



MINUTES

Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners – May 17, 2022 Held in the Executive Conference Room at 800 Municipal Dr., Farmington NM

Members Present: John McNeill, D.D.S. – Chair
Jill Tanis – Vice Chair
Doug Dykeman – Commissioner

Members Absent: Elizabeth McNally – Commissioner

Staff Present: Beth Escobar
Warren Unsicker
Tami Spencer

Staff Absent: Karen Lupton

Others Present: None

1. Call to Order

Chair McNeill called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m., Vice Chair Tanis and Commissioner Dykeman in attendance. There being a quorum the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

2. Approval of the April 19, 2022 Minutes

A motion was made by Vice Chair Tanis and seconded by Commissioner Dykeman to approve the minutes of April 19, 2022, and upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously 3-0.

3. Animas Area/Healthcare District plan RFP Status Update

Planning Manager Escobar informed the Commission she had gotten the requisition entered. Purchaser Sharron Rowe is prepared to get the bid document published, hopefully by the end of the week. Ms. Escobar also shared she attended a meeting with the MPO on a bid request for a bike plan that had one response. It came in \$50,000.00 over what was estimated. Ms. Escobar thinks the previous discussions that this is going to cost more than the Commission originally thought is correct. This bid will be posted at \$100,000.00. Sometimes you have to weigh quality and cost, and she is hoping there will be some response. Chair McNeil feels the bids will be twice that amount.

Planning Manager Escobar stated a bidder would need to be committed. It is an online process; there are various sections that will need to be completed and documents that will need to be submitted. She is hoping this plan will capture the bidder's imagination. That is an advantage with this kind of project.

Chair McNeill asked if there is a way to make the bid process easier for bidders. Ms. Escobar replied the bid process follows state guidelines and we are subject to state regulations.

Chair McNeill reached out to different companies that do this sort of thing, they responded immediately and wanted him to send the RFP out to them. Planning Manager Escobar wanted Chair McNeill to get her those names and she would work with them to get them on the vendors list. He also urged the Commissioners and Staff, if they knew of any urban developers, who may be interested to get them on the vendors list too.

Vice Chair Tanis asked what the bidding window would be. Planning Manager Escobar replied it is usually 30 days.

4. Main Street Advisory Board Business – Karen Lupton

Ms. Lupton is attending the National Main St. Conference. Director of Economic Development Director Warren Unsicker stated after Ms. Lupton attends this conference and completes one more webinar she will officially be a Certified Director as per the stated requirements.

Mr. Unsicker updated the Commission; the Connect Space at 203 W. Main St. hosted some Small Business Week events, including two open houses. The first one was a meet and greet for the public to come in and see what they had to offer. The second was for all Main St. business owners to connect with each other. He added there was a downtown cleanup, which will be happening quarterly.

Mr. Unsicker mentioned a few of the new businesses downtown, The Alchemist, a new cannabis dispensary: The Mod Shop, a woman's apparel store: and The Screen Door Needleworks Shop will be opening later this summer. Locke Street Eats hosted their grand opening on May 7th, with a live band.

Vice Chair Tanis noted an out of town visitor from Taos, was impressed with what the City had going on downtown. Mr. Unsicker added he is hearing the same from people who have, and are looking to retire in Farmington.

5. City Staff Updates – Warren Unsicker

Mr. Unsicker added that in the MRA District the Desert River Guides hosted a river cleanup. There seems to be a lot more community involvement, which is exciting to see, people taking pride in their community.

6. Business From

Floor – There was no business from the Floor.

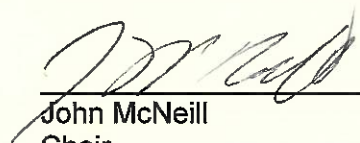
Chair – There was no business from the Chair.

Members – There was no business from the members.


Staff – There was no business from Staff.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Dykeman and seconded by Vice Chair Tanis to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously 4-0. The Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.



John McNeill
Chair



Tami Spencer
Administrative Assistant