



IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY

COLUMBIA GATEWAY URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

CITY OF THE DALLES

## **Columbia Gateway Urban Renewal Advisory Committee Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 21, 2003**

City Hall Council Chambers  
313 Court Street  
The Dalles, OR 97058

*Conducted in a handicap accessible room.*

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Dan Ericksen at 5:31 P.M.

### **ROLL CALL**

Administrative Secretary Denise Ball conducted roll call.

Present members: Dan Ericksen, Chris Zukin, Jack Evans, Nikki Lesich, Dick Elkins, and Ken Farner

Absent members: Randy Carter

Staff present: Nolan Young, City Manager, Gene Parker, City Attorney, Dan Durow, Community Development Director, Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ericksen lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

Ericksen asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. Farner requested that a discussion item regarding expiration on grants be added. Zukin moved to approve the agenda as amended and Lesich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Carter absent.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ericksen asked if there were any corrections or additions needed for the minutes of September 16, 2003. There were none. Farner moved to approve the minutes and Evans

seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Ericksen abstaining and Carter absent.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION**

Property Rehab. Grant and Loan Program – Expiration Date on Grants

Staff and Committee members discussed the need for an expiration date on the property rehabilitation grants. Parker suggested putting language in the grant agreement document that would spell out a time limit on the grant funding. Parker will bring a draft document to the Committee at the next meeting for review.

### **UPDATE-UP ITEMS**

**Item A – Union Street Under Pass** – Young advised the Committee that the ribbon cutting ceremony will be Wednesday, October 22, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.

Lesich said it looks beautiful.

Ericksen compared the project to the Commodore – one of those you dream about, think how nice it would be, but don't believe it will ever happen. Our City now has two highly improbable projects that came to fruition in a short time of each other. Without Urban Renewal they would never have been possible.

Elkins asked when the landscaping portion of the project would take place and Young said there is no specific timetable. Young went on to say that he expects to come before the Committee at the next meeting to request funds for rudimentary landscaping to plant grass and put in a basic irrigation system. A fence will be placed along the railroad tracks to protect people.

Durow said he has heard a myriad of positive comments on the direction the City and Urban Renewal have taken in downtown development.

Lesich said she had noticed some riverfront blight heading down the river towards Rowena.

Farner said he believes the sunken barge is to be moved by the end of this month. Also, the Mt. Fir Lumber site is in the clean-up process so the tires hanging over the riverbank should be removed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Recess to Executive Session** in Accordance with ORS 192.660(1)(e) to Conduct deliberations with persons designated by the Governing Body to Negotiate Real Property Transactions.

**Reconvene to Open Session** – Zukin moved to recommend to the Urban Renewal Agency that they direct Staff to proceed with negotiations for the potential purchase option for the Wasco Warehouse Milling Property. Also, recommend to the Urban Renewal Agency to proceed with a minor amendment to the Urban Renewal Plan. Evans seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Carter absent.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2003, at 5:30 P.M. Ericksen said he will not be able to attend but the rest of the Committee said they would be available.

**COMMITTEE COMMENTS/CONCERNS**

Lesich lodged a complaint about the property across from United Grocers, formerly the Boat Boys facility. They have moved from the site but left garbage, engines, etc. Lesich said they have moved to the rear portion of the Brace Brothers facility by Lumberman's. Parker said he would have a Code Enforcement officer look into it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary.



Chris Zukin, Acting Chair

