MINUTES
Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency
Board of Commissioners – March 17, 2016

Commissioners Present	Carletta Thompson, M.D., Chairman Derald Polston, Vice-Chair Doug Dykeman Linda Barbeau
Commissioners Absent	John McNeill, D.D.S.
Staff Present	Julie Baird Michael Bulloch Mary Holton Cindy Lopez Tommy Roberts Karen Walker
Others Present	Samantha Chang

1. **Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Vice-Chair Derald Polston, and there being a quorum, the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

2. **Approval of the February 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes**
A motion was made by Commissioner Barbeau and seconded by Commissioner Dykeman to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Dykeman asked that a spelling correction be made. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

3. **Possible Funding Sources for City of Farmington Downtown Revitalization Complete Streets Project**
Mr. Bulloch said he would e-mail a power point presentation and proposal to the Commissioners regarding a $5-million grant application for the Complete Streets Project from New Mexico Fund It.

Mayor Tommy Roberts introduced Samantha Chang to the Commissioners. Ms. Chang is a high school senior at Farmington High School and is in the San Juan Mentoring Program. Mayor Roberts is mentoring Ms. Chang for a few weeks. She is interested in the projects the MRA is working on such as the Complete Streets Project. Ms. Chang

stated she has been accepted at NYU in their Global Liberal Studies program. Her interests include Politics, Rights and Development, and Macro Economics.

4. **Discussion and Approval for Recommendation for ZC 16-02, San Juan Regional Medical Center Solar Array**
This discussion was tabled by Mary Holton due to possible changes and will be brought back to the Commissioners at a later time.

5. **Discussion and Approval for Recommendation for PP 16-03 Cannery Subdivision**
Ms. Holton explained Petition PP 16-03 is a Preliminary Plan from Pat Messerli, represented by Cheney-Walters-Echols, Inc., for a lot split for 8.70 acres located at Cannery Court and Nelson Avenue. It will include the extension of Nelson Avenue to Broadway and is going to the Planning & Zoning Commission on March 24, 2016.

Chair Thompson arrived at 4:09.

6. **Downtown Association Updates-Shaña Reeves**
Ms. Reeves was unable to attend and Mr. Bulloch presented the Downtown Association Updates.

Mr. Bulloch stated the New Mexico Main Street Association has begun a program that prioritizes or categorizes projects in each Main Street corridor. It is called the Building Pipeline and includes three pipelines of building projects and business development projects. The three pipelines are Building Project, Existing Business, and Business Target. The pipeline project is a tool to identify roadblocks and possible funding sources.

The Building Project is for new buildings or a remodel of an existing building. The Farmington Downtown Association has selected 119 W. Main as its first Building Project to show how a new business can use an existing building.

For an Existing Business Project, Karen Ellsbury's shop at 116 W. Main was selected. Ms. Ellsbury is interested in expanding the building into the back parking lot with an enclosed patio space. This project will demonstrate how an existing business benefits by utilizing different strategies.

The Business Target Project is intended for highlighting business recruitment. Zia Taqueria Mexican Restaurant was chosen for this pipeline.

Mr. Bulloch reminded the Commissioners that the New Mexico Main Street Spring Webinar Series begins March 29, 2016 at noon and can be viewed at the MPO office at 100 W. Broadway.

Mr. Bulloch mentioned that the Chili Pod restaurant is now open and encouraged the Commissioners to visit.

7. **Business From:**
   a. **Floor** – There was no business from the Floor.

b. **Chair** – There was no business from the Chair.

c. **Members** – Commissioner Polston welcomed Doug Dykeman, the new MRA Commissioner.

Commissioner Barbeau inquired as to where things were as far as funding for the bathrooms at the Native American Museum. Mr. Bulloch stated that he had not heard anything from the Parks Department recently about the issue.

Commissioner Barbeau asked if Main Street would be closed for the upcoming ArtWalk. Mr. Bulloch said Main would not be closed but some of the side streets might be closed. At this time, more artist booths, bands, and food vendors will need to be involved to justify closing Main Street. The ArtWalk Committee is working toward a Street Fair environment for future ArtWalk's. Ms. Barbeau asked if Main Street could be narrowed if it could not be closed. Mr. Bulloch stated that he would talk to the Traffic Department to see what the logistics would be for narrowing Main Street. Mr. Bulloch mentioned that the ArtWalk is typically the 2nd Friday of each month.

Commissioner Polston asked where the Public Works Department was as far as removing the traffic lights at three intersections on Main Street. Mr. Bulloch explained that some people were concerned about safety if the lights were removed. Cindy Lopez noted that the Public Works Director, David Sypher, will be presenting the elimination of the traffic lights to City Council soon.

Ms. Lopez said she will be going to Albuquerque March 22, 2016 with Shaña Reeves and Michael Bulloch to present to the Fund It Association. Ms. Lopez mentioned that she has drafted a letter for Mayor Roberts to invite the Historic Preservation Society to Farmington sometime during the week of April 18-22, 2016.

Ms. Lopez also stated that a recent quote from Souder, Miller and Associates (SMA) has been received to write a TIGER Grant for the construction of Phase 1 of the Complete Streets Project. Ms. Lopez explained the TIGER Grant is a Federal Highway of Transportation grant for promoting walkability and sustainability. The estimate from SMA is to write the grant.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Capital Improvement fund was discussed at the City Council Work Session on March 15, 2016. Ms. Lopez informed the Commissioners that money from that fund may be allocated as a loan to the Complete Streets Project and has a 20 year period to be paid back. City Council has requested more information on the loan possibilities.

The Commissioners discussed putting together a presentation for the Historic Preservation Society to help them understand the history of Farmington and to convey the needs that the downtown area would like to see for usability and feasibility for today's community. Cindy Lopez said she will keep them involved through e-mail.

d. **Staff**- There was no business from Staff.

8. **Adjournment:**
A motion was made by Commissioner Polston and seconded by Commissioner Barbeau to adjourn. The Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Carletta Thompson, Chair

Karen Walker, Administrative Assistant