

Minutes

City of Brookings

Urban Renewal Advisory Committee Meeting

April 12, 2007

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Pete Chasar in City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Chair Peter Chasar, Committee Members Donna Cramer, Ted Fitzgerald, Tony Parrish, Joyce Tromblee, Dan Nachel and Werner Buehler. City Staff Members: Ken Hobson, LauraLee Grey and Richard Christensen. Vicki Nuss and Rick Bishop also attended.

Minutes/Last Meeting: March 8, 2007 minutes, accepted as distributed.

Discussion: Richard Christensen presented a proposal for increasing the number of street trees, trash receptacles and benches along Chetco Ave between Oak and 5th. There was considerable discussion about the trees particularly around cost and viability of those already planted. In the end it was decided to wait through this summer before making a recommendation.

Richard was also asked to look at the feasibility of extending these streetscape amenities north of 5th on ODOT right-of-way. It was acknowledged that there were limitations due to sidewalk widths and power lines and the committee was not inclined at this time to pursue placement on private properties. This was scheduled as an agenda item for the meeting of May 10th.

Additional benches were discussed, but consensus was that existing benches could be relocated within this area to fill in any gaps. Dan Nachel moved, seconded by Donna Cramer, to recommend expenditure of up to \$9,000 for additional trash receptacles and concrete work needed for siting 2 benches (already in stock). Motion passed unanimously.

LauraLee Grey reviewed her inspection of Lighthouse Sporting Goods. She will follow up with the owner to resolve several completion issues prior to payment and will request compliance for an entrance that is ADA compatible. Babin's law offices also turned in paperwork for partial payment based on some work being completed. These projects raised concern about how the city should view work that was agreed upon and then not done without any change in the original agreement letter and the requirement for ADA accessibility. In the end, it was the consensus that changes, including any reduction to the original agreed upon scope, should come back for review and approval by the urban renewal agency. ADA compliance to be governed by the requirements of the building code and street numbering also be visible, per code.


Next on the agenda was a discussion of the public parking lot leased from Dr John Rush that expires in August. Direction from the committee was that this parking was valuable for the long term viability of downtown businesses, particularly once ODOT removes on-street parking along the highway. Werner Buehler moved, seconded by Ted Fitzgerald, to recommend to the Urban Renewal Agency entering into negotiations with the property owner for securing that parking lot for the long term. All voted in favor except for Tony Parrish.

The committee briefly discussed the possible meeting of the Maybeck Foundation in Brookings this fall and asked that Pete Chasar write a letter supporting that happening. It was seen as possibly a very exciting opportunity for the city.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Pete Chasar, Chair
(approved at 5/10/07 meeting)