



CITY OF THE DALLES
Columbia Gateway Urban Renewal Advisory Committee
Minutes

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

5:30 PM

City Hall Council Chambers

313 Court Street

The Dalles, OR 97058

Conducted in a handicap accessible room.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ericksen called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present members: Dan Ericksen, Jesse Birge, Ken Farner, Chris Zukin, Diana Bailey, Gary Grossman (5:35), Bill Dick (5:35)

Absent members: Benjamin Hoey, Dick Elkins

Staff present: Gene Parker, City Attorney, Denise Ball, Planning Tech., Eric Nerdin, Consultant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Ericksen led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Jesse Birge moved to approve the agenda and Ken Farner seconded. The motion carried unanimously, Hoey and Elkins absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Ericksen asked if there were any corrections or additions needed for the minutes of November 17, 2009. Ken Farner moved to approve the minutes as submitted and Chris Zukin seconded the motion. The motion carried, Birge abstaining, Hoey and Elkins absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ACTION ITEM/RECOMMENDATION

Property Rehab. Grant and Loan -- Civic Improvements Grant Program

Application from Wonderworks Children's Museum

Eric Nerdin presented the Staff Report regarding the Wonderworks Children's Museum grant request. This was the only application received by the January 31st deadline.

Ken Farner pointed out that he is on the Port of The Dalles board but has no personal involvement with or personal gain from the Wonderworks grant request. City Attorney Parker determined that Mr. Farner would be allowed to participate in the discussion and recommendation. Chair Ericksen declared that he was a past Board member of Wonderworks but felt he would not be biased.

Diana Bailey asked why the Port of The Dalles is the owner of the building and Ken Farner said the Port of The Dalles Board was asked to help financially and did so.

Chris Zukin said he is in favor of the grant request by Wonderwork's and said Wonderwork's does a fantastic job. Zukin added that he would like to see more matching funds even though it is not part of the grant requirements.

Anne Kelly, representing Wonderworks, told the Committee members that they do use the local Urban Renewal Grant funds for match and leverage when applying for other grants. Paul Lindberg presented a color concept drawing of the proposed improvements this grant will be used for and gave a brief overview of the project.

Chair Ericksen closed the public testimony and asked for discussion. The Committee members were in agreement that the grant request will provide a great benefit to the appearance of The City and re-use and restore a blighted building.

Bill Dick moved to recommend that the Urban Renewal Agency approve the request for a \$35,387.00 grant as submitted, contingent upon obtaining required permits related to the renovation activities listed in Phase I. Chris Zukin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, Hoey and Elkins absent.

The Agency will meet on March 15, 2010 at 5:30 pm to make a decision on the grant award.

ON-GOING PROJECTS

City Attorney Parker gave a brief update on some of the on-going projects.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 16, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ball, Planning Tech.



Dan Ericksen, Chair