

CITY OF RENO
DOWNTOWN POLICE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES
December 18, 2013

Members

Darrell Clifton, Chairman (328.9398, Fax 328.9278, DClifton@circusreno.com)
Dave Bennett, Vice Chairman (325.7394, dbennett@silverlegacy.com)
Deputy Chief Tom Robinson (334.2197, Fax 334.3890, robinsont@reno.gov)
Lieutenant Amy Newman (657-4613, Fax 334-3890, newmana@reno.gov)
Jerry Daughhetee (786.5700, daughheteej@eldoradoreno.com)
Jim Gallaway (852-0250, jimgallaway@hotmail.com)
Larry Garrison (788-2743, lgarrison@caesars.com)
Dean Hanson (208-724-8283, dlaahanson@msn.com)
Greg Landrus (323.4554, Fax 323.4589, gnlandrus@yahoo.com)
Chief Marshal Justin Roper (334.1254, Fax 334.1260, roperj@reno.gov)

I. ROLL CALL

Chairman Darrell Clifton called the meeting to order and requested a roll call.

Committee Members Present: Vice Chairman Dave Bennett, Chairman Darrell Clifton, Jerry Daughhetee, Jim Gallaway, Larry Garrison, Greg Landrus, and Chief Marshal Justin Roper.

Also Present: Sergeant Greg Blair, Sergeant Danny Thompson, Lawrence Kuten, Deputy City Attorney Jon Shipman, Alexis Hill, George Foster, Jacquie Logie, Maggie Telander, Lisa Mann, Craig Schoenky, Council Member Jenny Brekhus, Steve Hardesty, and Alex Woodley.

Absent: Dean Hanson, Lieutenant Amy Newman, and Deputy Chief Tom Robinson.

Chairman Clifton welcomed Council Member Brekhus and inquired if she was taking the place of Council Member Hillary Schieve. This was confirmed. Council Member Brekhus informed the group that it seemed a logical move since she also attends the Subcommittee for the Future of the Downtown Police and Maintenance Districts and is a part of the Downtown Maintenance District Advisory Committee. Council Member Schieve will take on a different group.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – This item is for either public comment on any action item or for any general public comment.

Chairman Clifton inquired if there was public comment. Mr. L.J. Kuten who lives at the Montage (255 N. Sierra Street) informed the group that the Montage would like a loading zone but that he has been told that this has been approved. If approved, then he has no further public comment. Mr. Kuten informed the group that he brought additional people from the Montage who were also in favor of a loading zone. Mr.

Kutten felt that he should show up out of respect since the Committee would be having someone talking on this issue today and that he would bring additional people. Chairman Clifton requested that Mr. Kutten keep the Committee updated as to the progress on the loading zone. Mr. Kutten was informed that he was welcome to stay if he would like. Mr. Gallaway informed the group that this item was on today's agenda and we would be discussing it. Another member from the Montage informed the group that they were appreciative of the Committee's support. They have been working on this for a long period of time. It was discussed that Mr. Woodley and Council were responsible for moving this along.

Chairman Clifton inquired if there was any other public comment. There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (For Possible Action) – November 20, 2013.

Chairman Clifton inquired if there was a motion to approve the minutes. Vice Chairman Dave Bennett made the motion and Chief Marshal Justin Roper seconded. There being no opposition, the minutes were approved.

IV. MEMBERS AND STAFF REPORTS (The items in this section are not for action and if action is desired the item will be placed on a future agenda and designated "For Possible Action.")

A. Chairman Report – Chairman Darrell Clifton

- Update on the progress of the Regional Alliance for Downtown (RAD) Safe and Clean Committee.
- Update on the progress of the Regional Alliance for Downtown (RAD) Public Policy Committee.

Chairman Clifton informed the group that the RAD Safe and Clean Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month. At the last meeting, there had been movement on the Good Neighbor Agreement. RAD has been working to create a block captain system similar to a neighborhood watch for businesses. They have two blocks set up so far in the area of Second and Arlington with two captains. They are trying to get the word out to other blocks that want to participate and nominate a captain. The Good Neighbor Agreement has been worked on for 3 years and basically states that you should keep your sidewalks clean, report crime and nuisances, and work out problems within the block before they escalate. Any who want more information can attend a meeting or contact Chairman Clifton.

Chairman Clifton informed the group that the RAD Public Policy Committee is looking at the business improvement district process. They meet tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. and all are welcome to attend. They are exploring how to create a bid, what is involved, how much it costs, what they have to do, and the legalities.

B. Police Report – Deputy Chief Tom Robinson, Lieutenant Amy Newman, Sergeant Greg Blair, