



**HISTORIC RAILROAD SQUARE ASSOCIATION
Community Benefit District**

RRSQ Association Board Meeting

Thursday, May 20, 2021

8:30 AM per ZOOM TELECONFERENCE

Present: Mike Montague, Dee Richardson, Florine Ellingson, Larry Silver, Marianne Neufeld, Curt Nichols, Jim McCalligan, Noelle Hermann, Rafael Rivero, Kris Wilson

Absent: Theresa Tomasssi, Hardeep Gil, Paul Quattrocci, Hugh Futrell

Guests: Tara Thompson, Jen Santos, Brad Calkins, Brauley McNulty

AGENDA/MINUTES

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** President Mike Montague called the meeting to order at 8:35am
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS** (limited to 2 minutes each. Comments from the public will be allowed on all agenda items at the time each item is addressed.) There were no public comments.
- 3. CONSENT ITEMS**
 - 3.1 Approval of March 25,2021 Board Minutes: Motion to approve by Curt Nichols & seconded by Marianne Neufeld.
 - 3.2 Approval of April 15,2021 Board Minutes: Motion to approve by Curt Nichols & seconded by Florine Ellingson.
 - 3.3 Approval of change of signatories and single signature on Railroad Square Association checking and saving accounts at Mechanics Bank: allows Marianne Neufeld, treasurer, to be added as signatory. Motion to approve by Curt Nichols & seconded by Dee Richardson.
- 4. DISCUSSION ITEM: Depot Park Art Project**
 - 4.1 Tara Thompson, Arts & Events, City of SR & Jen Santos, Parks & Recs, SR City: Reviewed process of plan and history of project which was initiated in 2016 and has been on "hold" due to 2017 wildfires. Intent at that time was to bring positive attention with outreach to the neighborhood with design discussion with the Association board and interested parties. The goal was to create some form of art to restore the character and reflect the history of RRSQ. Artist designs were shared with the board. Artist is also a landscaper, so an option is to connect the public art and landscape plans to move forward with the project with a train station style

bench and historic images. There is a contract with the artist although we recognize costs have gone up since the original bid was presented. There are funds available through SR City Public Art and SR City Parks & Recreation and the cost gap needs to be identified. This project would not preclude from the possibility of a long-term re-design of Depot Park. Although there is concern that seating will encourage homeless usage, Tara pointed out that changing the dynamic by creating a comfortable atmosphere for families could actually result in a decrease in loitering. It was agreed to forward future discussion to the existing AdHoc committee with Chair Curt Nichols to set up a meeting and work with Tara and Jen for questions, etc. (If several committee members recuse themselves from participating in this project, additional members could be added, but there must be no more than 6 to prevent a quorum.)

5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT- Mike Montague

5.1 Security: Mike reported that the Greenway is having issues again with transients, trash and homeless.

5.2 Homeless encampments/ Next steps: The Cannery property encampment is growing and SRPD is working on taking action to clean up the area.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT: Marianne Neufeld, treasurer: Marianne reviewed the P&L statement and budget. Duplicate line item noted; correction to be made with revised budget to follow.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT- Kris Wilson

7.1 Property Assessment Billing update - Rafael Rivero reported continued follow-up to collect outstanding balance of \$16,000. 3rd & 4th Quarter billing will be transferred to Sonoma County and will be going out in July.

7.2 Marketing: So.CO Tourism Guide /KZST Radio ads: Radio Ads continue to run through October along with digital version of the Tourism “Inspiration” Guide. The May/June Newsletter was sent to property and business owners and included the Code Enforcement number to encourage reporting any transient/security concerns as soon as they’re spotted.

7.3 Events in RRSQ – call out for volunteers: A volunteer clean-up day is being planned and coordinated with our street maintenance company to focus on Depot Park to make it more inviting for events and activities. Americana Restaurant has offered to provide lunch to all volunteers. Date to follow.

8. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS/GOALS

8.1 Security - Larry Silver/Mike: We are seeing some positive results from our all-night security although there is increased graffiti being seen and the Cannery needs attention as their encampment continues to grow. (SRPD response noted above)

8.2 Wayfinding signs – Noelle Hermann: Project requires design review and cost estimates are pending. Curt reported there is a City document in place that includes wayfinding that could help move the project through more quickly.

8.3 Tree Report- Jim McCalligan: Bids are pending for the concrete work and the possibility of a collective bid that would include both the tree and the concrete work. Mike offered an additional concrete company to compare bids.

8.4 Street Cleaning / Trash receptacles-Paul Quattrocci was not present to report.

8.5 Project Review Committee - Curt Nichols: No new report.

8.6 Lighting- Hardeep Gill/Rafael Rivero: Rafael reported that a meeting is pending with City electrician to discuss street lighting and in Depot Park.

9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

SR City Permanent Parklet Program,

Depot Park Ad Hoc committee,

Volunteer "Eyes on the Street"

10. **ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:59am**

ACTION ITEMS:

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 24, 2021 - 9 AM per ZOOM (TBD)