

MINUTES OF THE JULY 27, 2022 REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE PUEBLO CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Directors Present: Barbara Bernard, Matt Cordova (11:00), Carl Elley, Corinne Koehler, Dennis Maroney, Donna Phillips, Ron Serna, Paul Willumstad (10:30)

Also Present: Attorney Lisha Coultrip  
Administrator Rick Kidd

Guests: Jim Prioreshi, Director Elect  
Mike Cuppy, NorthStar Engineering  
Cynthia Ramu, Mural Art Coordinator  
Mike Brown, Colorado DPW

The regular meeting of the Pueblo Conservancy District was called to order by President Koehler at 10:03 am. Koehler thanked Barb Bernard for her years of service to the Board, and for the refreshments that she provided this morning.

**Minutes:** A quorum being present, the Minutes of the June 22, 2022 meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Maroney and seconded by Bernard to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

**Public Forum:**  
None

**Levee Mural Project:**

Ramu said that she has six proposals to present for approval, and already has three more for next month.

Maroon Bells, Tia Monson. Ramu said this mural is 24x60. This mural was commissioned by Herzogs. It will be placed next to the high school logos. Bernard moved for approval and Maroney seconded. The motion passed.

Bae Bae's, Anois-Chavez. Ramu said that this mural would be 24x36. Serna moved for approval and Bernard seconded. Maroney asked if it fits the character of the murals. Ramu said that it fits with the abstracts and the others that are a little different. She said it shows diversity and they expect that it may attract younger artists to work on murals. The location would be near Dutch Clark. The motion passed.

Las Ranas Antiunitaries, Gonzales. Ramu said that this 24x24 mural is by an artist from New Mexico. Bernard moved for approval. Prioreshi seconded and the motion passed with Elley opposed.

Divine Femme, Stevens. Ramu said that this mural is 24x36. Bernard moved to approve for discussion and Serna seconded. Several concerns were expressed about the look of it. One comment was that it looked like a bad tattoo. The motion failed at a vote of two yays and three nays.

Fishing, Oliver. Ramu said that this mural is 24x24. Maroney moved for approval and Bernard seconded. The motion passed.

Pueblo Sister Cities, Mendoza. Ramu said that this mural has been reworked since its original presentation to the Board. It is proposed to be 24x180. Serna said that the Art Committee said that it does not fit the definition of what should be in the historic area. Bernard moved to approve the mural with it located near but west of the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge. Serna seconded and the motion passed.

Sculptures:

Eric McCue was not present. Ramu said that she would send out copies of the draft contract for sculpture works.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Bernard said that she had reviewed the accountants report and moved to receive and file the report. 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:

\$ 160.00	Black Hills Energy, Runyon Lighting
\$ 500.00	MGPM, Monthly Accountant fees
\$ 500.00	B&B, PC, Attorney Fees
\$ 18.00	B&B, PC, Recording Fees
\$ 3,395.00	B&B, PC, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr Miscellaneous Billings
\$ 2,500.00	Kidd Engineering, Administrator/Engineer fees
\$ 1,500.00	Cynthia Ramu, Levee Mural Art Coordinator 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	Prioreschi, Director's Fee
\$ 200.00	Serna, Director's Fee
\$ 33.13	Serna, 52 miles
\$ 200.00	Willumstad, Director's Fee
\$ 750.00	Tia Monson, Graffiti paint over
\$ 123.70	D&S Paint, PCD Drop Structure Paint
\$ 33.39	D&S Paint, PCD Drop Structure Paint
\$ 1,420.81	Spaccamonti Excavating, Lake Runyon Trash Rack Cleaning
\$ 500.00	Pueblo Friends of the Arkansas River, Summer Solstice Sponsorship

BSJ Construction Draw Account:

Through July 22, 2022

\$ 175.00 Kidd Engineering, PCD/City IGA #1B Meetings and CA/CO  
\$ 3,750.00 NorthStar Engineering, Task D. Engineering Design Services, etc.  
Supplemental Interior Drainage Analysis per FEMA Request  
\$ 1,120.00 NorthStar Engineering, Maintenance Assessment Support, Consultations,  
Artwork and Recreation, Phase 6 Warranty, and reimbursables  
\$ 1,055.00 NorthStar Engineering, Wave Shaper Design Support Services and  
reimbursables  
\$ 4,675.00 NorthStar Engineering, PCD/City IGA#1 Revision, Main Street Bridge  
and reimbursables  
\$ 4,671.00 NorthStar Engineering, PCD Levee Trail Extension and reimbursables  
\$ 41,558.40 K.R. Swerdfeger, Phase 6B PCD Trail Extension  
\$ 27,715.77 K.R. Swerdfeger, Phase 6B PCD/City IGA River Trail

BSJ Reserve Account:

\$ 13,709.03 Pueblo Conservancy District – Transfer to Operating Account  
\$ 84,720.17 Pueblo Conservancy District – Transfer to Draw Account

Bernard said that she had reviewed the bills and that they looked appropriate. She moved to approve and pay the bills. The motion passed

**Old Business:**

**Lake Runyon Land.** Koehler said that the County backed out on the deal based on a water and environmental report. She said that there is a lot of accumulated trash. The District's contracted dumpster is in place now. People are now bringing in tires and furniture. She said that the City went through and cut weeds along the trail. Mike Brown said that trash has always been an issue at the Lake. He said that Runyon and Fountain lakes provide a great fishery with several different fish species. There are law enforcement issues there as well. He said that Colorado DPW has enforcement authority, similar to the State Patrol, but it is not their expertise. They are also short on personnel. Brown recommends that all of the stakeholders meet for a collaborative resolution. He said that the prior lease was allowed to expire because of the pending sale to the County. Brown said that the DPW is interested in renewing the lease agreement but that they need some help. He believes that some more lighting in the area may help. He suggested that a contractor be hired to clean up trash and maintain the area daily. Phillips asked about an adopt-a-lake program similar to the adopt-a-highway program. Brown said that may work. Phillips said that she would talk to Keller Williams to see if their agents would be interested in such a program. Maroney asked about charging a use fee and having someone on site full time. Elley asked about employing private security or putting up surveillance cameras. Coultrip wondered if Trout Unlimited may be interested in helping. Koehler said that she would attempt to schedule a meeting with representatives from the City, the County, the Pueblo Police Department, and the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office. Hopefully within the next two weeks.

