

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 21, 2022 REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PUEBLO CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Directors Present: Matt Cordova, Corinne Koehler, Dennis Maroney, Jerry Martin, Donna Phillips, Jim Pioreschi, Ron Serna, Paul Willumstad

Also Present: Attorney Joe Bower
Administrator Rick Kidd

Guests: Mike Cuppy, NorthStar Engineering
Cynthia Ramu, Mural Art Coordinator

The regular meeting of the Pueblo Conservancy District was called to order by President Koehler at 10:00 am.

Minutes: A quorum being present, the Minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Maroney and seconded by Serna to approve the minutes. The motion to approve the minutes was approved.

Public Forum:
None

Levee Mural Project:

Serna said that the City put out a request for mural proposals. Four were received. The City would like for the District to pre-approve or comment on the proposals. Then the City will hold a contest to select a City mural. One of the criteria is that it must contain the five flags of the predominant migrants to Pueblo. The intent is for the mural to be painted within the “historic” reach of the Levee. Martin moved to accept all four. Maroney seconded and the motion passed. Ramu said that she expects four or five submittals for consideration at the January meeting. Serna moved to accept and add Kim and Marissa to the Art Committee. The motion was approved.

Serna requested again that the artists be assessed a \$100 fee, which would be returned to them after cleanup is complete. He told the Board that Banner had said that he would put up the \$100 for a revolving fund. The money would return to him after the cleanup was completed.

Willumstad said that he did not think Banner should have to do this. Martin agreed. Ramu said she would talk to Banner about this and guideline revisions and bring it back to the Board at the January meeting.

Sculpture design requirements. Kidd is to send emails out to Ramu, the Board, and Eric McCue when NorthStar completes the recommended requirements.

City Pueblo Works Sculpture Proposal at Clark Street. Koehler said that Andrew Hayes has submitted a request for approval of a sculpture to be installed on the Levee at the end of Clark Street, near where the ramp comes up. He claims that this is within the City’s street right-of-way. Pioreschi said that he was concerned about this request because it is District property that is being affected, and he has a concern about the proposed location interfering with vehicle traffic that is to stay off of the concrete trail. He said that we should not allow the City to set a

precedent of claiming that areas where streets used to belong to the City. The Conservancy District acquired the properties where the Levee is built, the Levee belongs to the District, and the District has the responsibility to maintain the Levee for flood protection. Bower recommended that the District request a title search for such locations to ensure that the streets were transferred to the District. Koehler said that she will send a response to Hayes.

Treasurer's Report:

Prioreschi said that both October and November reports are included in the Board packets. Most of the District's funds are deposited at Stifel and Bank of the San Juans. There is currently a little over \$5.4M in investment and interest bearing accounts. Prioreschi said that there are bills totaling \$26,155.71 posted for payment this month. They appear appropriate and he has no further comment on them. Serna moved to receive and file the reports and pay the bills. Martin seconded and the motion passed.

The following bills were posted:

BSJ Operations and Maintenance Account:

\$ 500.00	MGPM, Monthly Accountant fees
\$ 500.00	B&B, PC, Attorney Fees
\$ 2,500.00	Kidd Engineering, Administrator/Engineer fees
\$ 612.50	Kidd Engineering, November Retreat preparation and attendance
\$ 262.50	Kidd Engineering, December 5 City of Pueblo Recreation Grant Meeting
\$ 1,500.00	Cynthia Ramu, Levee Mural Art Coordinator Fee
\$ 200.00	Cordova, Director's Fee
\$ 200.00	Elley, Director's Fee
\$ 500.00	Koehler, President's Fee
\$ 200.00	Maroney, Director's Fee
\$ 200.00	Martin, Director's Fees
\$ 200.00	Phillips, Director's Fee
\$ 200.00	Prioreschi, Director's Fee
\$ 200.00	Serna, Director's Fee
\$ 20.63	Serna, 33miles
\$ 200.00	Willumstad, Director's Fee
\$ 1,612.50	JERBCO, Ltd., Website setup and launch
\$ 400.00	JERBCO, Ltd., October and November website maintenance
\$ 500.00	Pueblo Friends of the Arkansas River, Winter Solstice Sponsorship
\$ 630.00	Waste Connections, Lake Runyon Trash Service prorated 3 months
\$ 20.00	Signs by Scott, Name tags
\$ 351.58	Signs by Scott, Lake Runyon sign

BSJ Construction Draw Account:

Through December 16, 2022

\$ 262.50	Kidd Engineering, PCD/City IGA #1B Meetings and CA/CO
\$ 2,080.00	NorthStar Engineering, Maintenance Assessment Support, Consultations, Artwork and Recreation, Attend meetings and reporting

\$ 11,341.50 NorthStar Engineering, PCD/City IGA#1 Revision, Main Street Bridge and reimbursables

\$ 962.00 NorthStar Engineering, PCD Levee Trail Extension and reimbursables

Old Business:

Lake Runyon Trash, Gates and Signage. Kidd said that Waste Connections has been picking up their dumpster. The Waste Management dumpster is still there even though he told them to come pick it up and send a final bill. He has not received any additional bills from them. He said that the gates have been installed, but not everyone has put their locks on them yet. Serna said that he was there the other night and there were about 12 cars parked there. He said that he does not know what they were doing. The lake is frozen over so they were not fishing.

Administrative Assistant Position. Kidd prepared a position description and disseminated it to the Board. He said that the 2023 budget included \$500 per month to pay for this position.

