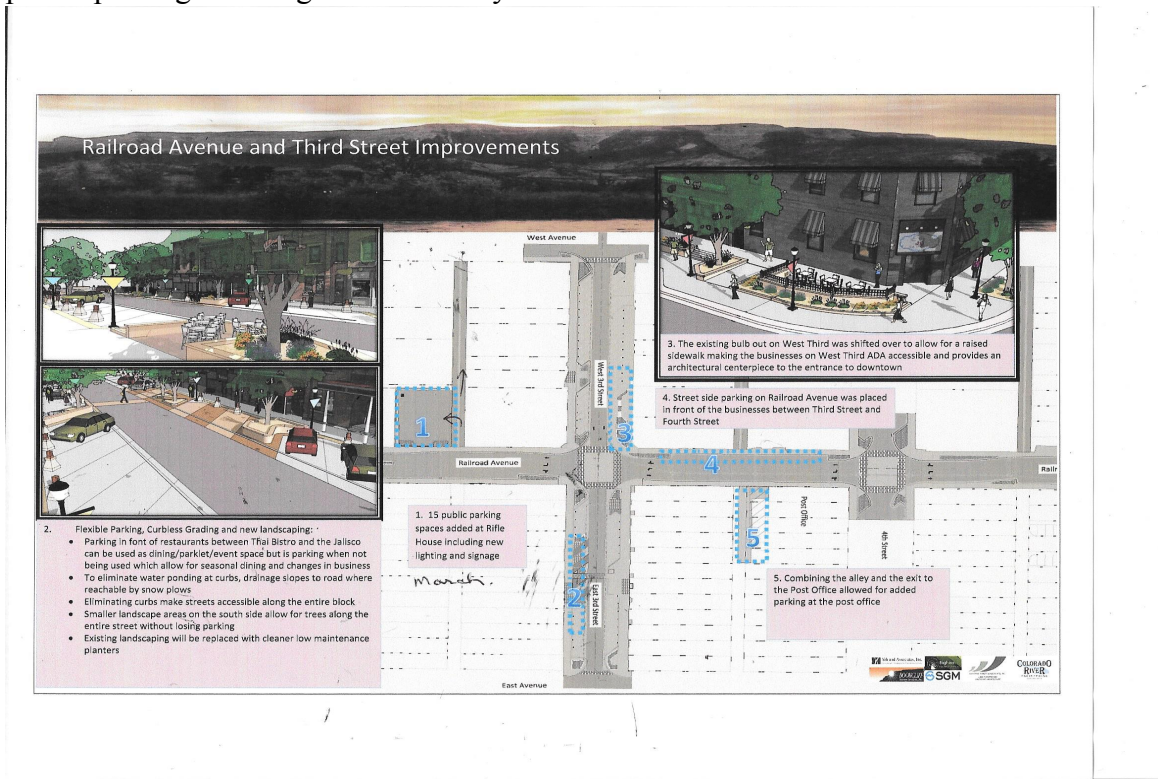
receive a grant reimbursement through the CARES Act and Covid-19 Grants from RREDC of \$4,500. There were over 19,000 views on the Facebook pages during the online streamed concerts.

- After much discussion and emails back and forth with the PI Circulation Director, Jake Marine, he stated he would repair the springs and plexi-glass in the news racks for free. Appears he has done this. Rogers will go through each stand to make sure.
- Looked through several historic photos of downtown buildings for possible new streetscape historic signage if the DDA Board decides to participate in the cost. They include, McLearn building, JC Penny's (Align Design), Midland Arts (Stauffers Pharmacy) Flintlock Building (Whit Clothing) Fulton Garage, Jewelry Store (Old City Hall), Reagen's Garage (Corner Bldg) Rifle House.
- Several maintenance issues were addressed such as mulching a few areas on 4th Street.
- Other activities are admin related with regard to agendas, manager's report, documentation, emails, and obtaining invoices from vendors.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Downtown Street Renovation and Improvements Update – Craig Spaulding and Nathan Lindquist

The City Engineer, Craig Spaulding, presented a five step approach for the downtown infrastructure and renovation project. Bids have gone out and a contractor will be awarded by February. The project will start in March, beginning with a 15 space public parking lot being constructed by the Rifle House on Railroad Ave.



Staff indicated, after speaking with downtown businesses, the top concerns were making sure there was good landscaping and design, making everything accessible, along with better lighting. The project will allow for new water lines for expanded residential apartments above storefronts. Unfortunately the 5th Street interchange was removed from the project due to lack of enough funds. The existing pedestrian traffic light on Railroad will remain as will the clock, but may be shifted a little.

The City would like the DDA to consider helping design and purchase signage that would include historic images, an information kiosk for E.3rd Street, and possible art murals along Railroad Ave. The initial ask from the City was to contribute \$50,000 toward the project. The DDA would have about 6 months before placement in the downtown.

B. West Hwy 6 Bridge Renovation, January Start

As part of the devolution process from CDOT for Hwy 6 and part of Hwy 13, the City received \$5,000,000 to help defray costs for improvements. The bridge has been part of this project, estimated now to cost around \$866,000. The road is now closed and traffic rerouted. Large trucks are to exit I70 at the west exit and use the HWY 13 Bypass. Length of closure is likely through April.

7. PROJECTS

A. Historic Signage

See above in Manager's Report

B. Additional Downtown Murals

Rogers will work with Micro Plastics to come up with a strategy to create more murals, possibly with digital imaging.

C. River Visioning Committee

Community Builders who led the initial workshop will be putting together a 'Framework' Map to help explain concepts discussed to engage the general public. More meetings will follow in January, 2021.

D. Christmas Lights

Rogers will be taking down the lights in the next few weeks. Possibly adding red/white lights to the light poles.

8. MAINTENANCE

A. Snow Removal

Contract in place with All Around Property Maintenance for \$50 per lot. The DDA maintains 3 lots. A retainer fee of \$450 /month will be charged if there is no snow.

9. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Arnold, seconded by Mendizabel at 8:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Helen Rogers
Part-Time DDA Manager