**Dutch Clark Stadium Land.** Coultrip said that they are still waiting on feedback from Dick Bump.

**Wave Shaper.** Cuppy reported that NorthStar is still waiting on a geotechnical report from CTL Thompson. All of the information that they have to date has been provided to McLaughlin White Water for if they are given approval to start with preliminary design work. He said that the City has submitted a grant application.

**Pueblo Water Low Head Dam.** Koehler said that the Pueblo Board of Water Works expects the scale model to be completed and ready for testing by the end of the year.

**Southside Hanging Trail Replacement.** Cuppy said that Swerdfeger is working on budget pricing.

**Brochure.** Koehler said that she received a draft this morning. She will comment and edit it and send it back for a draft that is ready for Board review.

**Bridge Naming.** Koehler said that she has not received responses other than what she put out. She said that she had talked to the Pueblo Rotary since both Knuckles and Lee were Rotarians. They did not know of any "red flags" on their credentials or character that would affect naming the bridges after them. Maroney said that he proposes naming them after indigenous wildlife.

**Administrative Assistant.** Koehler said that the Executive Committee believes Kidd should provide recommendations for their scope of services and if/when an administrative assistant should be brought on.

**Website Progress Update.** Koehler said that Bregar had sent her an update this morning. He has been working on it, but still has things to add and modifications to make.

#### **New Business:**

**Change of Meeting Time or Dates.** Koehler said that a canvass of the Board indicated that there is general concurrence to keep the meetings scheduled as they currently are.

**Leadership Pueblo QR Code.** Kidd presented a request from 2022 Leadership Pueblo requesting approval to mount a plaque near the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge. The QR code will link to spotlight landmarks and historical sites throughout Pueblo. The bridge was picked as one of the sites that they would like to spotlight. Scanning of the code would lead to information about the bridge and could link to our website and other resources in the area. The approximate size of the plaques is 5x7. Maroney moved to approve them mounting the plaque but not mounted on the bridge. Cordova seconded. The motion passed. Kidd will notify Jackie Galli.

**Fundraising Policy.** Koehler said that PFAR is willing to help raise money for sculptures and various amenities. Pioreschi asked if the Federal Arts Council has been contacted. He said that they have funding for some art projects. Koehler said that she will check this out. Maroney moved to allow PFAR to raise funds for the amenities. Serna seconded and the motion passed.

**Treasurer.** Koehler said that with Bernard leaving the Board a new Treasurer needed to be elected. Serna moved to elect Jim Pioreschi to serve as Treasurer until the end of the year. Bernard seconded. The motion passed.

**Policy on E-bikes.** This topic was tabled until next month so that the Board would have more information.

**Allowed Events on the Levee.** Coultrip referenced a list of considerations that Banner prepared for potential uses/users. The list reflects the comments he received and some of his own thoughts. She said the list is not policy statement of his recommendation.

**President's Report:**

Koehler reported that she has sent an email to the City about the trash that is getting into the River from the City's stormwater. Maroney said that the City is obligated to clean the stormwater and keep trash out of the River as a part of the State's MS-4 program. He suggested sending a letter to the State. Pioreschi said that he would provide contact information. Koehler attended a presentation of John Wark's development proposal. They expect to break ground for the first phase in January.

**Administrator's Report:**

Kidd reported that a group from FEMA, ACE, CWCB and FEMA's contracted engineer will be here for a tour of the City's levees next week. In preparation for this, Kidd has requested Spaccamonti to cut weeds and remove trash and rubbish in the Wildhorse Creek area. Kidd said that he was contacted about a homeless camp in the Lake Runyon area. When he finally found where the called was talking about, the camp is on the south side of the River in the area behind United Rentals. Kidd said that this land is not owned by the District. Kidd said that he contacted HARP and they have a trash rack that skims the water before it goes into Lake Elizabeth. The next trash rack is in the natural area before water flows into the siphon under Santa Fe Avenue. The City cleans that trash rack because of the material that feeds in from the City stormwater system. Kidd said that the next trash rack is where Thomas Phelps Creek discharges into Lake Runyon.

**FEMA Certification.**

Cuppy said that NorthStar is loading all of the information into a One-Drive account, as FEMA requested.

**Main Street Pedestrian Bridge and Trail. .**

Cuppy said that they are still waiting for Bridge Brothers to finalize plans addressing the review comments of the preliminary plans. These plans will be reviewed again prior to final approval for construction. Erection of the bridge is currently expected to begin in October or November.

**River Trail and Amenities.**

Cuppy said that the trail, including the ramp for the Clark Street connection, has been completed through the Grove neighborhood. The benches have also been installed along this reach. They are now working on the trail continuing from the west side of the railroad bridge.

**Fountain Creek Report:**

None

**Other Business:**

Pioreschi said that he has been working on the Levee ever since the design work started. He is now semi-retired. He will recuse himself from any Board action that has to do with NorthStar Engineering. Kidd said that Pioreschi has been signing off on contractor pay requests, but he will no longer be doing that as a representative of NorthStar.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be on August 24, 2022. An Executive Committee meeting will be held on August 9th.

APPROVED:

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Corinne Koehler, President

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Ron Serna, Secretary

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