

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 22, 2022 REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PUEBLO CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Directors Present: Barbara Bernard, Matt Cordova, Carl Elley, Corinne Koehler, Dennis Maroney, Donna Phillips, Ron Serna, Paul Willumstad

Also Present: Attorney Don Banner
Administrator Rick Kidd

Guests: Jim Pioresche, Director Elect
Mike Cuppy, NorthStar Engineering
Cynthia Ramu, Mural Art Coordinator
Joe Cervi, Pueblo Board of Water Works

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 May 25, 2022 meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Maroney and seconded by Cordova to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

Carl Elley introduced himself as the new Board member, replacing Bud O'Hara. He grew up on lives on the St. Charles Mesa. He is owner and chef at GG's Barbeque.

Public Forum:
None

Levee Mural Project:

Ramu said that she has four proposals to present for approval.

Seed of Life, Susanna Avila. Ramu said this mural is 24x36. This is a colorful drawing of geometric circles. Avila proposed several murals to her and this is the one that Ramu picked. Willumstad moved to approve the mural and Maroney seconded. The motion passed.

Steel City Eagle, Tia Monson. Ramu said that this mural was commissioned by the Steel City Eagles Lodge, No. 3367. The number on the picture will be replaced with "Steel City Eagles". The mural is 24x48. Maroney moved to approve the mural and Cordova seconded. The motion passed.

Colorado Sunrise, Erica Hills. Ramu said that this mural is to be 24x36. Willumstad moved to approve the mural and Maroney seconded. The motion passed.

Sister Cities Pueblo, Azaria Mendoza. Ramu said that this proposal is of six separate 24x36 murals all together to form one large mural under the heading of "Pueblo's Sister Cities". It fits the guidelines and is suggested that it would be located in the historic section of the levee mural project. Serna said that it was rejected by the Mural Committee because they felt that it was too large and that it also needed to represent other countries. Ramu said that these are the current sister cities and that the artwork for each panel was developed by or in cooperation with representatives of these six cities. Willumstad said that he was concerned about the possibility of political relationship degradation with Sister City countries. Serna moved to delay approval until concerns are addressed. Phillips seconded and the motion to delay passed.

Serna reported that all logos labeling the kayak course drop structures have been completed.

Treasurer's Report:

Bernard said that she had reviewed the accountants report and moved to receive and file the report. The motion was seconded by Willumstad and the motion passed.

Vectra Checking Account:

\$ 5,405.00 Pueblo Friends of the Arkansas River, Transfer of receipts to their new account

BSJ Operations and Maintenance Account:

\$ 150.00 Black Hills Energy, Runyon Lighting
\$ 500.00 MGPM, Monthly Accountant fees
\$ 500.00 B&B, PC, Attorney Fees
\$ 2,500.00 Kidd Engineering, Administrator/Engineer fees
\$ 262.50 Kidd Engineering, April Exec Com meeting preparation
\$ 1,500.00 Cynthia Ramu, Levee Mural Art Coordinator Fee
\$ 65.00 Cynthia Ramu, DCI Award dinner registration fee
\$ 200.00 Bernard, Director's 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 Serna, Director's Fee
\$ 63.18 Serna, 108 miles-5 months mileage for graffiti an
\$ 200.00 Willumstad, Director's Fee
\$ 250.00 Southern Colorado Land Surveying, Dutch Clark land 1st Draft Legal
Description
\$ 1,600.00 Tia Monson, Kayak Drop Markers Painting
\$ 332.00 Post Master, PO Box Rental
\$127,500.00 Pueblo Board of Water Works, Half of Southside Diversion Low Head
Dam IGA
\$ 1,850.00 Pueblo Heritage Museum, 2022 Membership and Meeting Space

BSJ Construction Draw Account:

Through June 20, 2022

\$ 175.00 Kidd Engineering, PCD/City IGA #1B Meetings and CA/CO
\$ 175.00 Kidd Engineering, Phase 6B – Arkansas River Trail Meetings and CA/CO
\$ 16,272.00 NorthStar Engineering, Task D. Engineering Design Services, etc.
Supplemental Interior Drainage Analysis per FEMA Request

\$ 1,200.00 NorthStar Engineering, Maintenance Assessment Support, Consultations, Artwork and Recreation, Phase 6 Warranty, and reimbursables
\$ 340.00 NorthStar Engineering, Wave Shaper Design Support Services and reimbursables
\$ 2,715.00 NorthStar Engineering, PCD/City IGA#1 Revision, Main Street Bridge
\$ 5,926.00 NorthStar Engineering, PCD Levee Trail Extension
\$ 68,276.75 K.R. Swerdfeger, Phase 6B Trail Extension

BSJ Reserve Account:

\$138,660.18 Pueblo Conservancy District – Transfer to Operating Account
\$ 95,079.75 Pueblo Conservancy District – Transfer to Draw Account

Kidd pointed out that there are three bills out of the normal routine. The District had taken checks received for the Summer Solstice event and deposited them at Vectra. Pueblo Friends of the Arkansas River now have their own account so the \$5,405.00 check is to transfer that money out of our account to theirs. Tia Monson painted murals at each of the drop structures so that there is an identifier for each for emergency services. The cost of this was \$1,600.00. The third thing is paying Pueblo Board of Water Works the \$127,500.00 that was pledged to them at the last meeting. Kidd said that they were not willing to consider releasing the \$120,000 still held for the Carbon Gate roadway because there is still some concrete going in for Conservancy District work. Bernard moved to approve and pay the bills and Serna seconded. The motion passed

Old Business:

Lake Runyon Land. Banner reported that he had a 30 minute phone conversation with Gary Raso this morning. Raso said that the environmental report will recommend that the County goes through another procedure to make it like a “safe harbor” to protect them. EPA has been advising the County that for this “bonafide purchaser status” designation it could take up to two years for evaluation and to issue the letter. Banner asked if the Board wanted to extend the contract with this caveat. Phillip moved to not extend the closing. Bernard seconded and the motion passed.

Dutch Clark Stadium Land. Banner said that he got the revised legal and map to District 60’s attorney. Mr. Bump is currently out of town so Don has not received any addition feedback from them.

Wave Shaper. Cuppy reported that NorthStar is still waiting on the final geotechnical report from CTL Thompson. They have been in contact with McLaughlin White Water to pass all information that NorthStar has on to them. He has not received any word on the City’s grant application.

Restrooms. Willumstand said that two handicapped rated portable restrooms were now at the Pillar Park area. They have been being used. There has not been any vandalism yet.

Board Vacancy. Kidd said that the Pueblo West Metropolitan District Board has approved Jim Pioresche to be their representative to the Conservancy District Board. It is anticipated that the County Board of Commissioners will approve the resolution at their next meeting.

Bernard asked that we all come 15 minutes early to the next meeting. She will be providing refreshments.

Pueblo Water Low Head Dam. Koehler said that she, Bernard and Serna attended a luncheon presentation by the designers. They are going to construct a 1:15 scale model of the design for hydraulic testing. The plan includes six to eight drops. They have hired a grant writer and are looking at several potential sources of funding.

Southside Hanging Trail Replacement. Cuppy said that they have discussing some general concepts with K.R. Swerdfeger to develop a preliminary budget for the project. NorthStar will have to do survey work before they can start any actual design. They suggest that the elevation be raised because the current trail gets flooded out with moderately high River flows.

Brochure. Koehler said that Diane Hochevar is working on the brochure. Barb Bernard's son is taking pictures for it.

Bridge Naming. Koehler said that the City is saying that since they are paying for the bridges then they are the ones who have authority to name them, not the District. Koehler said that she felt it would be appropriate to name the two bridges after Charles W. Lee and George Harvey Nuckolls. They were leaders in the community and were two of the original Pueblo Conservancy District Board directors. Her suggestion is to put plaques on the bridges to tell about the two men. She said that she is open to other ideas, but that is what she had. Willumstad said that he thinks we need to do more research into them to make sure there are no problems with their backgrounds. Maroney said that he favors naming them after indigenous wildlife.

Events Policy. Koehler said that she is working on some bullet points. She asked for input and has some additional experience after the Downtown Association and the Summer Solstice events.

Pueblo Water/Wark Easement. Banner said to take this off of the agenda. It has been worked out.

Fountain Creek Involvement. This is a dead issue for the time being.

New Business:

Change of Meeting Time or Dates. Elley explained that he is the chef and owner of a restaurant and that a 10:00 meeting on Wednesdays is very difficult for him because the restaurant opens at 11:00. Koehler said that she would poll the other members to see if there was a consensus of other days or times that would be workable for all.

President's Report:

Koehler reported that the Summer Solstice event was very successful. It went from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm. There were 40 vendors and hundreds of attendees. The Sherriff's Department had a booth where they passed out educational materials. From comments received, it was obvious that there needs to be more information and signage for the Arkansas Riverwalk Trail area and how to access it.

The artist has been working on the chess table project. Koehler said that she would ask him about concrete pad size and anchoring requirements so that the pad for it can be built. She has been working with the arts community on sculpture policies.

Koehler said that a couple of weeks ago there was a contingency that came down from CU Boulder to discuss ways that they could help promote the area. They toured the Steel Works Museum, the Alpha Beta plant development and the Levee. The Palmer Land Trust is also a partner in this effort. They are working on a brochure to promote the area. It is anticipated that the printing costs will be two to three dollars per each. She asked if the Board would be

interested to pay for some to have to give out. Serna moved to purchase 200 copies. Maroney seconded and the motion passed.

Koehler said that the Chamber of Commerce magazine had an article about the Levee but that it was not updated. She said that there was also an article on the Rails to Trails bike routes and the railroad bridges that the bicyclists like to go over.

Koehler said that she has been trying to get clarification on who has the responsibility to clean trash out of rivers. She contacted Mike Brown, the Area Wildlife Manager for the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife. He said that whoever owns the land abutting the river is responsible. This means that the District is responsible for a lot of the Arkansas River going through town.

Asked about the status of the website updating, Banner said that he has met with the guy and he is working with Rick Thomas. He has the information that he needs to move forward.

FEMA Certification. Cuppy said that Kim Koek is doing the final checks and revisions on a couple of items. They have prepared a proposed system operations and maintenance check list. It has been reviewed by Kidd and they request approval of it so that it can be part of the response to FEMA. Maroney moved to adopt the check list. Willumstad seconded. Maroney clarified with Cuppy that this is a FEMA requirement for inspections. He said that it is. Willumstad said that follow through is important if the proposal operations and maintenance tasks list is adopted. The motion passed.

Main Street Pedestrian Bridge and Trail. Cuppy said that he received revised drawings from Bridge Brothers yesterday. They are going to do a site layout to see how it actually fits on the site. CTL Thompson has some minor comments for the foundation design.

River Trail. Cuppy reported that the trail is complete through the Grove area, and the bench pads are done. He said that the Clark Street connection trail is done except for some slope paving to control erosion. It is anticipated that will be completed this week. The remaining work will be the hand rails and placement of the boulders. There was a discussion about the possibility of small vehicles getting up on the Levee. Cuppy said that the City hoped that the boulders would take care of that, but it is Cuppy's opinion that small SUVs and ATVs could still get up there. Willumstad moved to install a bollard to make sure that vehicles do not get on top of the Levee. Cordova seconded. The motion passed. Cuppy said he will get pricing for it.

Amenities. Cuppy said that the sculpture pads and sign pads are done. There are two more bench pads to be put in as they are existing back out of the site. They will be installed as the trail work progresses.

Fountain Creek Report:

None

Administrator's Report:

Kidd said that most of his report has been in other items of business, and that in the interest of time will not add anymore.

Pueblo Friends of the Arkansas River:

Koehler reported that they are

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Other Business:

Maroney said that the HARP Authority sent their thanks for the contribution for 4th of July fireworks display.

Koehler said that CU is bringing down a contingent of professors to meet with various groups and discuss how they can work together to help Pueblo. That is scheduled for June 7th.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be on July 27, 2022.

APPROVED:

Corinne Koehler, President

Ron Serna, Secretary