

MINUTES OF THE MAY 26, 2021 REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PUEBLO CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Directors Present: Barbara Bernard, Matt Cordova, Corinne Koehler, Bud O'Hara, Dennis Maroney, Jerry Martin, Donna Phillips, Ron Serna, Paul Willumstad

Also Present: Attorney Don Banner
Administrator Rick Kidd

Guests: Mike Cuppy, NorthStar Engineering
Cynthia Ramu, Mural Art Committee
Shanna Lewis, Colorado Public Radio
Scott Bible
Michael Wenzl and Stephanie Thompkins, Mahatma Ghandi Center

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 April 28, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Serna moved to approve the minutes and Cordova seconded. The motion was approved with notation that Dennis Maroney was in attendance on April 28th.

Public Forum:

Scott Bible spoke to voice concerns about the bluff properties sale to Wark. Bible said that he owns the house at 329 West Corona. He and six residents next to him are concerned that they have lost access to the river front. They found no evidence that the property had been advertised for sale. He said the responses received by neighbors from past inquiries was either that the property was not for sale or their purchase offers had been refused. Bible said that the neighbors have been maintaining this area for years. They do not understand how these properties could just be sold with notices, etc. O'Hara asked if there is access to the Wark property without going across his. He said that they could go in off of Short Street but it is in for vacation. Banner said that the Wark purchase contract could be posted on the District's website. He said that the District has sold these properties without warranty of ownership because there are currently no identified property boundaries. The only restriction that the District has set on the properties is that the Pueblo Conservancy District must be provided with access for flood control and maintenance.

Levee Mural Proposals:

Serna said that there had been a meeting last week to discuss new mural proposals. They had also discussed some potential changes to the mural guidelines. Ramu said that there are three new applications to be presented to the Board.

Skateboarder – This mural is a collaboration with Tia Munson. Tia has done another mural on the Levee. The other lady lost her son about eight years ago. This mural is a piece of artwork to remember her son. The size of the mural will be 24 feet by 24 feet. Bernard moved to approve the mural and Maroney seconded. The motion passed.

Nourish – Ramu said this is a collaboration of artists and would be 48 feet wide. Martin moved for approval and Cordova seconded. O’Hara said he was concerned that they do not know where on the Levee these murals are going. Ramu responded that she has been working with the artists to determine best locations. The murals have been spread out and now she is trying to connect them. Martin said that several spots have been reserved for the school logos. The motion passed.

Indian – Ramu said this is a proposal by a Denver artist. He submitted an earlier mural of a blue heron. The mural is proposed to be 24 feet by 24 feet. Willumstad moved to approve the drawing and Phillips seconded. Bernard suggested that it go in the historic area. The motion passed.

Ramu said that they will be doing some activities in conjunction with the Downtown Association Walk on June 5th.

Mahatma Ghandi Peace Garden:

Michael Wenzl and Stephanie Thompkins attended to request approval for a celebration fair at the Peace Garden. Michael said that it will probably be on September 11th. Phillips moved to approve the celebration and Bernard seconded. It was suggested that they get in touch with Mike Ricontone with the County. The County may be in ownership of the property by that time so they need to make sure of coordination with anything the County may be starting to do. The motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report:

Willumstad said that he had reviewed the reports and did not notice anything out of line. Kidd suggested that monies be moved out of the Stifel money market account and into an investment. Willumstad moved to receive and file the reports and Phillips seconded. The motion passed.

The following bills were posted for review and approval. Willumstad said that they are mostly routine bills. He drew attention to the \$350,000 paid to the City as required by the IGA Amendment and the \$180,005.85 to Swerdfeger in connection with the bridge and trail work.

BSJ Operations and Maintenance Account:

\$ 500.00	MGPM, Monthly Accountant fees
\$ 500.00	B&B, Attorney Fees
\$ 1,900.00	Kidd Engineering, Administrator/Engineer fees
\$ 577.50	Army Corps of Engineers tour of the levees
\$ 200.00	Bernard, Director’s Fee
\$ 200.00	Cordova, Director’s Fee
\$ 500.00	Koehler, President’s Fee
\$ 437.20	Koehler, Dedication Ceremony Expenses
\$ 200.00	Maroney, Director’s Fee
\$ 200.00	Martin, Director’s Fees
\$ 200.00	O’Hara, Director’s Fee
\$ 200.00	Phillips, Director’s Fee

\$ 200.00 Serna, Director's Fee
\$ 200.00 Willumstad, Director's Fee
\$ 400.00 Spaccamonti Excavating, 15th to 16th Street Weeds and Rubbish

Vectra Cash Account:

\$ 1,800.00 John Mantano, Three high school logo murals
\$ 910.16 My Friend the Printer, Dedication invitations
\$ 322.80 Barbara Bernard, Dedication cookie order reimbursement
\$ 1,000.00 Let's Get Graphic, Dedication program design

BSJ Construction Draw Account:

