

Rainier Economic Development Council
City Hall ~ Rainier, Oregon
Regular Meeting ~ June 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Terry Grice, at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call - Present

Jennifer Dennis, Treasure Dearl Taylor, Secretary Tim Navarro, Vice Chair
Shirley Bartholomew Terry Grice, Chair

Absent -

Paul Rice, excused Rob Piercy, excused

Rob Piercy was appointed by the City Council at their last meeting.

Visitors comments -

Judith Taylor has completed the bids for the Marina Restrooms/picnic area project. Cascade Finish Carpentry was awarded the bid for the project with a bid of \$13,290 to complete the project. The bid includes installing an exterior fountain on the side adjacent to A Street.

Sloan Nelson has donated two Georgia Pacific paper towel dispensers for the restrooms.

The Rainier Sign Company will provide signage for a cost of \$290 for restrooms to include a sign stating the restoration was provided courtesy of REDCO & the City of Rainier. This brings the total cost of the Marina Restroom/picnic project to a total cost of \$13,580.

Terry Grice informed the council Paul Rice would like the city guarantee the facility would not be removed in a couple of years if REDCO completes the repairs to the restrooms. Judith said the City could not guarantee this. Upcoming changes to A street could affect the restrooms.

Jennifer Dennis voiced her concerns about vandalism. Maintenance of the restrooms and picnic area will be done by the city crew. Since Judith is on the City Council she intends to oversee the maintenance. With restrooms open 24 hours, there is a concern about vandalism. A sign will be posted on the restrooms giving the 911 non-emergency phone number to contact.

Terry Grice asked if she had checked with 911 to see if they want their phone number posted on the building. Judith will check with Chief Painter to see what number to use on the sign.

Jennifer Dennis made a motion to approve the marina restroom project for \$13,580. Shirley Bartholomew seconded the motion, motion carried by unanimous vote of the council.

Approval of minutes -

Tim Navarro made a motion to approve the May 14, 2009 minutes. Dearl Taylor seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

Unfinished business -

The sign for the marina, Columbia River Boaters Guide, if no longer available. Mr. Sherwin did not hear from the City so it was not placed at the marina. The offer for advertisement will be renewed in two years and he will contact REDCO at that time.

Spruce Up - Clean up - Terry Grice suggested this be taken to the City Council and REDCO would support the advisory board. This isn't a REDCO role, rather the City should have oversight. Dearl made a motion to forward this to city council for their consideration. Shirley seconded the motion. It carried by a unanimous vote.

A Street Plaza parking lot - Gravel was delivered to the A Street Plaza parking lot for the City to spread to make repairs and fill holes. REDCO's cost for the gravel was \$200.

City Wide Cleanup - Bill Potter has not returned Terry Deaton's calls and emails about the city clean up day. She will continue to attempt to contact him. While in St. Helens tomorrow she will stop by his office.

Wetland Mitigation Bank -

The wetland mitigation bank meeting received an excellent attendance with 45 - 50 business owners, property owners, realtors, interested parties, REDCO & City council members. Jennifer explained the wetland mitigation bank process to the Council and how it related to the city, businesses and property owners. She felt it was very informative and she learned a lot from the meeting.

Check signers -

The election of a new officer requires a new authorization for signers on the REDCO bank accounts. Terry Grice explained the Band of America's check signers resolution. Tim Navarro made a motion to authorize the REDCO officers to sign on the bank accounts. Jennifer Dennis seconded the motion to adopt this resolution for the bank. The motion passed by unanimous vote. All REDCO officers are signers on the accounts.

Dearl Taylor asked about plaques for previous council members. Terry Deaton has not found the invoice for the previous plaques. She will check trophies companies in the area.

New Business

Shirley Bartholomew said Janet Wright received a grant of \$26,000 for the Columbia County Rider facility. One problem they have encountered is they can't change the sign. Lars said the sign doesn't comply with the city's sign ordinance. They are welcome to apply for a variance to change the sign. They haven't followed up. As soon as they apply for the change the city will work with them. The variance process is required by all business owners. If they wish to make changes to their sign that does not comply with the sign ordinances, they may apply to the planning commission for a variance.

Terry Grice announced next Thursday is the REDCO Budget Hearing. It requires a quorum so plan to attend. There will be a real quick session afterwards to officially adopt the budget.

Dearl Taylor explained at the last city council meeting something was said in the executive session that ended up in the newspaper. He cautioned REDCO council members to be sure not to discuss executive session information after a session is over. Lars Gare, City Administrator, recommended REDCO to have a short session to read the rules when you first go into executive session.

Jennifer Dennis encouraged all REDCO members to really look at the wetland bank as a means to promote economic development. It could help land owners, businesses, the city and add some balance to our tax base. This is a "big deal" and I would really encourage everyone to attend meetings and do research online about wetland mitigation banks. Lars explained this addresses property located in the West Rainier industrial and commercial area. We do not want this cost to come out of the citizens of Rainier's pocket. Foss had to mitigate their property and they are using the Rainier waterfront by Fox Creek for their mitigation.

Jennifer added, projects like this only costs us our time and attention - it doesn't cost us anything. This is an opportunity for REDCO to shine. The wetland mitigation company was very aggressive about some business leads and contacting some companies while they were here.

Terry Deaton asked REDCO to set up an account for petty cash for office supplies. Tim Navarro made the motion to setup a petty cash fund in the amount of \$100. Shirley Bartholomew seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote. Jennifer said from a treasures point she wants to reconcile the petty cash each month. Terry Deaton asked her to also sign off on the reconciliation of the bank accounts and for bank transfers.

Accounts payable -

Jennifer Dennis made the motion to approved the accounts payable in the amount of \$15,580. Shirley Bartholomew seconded the motion and it carried.

comments from audience -

Judith Taylor thanked REDCO for their cooperation on the marina restrooms project.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Terry Grice, Chair

Terry Deaton, REDCO Staff Administrator

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