

MINUTES

COLUMBIA GATEWAY URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
OF
DECEMBER 14, 2009

WASCO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
THE DALLES, OREGON

PRESIDING: Chair Nikki Lesich

AGENCY PRESENT: Bill Dick, Carolyn Wood, Jim Wilcox, Dan Spatz, Brian Ahier

AGENCY ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Nolan Young, City Attorney Gene Parker, City Clerk Julie Krueger, Community Development Director Dan Durow

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lesich at 8:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted by City Clerk Krueger; all members present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

An item was added to the agenda for consideration of the railroad underpass design selection at East First and Washington Streets. It was moved by Wood and seconded by Wilcox to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 23, 2009 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Wilcox and seconded by Wood to approve the November 23, 2009 meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES (Continued)
Urban Renewal Agency
December 14, 2009
Page 2

ACTION ITEMS

Approve Recommendation Regarding Downtown/Riverfront Connection Project - Events/Festival Area Design

Community Development Director Durow reviewed the staff report. He provided drawings of the proposed area and said the festival area would be used for special events, markets, and perhaps concerts for the community.

In response to a question regarding the future expansion of the wastewater treatment plant, City Manager Young said there was no plan in the next 20 to 40 years to expand into the festival area.

It was moved by Ahier and seconded by Dick to approve the festival area preferred alternative as recommended by the Washington Street Downtown Riverfront Connection Task Force and Urban Renewal Advisory Committee and direct staff to advise KPFF to proceed with completion of the design and engineering plans.

Wilcox expressed concern regarding the design, saying it appeared to be an area that might be heavily used by skateboarders. He asked that the design consider deterrents to skateboarding.

Wood asked if the area would have high visibility to help avoid vandalism. Durow said it would be very visible from many locations.

Chair Lesich said the Agency was not receiving copies of the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee meeting minutes. She said it would be helpful to the Agency if they could read the minutes prior to meetings to have a better understanding of the discussions that took place at the advisory committee level.

Ahier asked if urban renewal funds would be used to help with the construction of the skate park being considered by the Parks and Recreation District. City Manager Young said that was not included in the current Urban Renewal Plan.

Young said he would ask the Parks and Recreation District to provide a report on the skate park progress at a future City Council meeting.

The motion to approve the festival area preferred alternative as recommended by the Washington Street Downtown Riverfront Connection Task Force and Urban Renewal Advisory Committee and direct staff to advise KPFF to proceed with completion of the design and engineering plans was voted on and carried unanimously.

MINUTES (Continued)
Urban Renewal Agency
December 14, 2009
Page 3

Design Selection for Railroad Underpass at East First and Washington Streets

Community Development Director Durow reviewed the staff report, noting the recommendation of the Task Force and Advisory Committee was Option B.

It was moved by Ahier and seconded by Wilcox to select Option B for the design of the railroad underpass at East First and Washington Streets. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Submitted by/
Julie Krueger, MMC
City Clerk

SIGNED: 
Nikki L. Lesich, Chair

ATTEST: 
Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk