Riverfront Improvement Commission
Minutes
January 28, 2020

Present: Bill Ashton, Dee Bruemmer, Bill Churchill, Randall Goblirsch, Kelli Grubbs, Gwendolyn Lee, Karl Rhomberg, and Pat Walton

Others Present: Alderwoman Lee, Alderman Peacock, City Council; Ald. Gripp, City Council Liaison; Michael Schertz, Parks Liaison; Zach Peterson, Public Works; Kathy Wine, River Action; and Steve Ahrens, Riverfront Improvement Commission

Chairman Bruemmer called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Ahrens announced that a quorum for the meeting had been met. He introduced Jeri Nagle with City Communications, who provided the Commission with a brief tutorial of the new sound system for the venue.

Grubbs moved to approve the minutes of the December 17 meeting. Rhomberg seconded the motion and it carried.

Finance

Ahrens presented the previous month's disbursements, aged receivables report and the FY2019 Lease Report. Grubbs moved to approve the disbursements. Rhomberg seconded the motion and it carried.

Projects

Zach Peterson with Public Works provided the Commission with a presentation regarding the Destination Play Area Design Competition and Request for Qualifications for Main Street Landing. After discussion (comments included below), Rhomberg moved to approve the Main Street Landing Destination Play Area Request for Qualifications issuance, noting the comments presented by the Riverfront Improvement Commission. Grubbs seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The comments offered included:

1. Appreciate and like the openness, public participation envisioned and outlined
2. Listing the task force members and stakeholder representation
3. Task Force work thus far has been a collaborative process
4. Submit names of firms to receive the RFQ
5. Flood resiliency is emphasized, as are the CP railroad elevated crossings
6. Land forming and elevation enhancements envisioned
7. Connections throughout the Main Street Landing critical
8. RDG work (2019) underrepresented in RFQ

The item now will be considered by the City Council.

Ahrens presented the proposed recommended budget for FY2021. Following discussion, the Commission will consider its approval at the next meeting.

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

Ahrens provided an update regarding proposed restoration projects for each railroad crossing, the City awaits responses from Canadian Pacific regarding certain discussions relating to the riverfront railroad and Canadian Pacific's decision to elevate the line. In addition, a decision by CP to elevate the recreational trail throughout has been positively resolved.

Staff Report

Ahrens provided updates on a variety of topics, including:

- Freight House deck project update
- Florian Keen parking lot improvements
- Summer events / projects coordination
- 2020 meeting calendar

Parks Liaison, Michael Schertz, provided an update regarding a number of Parks initiatives, including the work of the Credit Island Task Force, (which includes three RIC members) and post-flooding effects for the playground in Centennial Park.

Other Business

With no public with business to present to the Commission, and with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Dee Bruemmer

Dee Bruemmer, Chair