Tempe

Minutes
Rio Salado Advisory Commission
December 4, 2007

Minutes of the Rio Salado Advisory Commission held on December 4, 6:00 PM at the East Valley Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility, 2050 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:
Christina Cenzano
Alana Chavez
Michael Curlee
Maureen DeCindis
Mary Hannaman
Sue Lofgren
Julie Ramsey
Randy Smith

Members Absent:
Dana Burkhardt
Brett Siegal
Walter McCraney

City Staff Present:
Dee Dee Kimbrell
Nancy Ryan
Robert Yabes

Guests Present:

Alana Chavez called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes from October 23, 2007
After Christina Cenzano arrived at the meeting there was a quorum. She then asked the commission members if they had read the RSAC minutes from October 23, 2007 minutes.

MOTION: Sue Lofgren moved to approve minutes
SECOND: Maureen DeCindis
DECISION: Minutes were approved unanimously

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances
There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 3 – Tour of the East Valley Bus Operation and Maintenance Facility

Robert Yabes, City of Tempe Principal Planner for Transportation, gave a half an hour walking tour of the new East Valley Bus Operation and Maintenance Facility.

Agenda Item 4 – CIP List

Nancy gave each member a handout of a draft of the Rio Salado Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget Requests. Nancy went down the list naming and describing each project. Some of the CIP projects are consultant studies, Habitat de-watering system, US Army Corps match money, Rio Salado ancillary projects, Tempe Town Lake (TTL) Pedestrian Bridge, TTL Boathouse, Plaza Between Mill Ave. Bridges, and TTL rubber dam replacement.

General discussion regarding the **CIP List**, including:

- Alana Chavez asked when the CIP list will go to Council. Nancy stated it will not go to Council until next April. She said this list is a staff request for projects and just a draft. Alana asked when the new City Manager would start his job. Nancy said his first day would be December 10 and his first council meeting will be December 13.
- Nancy said she will bring the CIP list back to the RSAC if there are any refinements to it.

Agenda Item 5 – Committee Updates

- Friends of Rio Salado – Julie Ramsey said the scary boat ride was a huge success. She said if you ever get a chance you need to go on the ride because Randy Smith is an excellent narrator. The Friends of Rio Salado will have their Christmas dinner in a couple of weeks.
- Enhanced Services Commission – Nancy Ryan reported the November ESC meeting was their Annual meeting. She said the commission is a 501C3 with an annual meeting to elect officers. Scott Cole, ASU member, was elected as Chair and Randy Levin, SunCor, was elected as President. Nancy also went over the CIP list with them. Alana asked if the RSAC will have a follow-up meeting with the ESC. Nancy said there was a suggestion to have a meeting with both commissions once a year.
- Development Review Committee – Maureen DeCindis reported the Rio Salado DRC reviewed the FEDEX expansion. She stated they wanted to expand their building and plant more trees around the building. Nancy stated the expansion is more visible from the Rio Salado Golf Course than from the road.
- Parks Board Commission – Nancy Ryan reported at the last month's Parks Board meeting she told them the ESC and RSAC met to talk about the boating activities at Town Lake. She stated staff had decided not to go forward with the sport field RFP. She also told the board the details on the Arts Related Development.

Agenda Item 6 – Project Updates

Nancy gave an update on projects in Rio Salado.

1) Nancy gave each RSAC member a copy of the new marketing brochure for Town Lake. Included in the brochure is a CD about the Lake. She stated this is a great marketing tool for Rio Salado.
2) Le Meriden Hotel at Hayden Ferry Lakeside asked the City to delay their start date to March. They are looking at having less condos and more hotel rooms. Staff thinks this is a good move.

3) Nancy reported staff has met with the three main participants in the Elements Project to define what will be the art related use for the project. They want to set a range of potential uses throughout the development.
4) She said in relationship to the Elements project staff is looking at the relocation of the Priest Maintenance Yard. They are looking at the cost to move the yard and the best place to move them.
5) The developer of the Bandersnatch property is going to Council this week for a hotel and parking structure.
6) Staff is doing a plat of property on Rio Salado Parkway and west of Priest around the VORTAC.
7) The Boathouse and the Between the Bridges Projects are going back to the Council's E-Session to ask for another 90 day negotiation period for each project.
8) Rio Salado and other departments went to Council to request funds to bury electrical boxes around the City. Council approved the funds.
9) US Army Corps of Engineers Habitat Phase III has submitted the 100% plans to the Flood Control of Maricopa County. The plans will also be going to ADOT this week. Nancy said we are on track to get the plans done on time and the project should start mid point next year.
10) Staff has initiated concept plans for the Rio East Park in front of the Pier. Nancy stated she will bring the plans to the RSAC soon for their review. Staff has asked designers to include a restroom in the plans.
11) Staff is looking at redesigning grinder pumps for the restrooms at Tempe Beach Park. They are looking at moving the restrooms to the south end of the park by Rio Salado Parkway.
12) She reported the Project for Open Space is due out anytime now.
13) Nancy stated in an up coming IRS there will be a presentation by the Parks and Recreation department of a cross-cut canal path from Papago park canal along the back side of the Rolling Hills Golf Course. She recommended watching for this item on the council's schedule.

General discussion regarding the **Project Updates**, including:

- Alana asked if there is any development sites left on Town Lake. Nancy stated there is Papago Stables, Namwest (old Club Rio site) and ASU's 9 acres at Rural Road and Rio Salado Parkway. There are other sites but they are held by developers or the City.
- Christina asked if the same artists are in the Elements project. Nancy said the three arts groups are Arizona Bronze, Meltdown Glass, and Roberto Venn School of Luthiery.
- Mike Curlee asked if the hotel is just on the Bandersnatch site. Nancy drew the site plan on the board showing it will also take up the City's duplicating building and adjoining parking lot. Mike asked if the parking will be underground. She said it will have a ½ floor underground and 3 to 4 floors above ground.
- Sue Lofgren would like to see the implementation of the Open Space Plan.
- Christina asked when the CIP budget will go to Council. Nancy said the CIP list given earlier in the meeting is a rough draft and will be going to the financial department first. Council will approve final CIP budget in April or May.

The Committee's next meeting will be **January 22**.
Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Prepared by: Diane Johnson

Reviewed by: Nancy Ryan

Nancy Ryan
Rio Salado Manager