

THE SPRINGS REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC)
Minutes for Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 5, 2009
Boys and Girls Club of Valley of the Moon

1 Call to Order

Vice Chairperson Ellen Conlan called the meeting of The Springs Redevelopment Advisory Committee (RAC) to order at 7:02 p.m. Ms. Conlan indicated that because there would be no quorum for a discussion on the Façade Program due to Stephen Cox and Ryan Lely being absent and David Whitely and Richard Lee recusing themselves, this item will be continued to the April meeting.

2 Roll Call

Present: Donna Hays, David Whiteley, Richard Lee, Kara Olness Reyes and Ellen Conlan. Steven Cox and Ryan Lely were absent (excused absences). Also present were Community Development Commission Executive Director Kathleen Kane, Redevelopment Manager Cas Ellena, Interim Redevelopment Associate Judith Miller, and approximately six (6) members of the public during the course of the meeting. This meeting was recorded by SVTV-27.

3 Minutes

Kara Olness Reyes made a motion to approve the February 5, 2009 meeting minutes and Richard Lee seconded the motion; the motion carried 5-0-2 (Lely/Cox absent).

4 Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

Marty Edwards, owner of Clemente Inn, talked about the major demolition permit taken out for the Clemente Inn on February 26, 2009 from PRMD. Ms. Edwards provided 2 pre-applications for redevelopment assistance related to the Clemente Inn: one for a request for demolition funds and one for a request for stabilization funds. She also provided a Structural Calculations report for Temporary Stabilization of URM (un-reinforced masonry) Walls.

5 Correspondence

Cas Ellena reported there has been no correspondence to the RAC since the March meeting.

6 Old Business

A. Monthly Reports

Cas Ellena introduced Kevin Howze from Caltrans who gave an update on the Hwy 12 Improvement Project construction. Mr. Howze informed the RAC that Stage 1 is underway with work mostly on the underground installations. They are now beginning the sidewalks in some locations and PGE is still working on gas distribution lines. There has been no change in the schedule from last month. Mr. Howze also mentioned that there has been no delay in the schedule due to all the rain because rain days are built into the schedule.

Ms. Ellena then went over the financials for January.

RAC Comments:

Ellen Conlan requested to have the Economic Development Partnership added to the Monthly Report of Projects.

B. Additional Hwy 12 Improvements

Ms. Ellena stated that she met with RAC Members Donna Hays, Ellen Conlan, and Kara Olness Reyes (Working Committee) to discuss how to move forward with identifying priority projects for the Springs. Ms. Ellena gave a brief summary of the proposed strategy. RAC Member Donna Conlan made additional comments regarding how to best proceed and most efficiently spend redevelopment funds and attract private investment to the area. Ms. Ellena reported the first step in the strategy is to develop the new Five-Year Implementation Plan (the existing plan expires June 30, 2009; a new plan is required by Community Redevelopment Law). The second step of the Strategy will be to meet with the Working Committee to go over the draft Five-Year Implementation Plan and other pertinent documents and information. Ms. Ellena will contact the Working Committee in the next few weeks to begin working on the Strategy. After the Working Committee has reviewed documents and walked The Springs Project Area with CDC and PRMD staff identifying potential priority projects, the information will be brought to the RAC for a workshop-type agenda item.

7 New Business

A. Gateway Arch

A discussion was held regarding the Gateway Arch Project and the artist, Oliverio Quezada. The CDC Agreement with Mr. Quezada expired 12/30/07. The artist was paid \$3,000.00 for Phase 1 Design Services. Phase II, Manufacturing, Creation, and Installation, has not been started and none of the budgeted \$32,000 has been expended due to a pending decision by the appropriate County Department as to whether installation of the artwork will be permitted and which entity will provide on-going maintenance. David Whiteley made a motion to leave the \$32,000 in the original Gateway Arch Project, advise Public Works that the RAC would like to go with smooth walls along the Hwy 12 Corridor to allow for applied artwork, and that the RAC will look at the entire project after completion to consider artwork on retaining walls in a common theme. Staff was requested to try to contact Mr. Oliverio and the County to determine how to best move forward with the existing Gateway Arch Art Agreement. Ellen Conlan seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion carried 5-0-2.

Kathleen Kane is still trying to get a response from Public Works regarding installation and maintenance of the artwork. One concept discussed would be to change the Lighting District to the Lighting and Landscape District so that they could provide the maintenance funds.

B. Hwy 12 Retaining Wall

Kevin Howze will check with Public Works and Caltrans on whether or not Caltrans would have any issues with art tiles installed on the retaining walls. The same art theme could carry over to the Gateway Arch if approved.

C. Springs Clean-up

Rich Lee gave an update on the STFCC meeting regarding the Springs clean-up. STFCC will be having another meeting next week to firm up the plans; discussions to include possibly providing colored garbage bags for residents, funding of ads in newspaper, flyers, etc. The Springs Clean-up committee is repeating some of the actions done in past clean-ups: distributing imprinted shopping bags to schoolchildren (funded by the Community Health Center), promoting first weekend before Earth Day, (April 18/19) as Yard Sale Days, and second weekend, (April 25/26) as a neighborhood clean-up – supplying tools, safety bibs, etc. Redwood Empire Disposal will supply one dumpster and crew – the location TBD, possibly Thomson Parking Lot. Residents of the Project Area will be required to show proof of residency in order to participate. Toxins or E-waste will not be accepted because there are continual collections in the area for this waste.

Public Comments
Bud Sherman

8 Agenda for Next Meeting

Call to Order; Roll Call; Minutes; Public Comment; Correspondence; Old Business: Monthly Reports, Façade Improvement Program, Springs Clean-up, Gateway Arch Project; New Business: Five-year Implementation Plan, Clemente Inn; Agenda for Next Meeting; Next Meeting; Adjournment

9 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

10 Next Meeting:

April 2, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Boys & Girls Club of Valley of the Moon, 100 Verano Ave., Sonoma

Attachments follow:

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Audience Sign-in Sheet – March 5, 2009 meeting

Public Comment Sign-in Sheet – March 5, 2009 meeting

Approved Minutes of 2/5/09 meeting