



MINUTES
Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency
Board of Commissioners
August 15, 2023
4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jill Tanis – Chair
Doug Dykeman – Vice Chair
Ruth Brooks – Commissioner
Tara Taylor – Commissioner

Members Absent: Beth McNally – Commissioner

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jill Tanis at 4:00 p.m., and there being a quorum of members present, the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jill Tanis wanted the minutes of the July 18, 2023 regular meeting to reflect that the consensus of the commission was to postpone the Brownsfield grant application until 2024. The commission was amicable to the amendment. Doug Dykeman moved to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2023 regular meeting as amended. Tara Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. **ONGOING BUSINESS**

Warren Unsicker, Economic Development Director, gave a brief update on the Animas Action Plan. Sites Southwest presented Warren with some interim deliverables for review and are working on the final draft plan.

4. **CITY STAFF UPDATES**

Warren Unsicker discussed the State's changes to the MRA Incentive Program and how it affects recent applications for economic assistance. The City's Legal department is reviewing both the State's Incentive Program Requirements and the current applications and will advise the Mayor and Council if there are any options for the City to be able to approve existing requests at this time. Warren also gave an economic development update on some businesses downtown, including Starbucks and The Mod Shop. Warren addressed a question from Tara Taylor regarding downtown businesses that are for sale and if/how the City is able to help.

Beth Escobar, Planning Administrator, said the draft International Property Maintenance Code has been postponed indefinitely. David Sypher, Community Works Director, discussed some of the processes for sidewalk development and repairs.

Shaña Reeves, Assistant City Manager, provided information on the Main Street capital outlay process and some Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (“ICIP”) projects. She also mentioned that the City will be discontinuing the TGIF events and shared some details about the New Mexico Municipal League annual conference, which the City is hosting at the end of August.

5. MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD BUSINESS

Karen Lupton, Downtown Coordinator, shared a draft of the annual workplan for the commission to review and asked for any questions or comments before the next meeting. She will work on scheduling a separate meeting for the review process.

Karen gave a brief update on a couple of downtown businesses, including The Watermelon Seed and a new cannabis shop. She also discussed upcoming events, including the 4x4 Downtown Takeover, the Southwest Apple & Chile Fest, Road Apple Rally, and the Balloon Rally.

6. NEW BUSINESS – None.

7. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – At the request of Jill Tanis, Shaña Reeves provided clarification regarding the ICIP request for funding for the Palmer House.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.



Jill Tanis, Chair



Kay Rose, Liaison