

DDA

Downtown Development Authority
Rifle, Colorado

Friday, July 6, 2022
Rifle City Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair, Larry Stewart, called the meeting to order at 7:05 am. Members Present; Erick Perez, Alicia Gresley (Council Rep), Adam Whitt, Raquel Mendizabel, and Amy Tonozzi.
Members Absent: Jacquelyn Johnson and Ed Arnold.
DDA Part-Time Manager Present; Helen Rogers

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the workshop on June 3rd were presented for a review, but because it was a workshop, approval was not necessary.

3. BILLS TO BE APPROVED:

1) HR Design/Helen Rogers; \$1,635. 2) Mtn Waste & Recycling; \$625.04. (26 cans) 3) Mtn Waste & Recycling; \$86.80. (2-yd bin). 4) Landscape and Snow Removal, All Around Property Maintenance; \$1708.57. 5) Bryce Bauer, Downtown Flower Assistance; \$40. 6) New Castle Gardens, ½ Flowers; \$989.63. 7) Helen Rogers, Faux Rock from Lowe's; \$177.16. A motion to approve the bills was made by Whitt, seconded by Perez with the motion passing.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT:

The City's Financial Report was available for review. A motion to approve the report as presented was made by Whitt, seconded by Perez with the motion passing.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT:

DDA Administration – 54.5 hrs.

- Retrieved the planted flower pots from New Castle Gardens and distributed them to 5 locations. They're looking very colorful this year.
- The Greater Rifle Improvement Team (GRIT), was held June 14th. We received several requests for the 2nd phase of grants. Those approved were Garfield County Fair; \$2,500 for additional musical acts following the headliners so the vendors can potentially generate more sales. River Stop (Middle Colorado Watershed Council) asking \$6,000 for expanded operations and enhancement of the River Stop. They were seeking funding to help with employment of a new Watershed Specialist, which does not fit with VIF's priorities. They did, however, need \$1,000 to help with their annual film festival and \$500 for promotions, so we funded those. RAMBO asked for \$10,000 but received \$5,000 to help with their 2nd Annual Grand Hogback Extravaganza and marketing. They were seeking matching funds for a State Trail Grant. And Rifle Recreation requested \$7,000 for 4th of July events at Metro Park (instead of a parade). We suggested they put it in their budget for next year.

- The Farmers Market is going well. Most of my time this month has been spent on this. We are coming up on the 3rd week of 12. We finally have a produce vendor out of Palisade and the non-profit PEO ladies who work to promote women's education through scholarships selling beer and wine. The Moose Lodge's International Committee did not give their OK. We have around 20 vendors attending at various times. The exotic mushrooms are the patron's favorite.
- The Island Visionary Consulting Group attended the 1st market and had around 70 people participating in their questionnaire. Had good feedback they stated. Another meeting is planned the end of July? There is a clean-up of the island planned for September.
- The Midland Arts Mural is just about finished. Working on installation plans.
- Ordered a Faux Rock to see how it fits over the back-flow preventers.
- The City put in 5 new water meters. There are two areas that are leaking on West 4th St. Apparently it is the DDA's responsibility to fix them.
- Other activities are admin related with regard to agendas, manager's report, documentation, emails, and obtaining invoices from vendors.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Downtown Update

Jeff Shanks sent an email regarding an updates. "Comcast is finally undergrounding their utility, starting Tuesday, July 5th. Duration is supposed to be 10 days. They started one week late. Martinez Western was supposed to start on the Post Office concrete alley on the 11th, likely pushed 1 week due to Comcast. When they move on the Post Office alley, they will finish the punch list items".

B. Budget 2023

Larry Stewart and Rogers will work on the budget for the next meeting. Rogers will be meeting with the VIF Board to hopefully share in some of the costs such as historic signage and bike racks.

C. Other

Amy Tonozzi mentioned the library will be holding a Hispanic Celebration Event, possibly in Sept. They hired a new Spanish Speaking Children's Director, Karina Baker.

Adam Whitt mentioned looking into buying the restaurant next to his building on W. 3rd. Also, would like to see a directory map placed on the large electrical box in front of their store.

Raquel Mendizabel was wondering why the Farmers Market can't be held downtown. Also, more special events are needed to bring people downtown.

7. PROJECTS

A. Midland Arts Mural

Anne will finish the mural this week. Installation scheduling is next.

B. Downtown Historic Signage

Rogers will continue to work on this with the Rifle Heritage Group. Looking into sharing funding support with VIF. Suggested additional QR Codes need to be added to the signs to convey more information and storytelling.

C. Faux rock covers for back-flow pipes

Rogers ordered a faux rock cover for the SW corner of East Ave. and E. 3rd St.

D. Bike Racks

Rogers spoke with Lindsey Williams regarding RAMBO participating in selecting bike racks for the downtown. She stated she would pass it on to the group.

E. Museum Parking Lot

Craig Spaulding, City Engineer, is obtaining estimates for the W. 2nd St. renovation and will have a better idea of costs for the Museum Parking Lot after that.

8. MAINTENANCE:

A. Watering Trees

Need to verify the irrigation system is tied into the 6 trees on East Ave. Working with Jeff on this. To be continued.

B. Mulching/Pruning/Spraying

All Around Property Maintenance seems to be doing a good job regarding this. They have been coming on Tuesdays. Perez indicated his plants had aphids on them and they were sprayed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen Rogers
Part-Time DDA Manager