Tempe

Minutes
Rio Salado Advisory Commission
October 23, 2007

Minutes of the Rio Salado Advisory Commission held on October 23, 7:00 PM at the Rio Salado Operations Center, 620 N. Mill Ave., Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:
Dana Burkhardt
Christina Cenzano
Alana Chavez
Maureen DeCindis
Randy Smith

Members Absent:
Michael Curlee
Mary Hannaman
Sue Lofgren
Walter McCraney
Julie Ramsey
Brett Siegal

City Staff Present:
Diane Johnson
Dee Dee Kimbrell
Nancy Ryan

Guests Present:

Christina Cenzano called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes from September 25, 2007
Rio Salado Advisory Commission did not have a quorum so the minutes were not approved.

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

Agenda Item 3 – Pedestrian Bridge/Town Lake Dams
Nancy Ryan gave a progress update on Pedestrian Bridge design. She said staff is moving forward with the design shown to the RSAC last summer. At the same time staff has been doing a parallel study on evaluating what to do with the rubber dams and the replacement of them.

1) Nancy reported the City had a draft study come back outlining six different technologies to consider for replacement of the rubber dams. Some of these technologies were Bridgestone's duel chambered bladder, Sumitomo's single chambered bladder, and various different gates and lifts. She said the City has received word from Bridgestone they will no longer be making rubber dams. They have decided to make only conveyer belts at their factory because there is more demand for them.
2) The City staff went through a preliminary analysis of six alternations for the replacement of the dams. Nancy said now they will go back to take a closer look at cost and ease of changing the technology from the current rubber bladders. She stated staff is hoping to do

testing on the rubber bladder to see what the useful life is left. Staff will be discussing if the Pedestrian Bridge and rubber bladder replacement will be done in sequence or concurrently.

Agenda Item 4 – Boating Roundtable Report

Nancy handed out a list of notes taken at the boating activities roundtable meeting on October 12, 2007. She asked the RSAC to look over the notes to see if they wanted to add or change anything on the list. Nancy reported there was a lot of commonality on concerns and an open discussion on the different activities wanted on the lake.

General discussion regarding the **Boating Roundtable Report**, including:

- Maureen DeCindis stated she was impressed with how there were many people with different view points but they came together on the main points.
- Randy Smith asked if catamarans were allowed on Town Lake. Nancy said the City Code has been changed to allow catamarans on the lake.
- Randy also asked what was happening with allowing windsurfing on the lake. Nancy said windsurfing was brought up at the roundtable meeting as a way to activate the lake at different times during the day. Some of the meeting attendees represent a sales and leasing viewpoint and would like to see more activity on the lake during the middle of the day. Windsurfing was suggested as an option to activate the lake. Nancy said there would be cost and regulatory implications if we did allow windsurfing and staff would have to take a look at them.

Agenda Item 5 – Phase III Habitat Restoration

Nancy reported staff is working with US Army Corps of Engineers on the Phase III Habitat Restoration located from the Town Lake east dam to McClintock Drive.

1) Nancy stated the river bottom has water in it right now from the east dam to McClintock so the plan is to move the vegetation to the edges of the river bank. There will be a multi-use path on the north bank running across Indian Bend Wash and along the north bank to McClintock then picking up the path again on the south bank at McClintock and running it to the east dam. She said the City is working with The Pier project to complete the pathway from the dam to Rural Road on the south bank.
2) Nancy passed around the design plans of the habitat. She asked the commission members to review the plans to see if there are any comments or concerns they may have.

Agenda Item 6 - Committee Updates

- Friends of Rio Salado – Randy Smith announced Friends is having their annual Scary Halloween Boat Ride on October 27, 2007 at 7 pm. The boat ride is free and all you have to do is sign up for it. He passed out a flyer with the details.
- Enhanced Services Commission – Nancy gave an update on the last ESC meeting where they talked about the Pedestrian Bridge, Dam Replacement, PPS Urban Open Space Plan, and Park Maintenance. In the public project update they talked about Hayden Ferry Lakeside (HFL) condo tower Bridgeview opening March/April and Northshore condos opening April/May. They also talked about commercial space and how it follows residential space and it is slowing up.
- Parks Board Commission – Nancy said the Park Board talked about the same topics as the ESC meeting.

- Commission Training – Nancy asked if anyone had attended the Boards & Commission Orientation training session. Diane Johnson, Rio Salado Admin. Assistant reported she had attended a training session yesterday. She said the two new RSAC members, Michael Curlee and Walter McCraney, are signed up to attend a training session next week.

Agenda Item 7 – Project Updates

Nancy gave a summary of public projects in Rio Salado.

1) Nancy passed around a site plan of 100 Mill Avenue at Monti's La Casa Veija and asked the commission to review it. Dee Dee Kimbrell, Rio Salado Senior Planner, stated the proposed use is for a PAD with residential, hotel, and commercial components in two buildings. The site plan is going to the DRC tonight. She said the first phase will have a 25-story building reaching a maximum height of 296 ft. at roof deck and 316 ft. to the penthouse over run. In the first building there will be a 300-room hotel on floors 7 through 17 and residential on the remaining floors. Also in this project there will be 10,000 sq. ft. restaurant space and 14,500 sq. ft. of commercial space. Phase II will be a 26-story building.
2) Nancy reported the Sports Field RFP had one respondent for 2 ½ acres. The City has decided not to move forward with this proposal. She said staff is doing a Phase I Environmental study of the area and preparing to go into a Phase II study.
3) On the site just west of the Tempe Center for the Arts staff is working with Meltdown Glass, Arizona Bronze, and Roberto Venn School of Luthiery for an arts campus where you can see, touch, and hear how art is made. This project is called "Elements".
4) SunCor has an RFP out until December 15, 2007 for a full service conference hotel at HFL East. They have requested a 4-star or better hotel on 2 ½ acres with 400 rooms.
5) She announced Community Development has a weekly update anyone can access at www.tempe.gov/comdev .
6) Rio Salado staff has put out an RFP for lake maintenance to pick-up debris and dead fish at the east & west ends of the dams and in the wetland ponds. They have gotten a few responses back and they hope to evaluate them next week.
7) Nancy stated she would like to bring her proposed CIP list to the RSAC next month. Also next month we hope to take a tour of the East Valley Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility.
8) She reminded the commission members we have canceled the regular RSAC meetings in November and December and combined them into one meeting to be held on December 4, 2007.
9) Nancy announced the Phase II Restoration Habitat received an award of merit from Valley Forward. She also reported Tempe Marketplace received the Crescordia Award.

General discussion regarding the **public project update**, including:

- Christina asked to have an update on park renovations that are scheduled for the neighborhood parks in Tempe. Nancy said she would bring that information back to the RSAC at their next meeting.

The Committee's next meeting will be **December 4.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Prepared by: Diane Johnson

Reviewed by: Nancy Ryan

Nancy Ryan
Rio Salado Manager