

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Board of Directors

Minutes of April 15, 2009*

Present: Cathy Carson, Jesse Helm, Bob Ide, Drew Perkins, Kermit Wille and Tina Wulf and downtown business owners' Chris Navarro and Dino Volpi.

Excused: Liz Becher, Peggy Brooker, Toni Lussier, Dick Munroe, Kate Sarosy, Randy Pryde

Resigned: Ron Wright

- I. **City Report** - Nuszer Kopatz Urban Design Associates – Casper Streets Enhancement Study update from Mark Kopatz and associates Brian & Kelly.

Also present: City Manager Tom Forslund and Leah Reeb, MPO.

Study recommendations which impact downtown:

- One-way couplets converted to two-ways
- Go back to parallel parking along Center, Wolcott, Durbin to allow for bike lanes or street “diets” (narrowing to allow for wider sidewalks, which are more pedestrian-friendly)
- Shifting parking yields 65 more parking spots in downtown
- Collins down from 5 lanes to 3 with bike lanes, wider sidewalks, streetscape similar to rest of downtown – all to encourage traffic calming & development along Collins (currently a raceway!)
- Close the 5th St. “leg” of the intersection at Center, Collins & 5th turn west end into a gateway/parkway into downtown paired with parking all along 5th to Wolcott.
- Bob recommended turning “A” Street into two-lane and put parallel parking between Wolcott and Durbin on both sides to make up the loss of parking on N. Wolcott if it becomes a two-way street. This hadn't been considered but was well received by the City and Study group.
- Tom asked the DDA BOD to consider working with the City on holding off on the Center Street Redevelopment Project to begin work on Collins first – as the need is greater for redevelopment there. Chairman Perkins agreed to take it to the entire board for consideration.

- II. **Call to Order** – Chairman Drew Perkins called the regular April Board meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

III. **Public Comment** - none

IV. **Approval of March 11, 2009 Minutes**

Motion, Second, Passed (MSP) (Jesse Helm, Cathy Carson) with absentee votes in favor from Peggy Brooker and Randy Pryde.

V. **Financial Report**

Chairman Perkins highlighted the March expenditures, most of which were normal operating costs, save for the \$1,962.50 final awning payment and \$3,000 pigeon control expenditure.

VI. **Approval of March Financial Report**

Motion, Second, Passed (MSP) (Bob Ide, Kermit Wille) with absentee votes in favor from Peggy Brooker and Randy Pryde.

VII. **Director's Report**

Report attached.

VIII. **New Business**

Resignation - Chairman Perkins noted Ron Wright accepted a promotion as President of Platte Valley Bank – a move that relocated him out of the district. He therefore reigned. Drew asked the Board to consider replacements, be it from Bank of the West, Wells Fargo, or John Johnson who asked to be considered upon availability.

WYOSIP Rates – Jesse asked the Board to consider moving WYOSIP funds into a slightly higher yielding account at First Interstate called a “NOW” account. The WYOSIP rate for the month of March dropped from a high of 0.30% on March 2nd to a low of 0.16% on March 31st. The “NOW” account guarantees a 0.35% rate and should rates go up above that rate, the funds could be switched back into the WYOSIP account. Kermit said he thought it could be done without transfer charges or penalties.

Motion, Second, Abstention (MSA) (Cathy Carson, Jesse Helm, Kermit Wille). Chairman Perkins tabled the vote due to a lack of a quorum until an E-Vote could be taken.

Bylaw Work Session – Mary Randolph cancelled due to death in her family. She did forward three sample sets of bylaws, which Tina compared and contrasted to the DDA bylaws. She distributed copies of a draft Amended and Restated Bylaws for the Board to review and submit comments on at the May 13th Board meeting.

IX. **Old Business**

NIC Sponsorships – At the March 11th Board meeting, NIC representatives requested sponsorships for NIC Fest and Wednesday Night Live Concerts. Per the Executive Board recommendation, the Board agreed to

sponsor the NIC Fest for \$3,500 and \$1,000 for a Wednesday Night Live Concert for a total \$4,500 sponsorship. The Board asked Tina to visit with the NIC and the DMPA to see if the DMPA would commit \$2,500 for NIC Fest to help fund the Cabiri Performing Troupe. With this sponsorship, they would walk downtown on their stilts along 2nd St. and then back to the "Joy of Life" unveiling & dedication at 4:30 p.m. Following that, they would lead attendees across 2nd to the NIC for the official opening concert of NIC Fest 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion, Second, Passed (MSP) (Kermit Wille, Bob Ide) with absentee votes in favor from Peggy Brooker and Randy Pryde.

The Board agreed to meet next month, May 13th, at The Wolcott Galleria, 136 S. Wolcott Street. Please go to the door north of Nora Fagan's Jewelry shop and up to the second floor.

X. Chairman Perkins **adjourned** the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Wulf, Executive Director

* A compact disc recording of this meeting has been placed in the DDA Minutes. The CD can be played using both DR-02 Software, Real Play and Windows Media Player.