

# Minutes

## Urban Renewal Advisory Commission

Council Chambers, 898 Elk Drive

Thursday, March 11, 2010

**Call to Order:** Chair Chasar called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

**Present:** Commission members: Pete Chasar, Donna Cramer, Joyce Tromblee, Rick Bishop, Dan Nachel, Kim Banfield and Don Nuss. Staff members: Executive Director Gary Milliman and Building Official LauraLee Gray. Also attending were Judi Krebs and Council Liaison Jake Pieper.

**Minutes/Last Meeting:** February 11, 2010 minutes accepted.

### **Regular Agenda:**

***Discussion of request for financial assistance from Curry General Hospital Health District:*** Consensus was that this project does not benefit the Urban Renewal Agency as it will remove taxable property from the Urban Renewal area inventory, and therefore should not be financially supported. **Joyce Tromblee moved, the motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous to deny the request.**

***Discussion of URAC Needs/Potential Projects list:*** Top priorities were:

- Installation of a picnic table at the City parking lot across from the theater
- Downtown parking & visitors center/kiosk: discussion included the possibility of exchanging the Alder Street property for more centrally located property and the slightly lower priority of developing a visitors center or kiosk at the location along with RV parking.
- Development of the Hillside Avenue triangle park; it was suggested that Judy Lopez be contacted about obtaining a piece by Manual Lopez to be used as a centerpiece; the Commission determined that the Parks and Recreation Committee should be involved in the development of this property
- Additional top priorities were determined to be out of the realm of the URA at this time, including the addition of a mural at the Natural Foods Store, painting of 603 Chetco, which would be better pursued under a façade improvement program, and window displays in vacant buildings, which should be organized by the downtown merchants. Other items discussed were creating new welcome signs and a pocket park at the property formerly owned by Gleason, and now the Stubbs

**Executive Director's Report:** Work continues on the downtown project; complications continue to slow progress at times.

### **Commission/Staff Comments:**

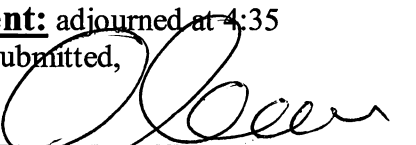
- Commissioner Nuss voiced concerns regarding lack of bike path progress and possible missed funding opportunities. Executive Director Milliman reported that work is progressing on a comprehensive bike plan, an ODOT requirement to secure funding; the plan will provide connectivity throughout the City. Nuss stated he was disappointed in City management for not implementing improvements on Railroad Street as called for in the downtown plan. Milliman stated that he takes direction from the URAC and URA on which projects to implement.
- Some Commissioners voiced complaints about conditions surrounding their businesses due to the downtown project. Complaints were that the project is not moving forward in a timely manner, that work is disrupting access at various locations and is creating unsafe conditions for the general public. Milliman stated he will look into these allegations.

**Next months meeting:** April 08, 2010

**Adjournment:** adjourned at 4:35

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by

  
(Signature- Chair or Vice Chair)

  
CHAIR  
(Print Name/Title)

on

  
(Date approved)

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON

6-28-10