

**(NDRC) NEWBERG DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Newberg Public Safety Building - Newberg, Oregon
WEDNESDAY, January 19, 2005 AT 7 P.M.**

Minutes are subject to approval at the February 16, 2005 meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair John Bridges called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll call

Attending:

John Bridges	Kristin Horn
Emily Chlumak	John Estrem
Bart Rierson	

Absent: Dave Daniels Dave Mehler Lon Wall

3. Welcome to new NDRC members

4. Meeting Minutes - Approval of November 17, 2004 minutes

MOTION: RIERSON/HORN To approve minutes from November 17, 2004. (unanimous) motion passed.

5. Public Comment: None

6. Downtown Banner Project update

John Bridges – He described to new members the banner project presented to Council on January 3, 2005. Council approved the banners. They also approved a new city slogan to satisfy ODOT permit requirements.

David Beam – He has submitted the banner permit paperwork to PGE and is awaiting their approval. Once the PGE approval is given, then we can submit for the ODOT permit (through Russ Thomas.) Hopefully we'll have all the permits approved by the end of the month. We are gathering quotes for banner production. Goal to have them up by April.

Discussion of which banners will be up and at what times. And the summer banner design and grant funding.

Discussion of what classifies as the downtown area for information for new members.

7. Gateway grant application update

David Beam – He went to meeting the MWVACT in early December. Our grant application did not rate well at all with the selection committee.

John Bridges -- Is there anything we should address differently with that committee?

David Beam – A stronger local representation on the MWVACT would help for future grant applications.

John Bridges – When will the application be officially dead?

David Beam – We'll probably get a rejection letter in the spring.

John Bridges – Can we use not getting this grant as an argument to get ODOT to give us the gateway piece of land at the east end of downtown?

David Beam – No, I don't think it gives us a lot of leverage, given the restrictions of the Highway Trust Fund. Some of the best leverage we may have to get that property cheap is the fact that the land is contaminated.

John Bridges – Rotary has \$20,000 committed to that project to build the welcome sign. We need to find a way to make the project happen. Rotary may re-allocate those funds once we get the grant application rejection letter.

Discussion of the status of the gateway property at the eastern entrance to downtown.

Discussion of MWVACT committee

8. NDA/Cultural Coalition - new relationship

Kris Horn – NDA receive a grant for another set of banners in the amount of \$1500. To secure the match funds needed, John suggested that we contact the State's Cultural Coalition to see if we could become a qualified agency. We recently received a letter confirming that we were approved as a qualified agency. This will open the door for other project fund raisers down the road.

John Bridges – We should inquire about the additional grant monies that the County may have available from their Economic Development Grant Program. David said he would call Commissioner Stern and inquire of the grant program's status.

9. Former Chevrolet dealership site - public input on redevelopment

David Beam – The City Manager would like to ask if the NDRC could spearhead some public input on future use of the property. Mr. Bennett has made the request due to the many inquiries by the City Council. A Saturday workshop open to the general public would be one approach. Surveying the local service clubs is another approach. We want input that is from as broad a spectrum of the community as possible.

Discussion was held as to when this needs process needs to be done and how it should be approached. We need to include a certain amount of background information about the property to start with. Possible forums would be in conjunction with some of the regular community events. First Friday comes up in the time frame needed. If done in that kind of setting you would have to present the land use ideas to be voted on. Saturday meetings don't get much attendance. A self-service presentation at someplace like Fred Meyer might work. These only work if the project is already defined. Maybe the best forum would be to present to the service clubs.

Discussion covered how there is a lack of interest in the community. Another idea was to hold the public event on site in July. Like a block party. David will relay the two options back to the City Manager and see what option he would prefer the NDRC pursue. If the block party option is chosen, the City would need to provide some financial assistance for the effort.

10. Civic Corridor Survey - presentation schedule

John Bridges – John reviewed for the new members the purpose of the survey. He then presented the display boards and how they were used in the PowerPoint presentation. John and David agreed that the presentation went well and was highly attended. David handed out a sheet that describes the survey results from that meeting.

David Beam – He said that he is talking with the City IT people about getting the survey up on the City's website. David said he will contact John, Kris and Joan Drabkin to develop a schedule for all the other survey presentations.

Kris Horn – She agreed to present to the Chamber Forum.

11. Other business
- NDRC member openings.

David Beam – Tom Vondrachek's sister has submitted an application. Her name is Diane Ferante, Branch manager for Bank of America downtown.

- New downtown businesses
Blind Kelley's closed. Business was good, but the owner wanted to go skating.
New law firm in old Ben Franklin Building. Retail space is still available in the front.
Coffee Cottage expansion is going well.
Final Touches has rented the building on northwest corner of First and Blaine Street
Soapy Bear soon to open (Kris and Barry Horn, owners) where Creamy Soaps was.

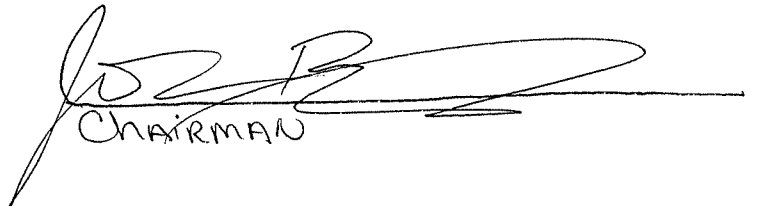
David Beam – Mentioned that a consultant has been selected to help the City develop an airport master plan for Sportsman Airpark.

12. Next Meeting - February 16, 2005

13. Adjourn @ 8:40p.m.



Recording Secretary



CHAIRMAN