Maroney moved to advertise the position with a goal to have it filled by March 1st. Bower said that he would review the position description to make sure that it is worded correctly for the work to be done by an independent contractor. He will also work on the advertisement to ensure that it is worded correctly. Willumstad seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Board Officer Compensation. Bower said that Banner had not filled him in on this topic other than that he had sent a letter to the judge to request Court approval.

Colorado DPW Contract. Koehler reported that the contract is still in DPW processing.

Bridge Naming. Koehler said that the City Council had approved the names.

New Business:

Nominating Committee. The slate of officers recommended by the nominating committee were: Corinne Koehler for President, Paul Willumstad for Vice President, Jim Pioreschi for Treasurer and Ron Serna for Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor at the November meeting. The slate of officers for 2023 was approved, without a motion required.

Tire Removal. Kidd said that he would remind K.R. Swerdfeger that they said they would remove the tires around the Main Street Pedestrian Bridge area.

Access Road and Trail. Serna said that artists were refusing to access the Levee via the road under the bridges because of all of the spider webs. Koehler said she will ask the City if they would clean off the spider webs.

President's Report:

Koehler said that the Pueblo Conservancy District is gaining publicity. She said there have been stories aired on KSCC, two articles were in the Pueblo Chieftain and the CSU-Pueblo paper had an article.

Administrator's Report:

Kidd said the Pueblo Library District has requested support for nominating Stephanie Garcia to the Pueblo Urban Renewal Authority Board as a representative of special districts. She would be replacing Marlene Breggar. Serna moved to support Stephanie Garcia and Cordova seconded. The motion passed.

Kidd said that he had talked to Ron Jameson, with Chaparral Construction, about pricing for clearing brush around Runyon. He is one of the recommendations from Mike Brown of CDPW. Jameson said that he can charge by the hour or by the acre. He charges \$1400 per acre and said it generally works out about the same either way. Jameson said that a lot of what is there are invasive salt cedar and Russian olives. That he would dig out the root balls and then the District could use chemical treatment to keep them under control. He said that it would take about three years to pretty much eliminate them. Willumstad said that he thinks this is to be a riparian area and that would be ruined if we cut out the brush. He asked why this was being considered. Kidd responded that it was a recommendation from Mike Brown to help control the homeless camps and other unwanted public behavior. Maroney said that he did not think chemical treatment will kill out the salt cedar and olives.

Kidd said that he also talked to Jameson about restoration of the fish habitat between the confluence of the Arkansas River and Wildhorse Creek and the 4th Street Bridge. Jameson said that he would study the area and give us a proposal.

Board Member Retreat Reports:

Koehler requested the members who had an assignment to update the Board.

Maroney said that HARP has some interest in accepting the small piece of District land near Upper Lake Elizabeth. Cuppy said that he had not yet gotten pricing to cover this area with concrete.

Maroney said that he talked to Steven Meier about planters for the Levee. The City has some self-watering planters along Santa Fe Avenue. Maroney said that he thought galvanized stock tanks would work. Cuppy said that the Downtown Association has bought some self-watering planters for locations in downtown Pueblo.

Maroney met with Scott Burbidge to discuss the hydraulic model that Pueblo Water has for the low head diversion dam area. The model has been tested for flow ranges between 100 and 6800 cfs. The diversion would be moved from where it is today towards the existing pedestrian bridge. The bridge would be moved upstream to an area where there is an island. A new access bridge would be built below the intake for the Hillside Diversion. Cuppy said that Seth Clayton said he will send out the model and that he will then share it with the Board.

Cuppy said that he would do a drone video to show where the debris is along and coming into the River. He will not have an opportunity until after the holidays. He asked Koehler to mark up a map to indicate the problem areas that she is aware of.

Cuppy said he compared actual receipts information provided by Kidd to the assessments applied. He said that the actual income has been a little more than the assessments over the years.

Cuppy reported that District 60 is still doing property surveys in the Dutch Clark Stadium area.

Arkansas River Levee FEMA Certification:

Cuppy said that there is nothing new to report on the FEMA certification. He sat in on a FEMA / CWCB zoom meeting last week. They will be doing a detailed upstream analysis of the area upstream of the 4th Street Bridge. He does not have any concerns about this affecting the work we did because NorthStar had considered the 500-year flood water elevations at the time.

Main Street Bridge and Trail Report:

Prioreschi said that he had not had the opportunity to visit with Black Hills Energy about getting power supplied to the bridges and the Levee, but that he will.

Hatton Concrete is forming the pier caps and they should be placing concrete next week. Bridge Brothers has scheduled for delivery of the towers between January 13 and 16. They started digging out for the north side anchor block and ran into remnants of the old retaining wall that skirted around the railroad roundhouse. He said that there is varying amounts and types of debris in the area as well.

Koehler said she has sent an email to Beritt Odum about lights and cameras but has not yet received a response.

Levee Amenities:

Cuppy said that everything that can be installed prior to completion of the Main Street Pedestrian Bridge has been installed.

PFAR:

Koehler said the Winter Solstice Event was a success again this year. There were 200-300 people who came out. Two miles of the River have been adopted to pick up trash. There is going to be a video of the light parade.

Fountain Creek Report:

Martin said that there is no report.

Other Business:

Koehler said the Executive Committee meeting will be held in January. She also requested recommendations for people who may be good replacements to fill the Board vacancy created by Matt Cordova's resignation.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be on January 25, 2023.

APPROVED:

Corinne Koehler, President

Ron Serna, Secretary