

Riverfront Improvement Commission
Minutes
November 26, 2019

Present: Bill Ashton, Dee Bruemmer, Karin Elftmann-Gross, Randall Goblirsch, Kelli Grubbs, Gwendolyn Lee, Ryan Reed, Karl Rhomberg, and Pat Walton

Others Present: Paul Taiclet, Charlie Robertson, American Cruise Lines; Lorrie Beaman, Summer Rosenmohr, Freight House Farmer's Market; Richard Thomas, Parks Board; Molly Otting-Carlson, Visit Quad Cities; Kathy Wine, River Action; Zach Peterson, Public Works; Wendy Peterson, Citizen; and Steve Ahrens, Riverfront Improvement Commission

Chairman Bruemmer called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Ahrens announced that a quorum for the meeting had been met.

Grubbs moved to approve the minutes of the October 29 meeting. Ashton seconded the motion and it carried.

Finance

Ahrens presented the previous month's disbursements, aged receivables report and the FY2019 Lease Report. Walton moved to approve the disbursements. Elftmann-Gross seconded the motion and it carried. Staff also provided an update regarding Nostalgia Fresh Farms Deli.

Leases

Staff presented the draft license agreement with Viking River Cruises, who plans to use River Heritage Park as portage for its passenger vessels beginning in 2022. Following discussion and incorporation of the specific description of the landing site along the river wall and the intended start date to the draft, Grubbs moved to approve the agreement. Rhomberg seconded the motion and it carried, with Ashton voting no. The City Council now will consider the agreement at its next meeting. In addition, representatives with American Cruise Lines were in attendance and indicated their support and interest to relocate to River Heritage Park as well. A draft agreement for a short-term use will be provided to staff and the Commission will consider it at its next meeting. Subsequently, a long term license agreement with American Cruise Lines will be constructed and considered at a later date.

Projects

Ahrens provided an updated regarding the Request for Proposals issued through Purchasing. He then introduced Lorrie Beaman with the Freight House Farmer's Market, who provided the Commission with an update regarding its proposal, which was recently positively reviewed by a Commission sub-committee. After the presentation and discussion, Ashton moved to accept the

proposal and to direct staff to negotiate the lease agreement for the next Commission meeting. Grubbs seconded the motion and it carried.

Ahrens then provided the Commission with an update regarding the Strategic Plan initiative, RiverWest, and specifically, the Credit Island Slough project with the USACE. We await official word regarding a competitive grant opportunity to conduct a feasibility study for the project.

Staff provided an update regarding both the interior and exterior post flood restoration projects for Union Station.

Following the last meeting of the joint workgroup, the City awaits responses from Canadian Pacific regarding certain discussions relating to the riverfront railroad and Canadian Pacific's decision to elevate the line. A joint meeting between the City Council and the Riverfront Improvement Commission by year's end is envisioned.

Staff Report

Ahrens provided updates on a variety of topics, including:

- Freight House deck project update
- Christkindlmarkt and Holiday Train (12/7) – December 6-8 at the Freight House
- RIC December 17 Meeting – again at the Police Dept. Community Room
- Credit Island Parks Task Force – RIC interested participation?
- PW Director Gleason to attend December 17 meeting to talk 2020 Flood Response Plan

Other Business

With no public with business to present to the Commission, and with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.



Ryan Reed, Secretary