

# Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners Driggs Urban Renewal Agency

May 1, 2013 – 6:30 PM  
Driggs City Hall – Conference Room

1. **Call to Order** – determination of a quorum (6:42PM)

Commissioners Present: Hyrum Johnson, Lyn Christian, Bart Birch, Kathy Rinaldi, Denis duNann

Others Present: Rick Baldwin

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

Changes to Agenda: None

A motion was made to approve the agenda.

**Moved: Bart Birch**

**Second: Kathy Rinaldi**

**Passed: Unanimously**

3. **Approval of Minutes from April 10, 2013**

Changes to Minutes from 4.10.13: None as presented

**Moved: Denis du Nann**

**Second: Lyn Christian**

**Passed: Unanimously**

4. **Review of Financial Reports**

No financial reports were reviewed and a motion was made to continue the budget planning session until the next meeting. See item #6 below.

**Moved:**

**Second:**

**Passed: Unanimously**

5. **Downtown Projects Update: Our Town Plaza Grant, SBC, Survey of Businesses, DDCA**

Our Town Plaza Grant: Hyrum reminded the Board that the stakeholders meeting for the Plaza design process would be held 5.9.13. He suggested they attend the meeting to give input and learn what ideas were under discussion.

Scenic Byway Center (SBC): Hyrum reported that the SBC is moving forward. The Idaho Transportation Department is still reviewing the architect's contract and should sign it before the end of the month. The final approval will come from the Driggs City Council, which should take place on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Survey of District Businesses: Hyrum distributed a 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of his Survey for Local Businesses, along with a Survey drafted by the City of Driggs. He asked the commissioners to review his survey outside of the meeting and to give him feedback on his draft. His intention is to visit the businesses within the DUR District and conduct the survey in person. Lyn offered to help, as did Denis. The Commissioners also discussed presenting the survey to businesses outside of the District who may be interested in relocating to some of the vacant properties within the District.

Denis distributed a proposal for a possible DURA project called "New Faithful." His proposal was aimed at addressing "blight" within the District and creating an opportunity for downtown growth. He proposes purchasing the old Stock Lumber Company building and surrounding land from Randy Burnside and possibly Huntsman (AKA Blackfoot) to total 3+ acres to build a community park to attract visitors and local residents for year-round entertainment and a destination point for visitors on the Yellowstone-Grand Teton Loop. The purchase and reuse of this property would involve relocating only one business, "Rick's" frame and consignment shop, and is envisioned to host a stage for events such as Music on Main and Shakespeare in the Park, a fountain, "New Faithful," which would be scheduled to "erupt" in sync with Old Faithful, and space for the Farmers Market, Harvest Fest, Winter Fest, Plein Air Fest, etc.

Lively discussion followed about future projects for DURA. Hyrum distributed a document with possible project options and stated that he believes DURA should emphasize projects that increase future DURA revenues directly. Denis felt that the New Faithful project would attract people to the District, which in turn would bring businesses. Kathy shared the perspective that filling the vacant properties within the District would be the best first step for DURA projects. Lyn wondered if the local banks had significant funds to partner with DURA for revitalization projects. The DURA administrator had looked for local bank support in 2012, but found it limited to very small projects.

These different approaches to choosing projects have the same goal of increasing "vibrancy" in downtown Driggs. Hyrum suggested that the Commissioners consider whether they were asking the right questions, such as "What makes Driggs a place people want to come to as a destinations, and not just a gateway to Targhee or Yellowstone" or "Do we want to invest in Branding and actively recruit businesses based on Branding?"

The Commissioners suspended the meeting to walk through the District making observations about their perceived "strengths," "weaknesses," and "opportunities" at 7:38PM.

**6. 2014 Budget Planning Session**

Continued to the next meeting. (See #4 above.)

**7. Reconvening the Meeting & Adjournment (8:10PM)**

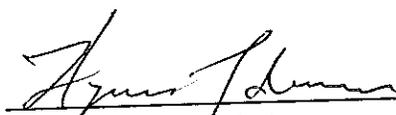
The meeting was reconvened at 8:10PM. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

**Moved: Kathy Rinaldi**

**Second: Lyn Christian**

**Passed: Unanimously**

Attest:

  
Hyrum Johnson, Chairman

  
Lyn Christian, Secretary

*Anyone requiring special access consideration must notify the DURA 2 days prior.*