\$ 1,155.00 Kidd Engineering, April 24 through May 21, 2021 PCD/IGA#1 Meetings and CA/CO
\$ 5,206.00 NorthStar Engineering, April 24 through May 21, 2021, Task D – Engineering Design Services, Permitting and Regulatory Approval
\$ 1,755.00 NorthStar Engineering, March 20 through April 23, 2021, Maintenance Assessment Support, Consultations, Loan Documents, Artwork and Recreation, Railroad, SHPO, etc.
\$12,314.00 NorthStar Engineering, April 24 through May 21, 2021 PCD/City IGA#1 T&M Services and reimbursable expenses
\$180,005.85 KR Swerdfeger, Phase 6A PCD/City IGA#1 Pay Request #4
\$350,000.00 City of Pueblo, Cost share per PCD/City IGA#1 Amendment

BSJ Reserve Account:

\$ 6,414.70 Pueblo Conservancy District – Transfer to Operating Account
\$200,435.85 Pueblo Conservancy District – Transfer to Draw Account

President's Report: Koehler said that her report will be with the discussion for the dedication event planning.

Administrator's Report: Kidd reported that he took two representatives from the Albuquerque Corps of Engineers on a tour of the levees. He said that when the original appointment was made it was to only look at the floodway conditions where the Corps extended the Arkansas River Levee at Lake Runyon. When they got here, they wanted to see the entire levee reconstruction project area. They told him that their Commander and a few others from the Corps are intending to be at the dedication. Kidd said that he had received a weed complaint and had Spaccamonti Excavating do cutting and removal of some rubbish that had been dumped at 16th Street.

'21 Celebration: Koehler said that there have been some changes in the program draft. There are currently over 220 reservations. Many groups have offered volunteer assistance and a meeting is planned for them tomorrow at 4:30 pm. She and Bernard need to get together with O'Hara again to discuss more on the parking arrangements. Louie Carleo has approved use of

the Midtown Center parking lot for parking and then shuttle busses to the event site. O'Hara has arranged for busses. Maroney said that there are not currently any Health Department Covid restrictions for this outdoor event. Bernard said that she is still receiving reservations. The dedication will be held on the northside of the River. The reception will be on the southside at Pillars Park. The City Parks Department is bringing in tables and tents. The Colorado Lottery is providing a banner and some backpacks to be used for prizes. Kidd is to get the ACE contact information to Koehler.

Recreation Committee Report: Cuppy said that the crews are scrambling to get ready for June 3rd. The tie-in to the trail on the southside is completed. The bridge is done and the historical signs are up. They are working on the Levee trail from east to west. The foundations for the shade structures are in. They have been working on the top of the HARP Diversion structure. The 3-leaf shade struct is to be in this week. It will be installed at Drop #2. The area will be cleared so that Signs By Scott can mount the dedication plaque next week.

Fountain Creek Report: O'Hara said that the State Engineer's office is continuing with evaluation of ponds. Kansas claims that water is being held in and evaporating from ponds that should be passing on down to them.

FEMA Arkansas River Levee Certification: Cuppy reported that Kim Kock has been working on the submittal to FEMA. He has had a meeting with FEMA and CWCB and they have made certain requests that they want to see included in the submittal. Kock and CTL Thompson have been in the process of modifying the reports for those inclusions. FEMA wants the submittal to include the County's emergency preparedness plan so they have gotten a copy of it.

Old Business:

Website – Phillips said that she has talked to Rick Thomas and he says that the updates are about done. Phillips is sending him more photos today.

New Business:

HARP Request – The HARP Foundation has requested a \$1500 donation to support a 4th of July Fireworks show. Bernard moved to approve the donation and Willumstad seconded. Martin said that he is concerned about setting a precedent to support an outside activity. Bernard said that she thinks it is supportive of the recreation that the District is bringing to the area. Phillips said that she agrees with Martin because the District's purpose is FEMA driven. Maroney thinks that we need to draw attention to the Historic Arkansas River course and its impact on the community. Willumstad said that we cannot spend public money on things beyond our prevue. Banner said that we have an IGA with HARP to support them. We specifically had the legislation amended so that we can support recreation. HARP is not making any money on this display this year. It is totally for the enjoyment and benefit of the community. A vote was taken and four supported the motion and four opposed it. Koehler said that as the tie-breaker she agrees to support it but the HARP Authority must, in turn, also promote the River. Therefore, the motion passed.

Main Street Pedestrian Bridge – Cuppy said that the City is going to putting out a new solicitation for this bridge. He has been working with the City to refine the project description

and requirements. His work on this has taken a back seat to getting things ready for the June 3 Dedication.

Other Business:

Cuppy reviewed the Downtown Association plans for their June 5th event. He also showed some current drone pictures of the new 4th Street Pedestrian Bridge.

Phillips said that Keller Williams has signs that can be put up on some of the District properties to increase awareness of their availability.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 am.

APPROVED:

Corinne Koehler, President

Ron Serna, Secretary