



GOLDEN URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY

Memorandum

To: GURA Board of Commissioners
From: Mark Heller, Executive Director
Date: April 23, 2009
RE: Meeting Memo for April 27, 2009 Meeting

This memo will assist in the discussion of the following agenda items:

V4a. Photo Contest

I have notified the winners of the photo contest. I will also contact those who submitted photos during the contest period to request that they attempt additional images of specific compositions over the next two weeks. If those do not generate the additional needed images, we will purchase images from stock agencies.

V4b. 150th Exhibition at Foothills

GURA's public art committee has received the entries for the Foothills exhibit and will recommend to the full Board five entries for the banner contest.

VII. Support for Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum (RMQM)

NOTE: This agenda item was held over from the prior meeting, but since I have been on paternity leave, I have not had an opportunity to clarify a number of issues relating to this request. As this is not a time-sensitive request, I will resume work on it after I return.

As the email from RMQM Executive Director Ohlschwager included in the packet from the April 13, 2009 meeting indicates, the RMQM is facing a budget shortfall relating to the delays in the renovations of the new space, including delays to the store front. GURA's \$12,000 matching grant to Scott McDougal for the renovation of his "Image Designers" building prompted discussion between RMQM and Mr. McDougal regarding RMQM's move. While not conceived of as a grant to RMQM, the façade support is functioning as such. To address its budget crunch, RMQM is interested to know whether GURA would provide grant support to assist the museum with other elements of the build-out for the new space, such as signage (approx. \$1,000) or display walls to hang quilts.

VI2. Support for Congress of New Urbanism Denver Annual Conference

At the last GURA meeting, I updated the Board about me giving a tour of Golden to planners from across the country who will be attending the annual conference of The Congress of New Urbanism (CNU) in Denver this summer. This organization has been advocating pedestrian-oriented development on a neighborhood scale for many years – exactly the kind of redevelopment that GURA promotes in downtown Golden. Colorado planners and architects are attempting to form a Colorado Chapter of CNU in advance of the annual conference, and are in dire need of funding.

Note: Support for CO-CNU would place Golden in the forefront of this group of planners and developers, which could attract the kind of thoughtful and community-based redevelopment that GURA supports.

VI3. Kiosk at Coors Tour Lot

Among the ideas being discussed as a buy local strategy is a web-accessible kiosk at the Coors tour lot. GURA had been carrying about \$5,000 for such a kiosk over the last several years as a component of the wireless initiative. Since the wireless initiative stalled, the kiosk idea was shelved. However, such a kiosk could probably be installed as a stand-alone unit. The Board's direction is requested as to whether to investigate and possibly fund this project. There is ample room in the budget for such a project.

VIII Staff Report

1. "Golden Point": On April 16, City Council considered the request that urban renewal be investigated for the area around the bowling alley and the high school. To ensure any potential redevelopment of that area is harmonious with the surrounding neighborhood, City Council directed that this area should be included in the East Street Neighborhood Plan, work for which is anticipated but not yet scheduled.
2. "Gateway Arch": All permits have been issued and fabrication of the arch has begun.
3. Façade update: The Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum's new façade is nearly done, and the Plummer façade should be done in a week or so.
4. GURA 1st Quarter property tax revenue is approximately \$30,000 ahead of last year's 1st Quarter revenue.
5. I continue discussing PV options for the Gateway Garage with a Golden-based provider and should have a proposal for the May 11 meeting.