



Urban Renewal Agency Minutes

Monday, May 14, 2018, 12:00 PM

Council Chambers
203 Main Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho

Members: Chairman Dan Brizee, Vice Chairman Dexter Ball, Secretary Neil Christensen, Perri Gardner, Suzzane Cawthra, Rudy Ashenbrener, Cindy Bond

1) Confirmation of Quorum/Call Meeting to Order

Present: Dan Brizee, Dexter Ball, Perri Gardner, Rudy Ashenbrener and Cindy Bond.

Absent: Neil Christensen and Suzzane Cawthra.

Staff Present: Nathan Murray, Economic Development Director; Jesse Schuerman, Engineer; Brent Hyatt, Assistant Finance Officer; Lorrie Bauer, Recording Secretary; Fritz Wonderlich, City Attorney; Jonathan Spendlove, Zoning & Development Manager.

Chairman Brizee called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM. A quorum was present.

2) Consideration of Amendment(s) to the Agenda

None.

3) Consent Calendar

- a) Request to approve 1) Minutes for April 9, 2018 meeting; 2) Minutes for April 20, 2018 special meeting; 3) April 2018 Financial Report; 4) May 2018 Accounts Payable.

MOTION: Perri Gardner moved to approve the consent calendar. Rudy Ashenbrener seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 5 to 0.

4) Reports/Updates

- a) Executive Director's Report

Nathan verbalized his report that was included in the agenda packet. He added that the asbestos report for 160 Main Ave shows a few places where asbestos must be professionally removed.

- b) Downtown Arts Subcommittee Update

Leon Smith expressed appreciation to the board for their interest in downtown art. He explained the subcommittee consists of eight members in which five of them took part in a selection committee. He shared that art for the Downtown Commons mural area (6) and electrical boxes (5) have been selected from submissions to the Call for Artists. The artists have

been notified and a press release has been drafted for board approval. Perri Gardner presented the selections. All board members present were in favor of the art selections. Leon shared they are currently in the process of getting prices from Lytle Signs for the production and installation; early estimate is \$14,000. The total amount due to the artists is \$7,750. These costs will come out of the previously designated budget amount for downtown art. The life expectancy of the murals is 5-10 years. The goal is to have the art installed by July 6th for the ribbon cutting.

The members of the Downtown Arts Subcommittee have received suggestions for additional art projects and will gather more information before communicating.

5) Items of Consideration

None.

6) General Input/Announcements - Public/Staff

- a) Downtown Historic District in relation to the old Idaho Department Store building. Nathan Murray explained that after this board made a decision last meeting to choose a developer for 160 Main, people from the historic preservation community reached out about the building and its significance to the community. Architect Fred Walters of the Idaho Heritage Trust reached out and offered to do a walk through. His verbal opinion was that there was nothing significant worth saving from a historical standpoint inside the building. The only thing that might be worth saving is the exterior, but until the facade is removed, which could cause damage, it is unknown. He shared the foundation could be saved for a half million dollars, or more. Nathan shared that there is currently talk and negotiating with the selected developer, but nothing concrete at this time.

Paul Smith shared that he objects to the decision to destroy the Idaho Department Store building. He explained his reason. He asked the URA to spend the money to remove the metal from the outside and communicate with the historic committees to make a joint decision of its condition. Nathan summarized the findings from Mr. Walters' letter that Mr. Smith supplied. Chairman Brizee thanked Mr. Smith for his contribution.

Other comments:

Ron Yates asked what the intent was for the purchase of the building and Nathan Murray replied. Mr. Yates explained his opposition and felt it was not a wise use of resource. Ken Fitzgerald explained his interest in the revitalization of historic downtown and asked that the metal be removed from the building and inspected prior to committing to demolition.

- b) Appoint a Budget Committee to review the 2018-2019 Budget
Chairman Brizee appointed Cindy Bond, Dexter Ball and Rudy Ashenbrener. Brent Hyatt will schedule a meeting at a later date.

7) Upcoming Meeting(s)

a) Monday, June 11, 2018 @ 12:00 p.m.

8) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 01:16 PM.



Lorrie Bauer, Recording Secretary