

Minutes of the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency

September 13, 2010

Present: Chair Sharon Hobart-Hardin, T. J. Brooker, Marion Esty, Darrell Carman and Sandra Larson

Staff: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Shauna Hartz, Finance Director; Brian Issa, Community Services Director; Kyle Schauer, Public Works Superintendent; Zac Moody, Assistant Planner; and Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sharon Hobart-Hardin called the Urban Renewal Agency meeting to order at 8:21 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: T. J. Brooker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Sandra Larson seconded the motion.

VOTE: Marion Esty, aye; Darrell Carman, aye; Chair Sharon Hobart-Hardin, aye; Sandra Larson, aye; and T. J. Brooker, aye.

The Consent Agenda was approved including Minutes for July 12, 2010.

4. Resolution 90 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNERS ON VARIOUS BANKING ACCOUNTS FOR THE VENETA URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO 89

Ric said Resolution 90 is required to add Shauna Hartz as a signer on the Urban Renewal Agency bank accounts.

MOTION: Darrell Carman made a motion to approve Resolution 90. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. VENETA TRANSIT CENTER UPDATE

Ric said this project is running a couple of weeks behind. The perimeter fence has been erected around the construction site. There is a large Poplar tree on the southwest corner of Our Daily Bread's (ODB) lot that could be impacted by the Transit Center construction. Brian, Zac, and Kyle have been working with property owners, restaurant owners, and Nathaniel Sperry of Sperry Tree Care who examined the tree and concluded that it more than likely will not survive removal of the large branch blocking the alley way.

Mr. Sperry indicated even though this is a large, mature tree it is not indigenous to the Fern Ridge area. After discussing the tree removal, it was the consensus of staff, the property and restaurant owners that the tree should be removed.

Nathaniel Sperry's report indicates the tree consists of three, large, solid trunks. In all likelihood when one trunk is removed it will change the weight distribution to the remaining two trunks and create a very unstable tree that could come down during heavy rain or wind.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Brian said if construction impacts a tree not on your property, you are required to mitigate the site. The landscaping plan for the Transit Center includes planting 22 trees. The City also offered ODB vouchers to purchase trees.

6. WEST BROADWAY UPDATE

This project is approximately three weeks from completion of the paved surface. Staff is hopeful the majority of the project will be completed for the Harvest Festival on the 25th. There was a significant change order required and staff is hopeful the worst is over and the project will be on budget and on time. The streetscape, lighting, and landscaping are still on schedule for completion by the end of the calendar year but staff would like to see the hardscaping done first.

In response to a question from Chair Hobart-Hardin, Ric said the timeline for the second round with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the Service Center would be as follows: Notified in April 2011 whether or not funds are awarded; May 2011 sign the contract for CDBG funds; September/October 2011 complete final design and engineering; December bids released; January 2012 construction begins.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Ric said the Fern Ridge School District currently doesn't have the funds to remodel the building occupied by the Garcia Center. Therefore, it looks like the Garcia Center can remain for another year.

In response to a question from Chair Hobart-Hardin, Zac said if the West Broadway Redevelopment project isn't completed for the Harvest Festival, it will likely move to the Broadway Park. The signage at West Broadway could stay on Territorial but point to East Broadway. A hard surface would certainly be beneficial.

7. OTHER

An issue that should have been discussed at the earlier City Council meeting is speed zones in the area. Sgt. Osborne and his deputies have brought the speed trailer back to Territorial Rd. at Veneta Elementary and are working hard to saturate the area with patrols now that school is back in session. Sgt. Osborne would like to suggest that automated flashing speed lights be installed at Veneta Elementary rather than just speed zone signs. The lights may provide more of an incentive for drivers to slow down.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Ric said ODOT makes the decision whether or not the flashing lights are necessary in a school zone and not the individual school district. Some cities may work together with the school district but the final decision is up to ODOT. Also, pedestrian crosswalks with flashing lights will be installed from East to West Broadway and Territorial for the Transit Center. Ric suggested getting the two pedestrian crosswalks with flashing lights installed to determine if one is needed further south towards Veneta Elementary.

8. ADJOURN

Chair Sharon Hobart-Hardin adjourned the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency at 8:36 p.m.

Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Chair

Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder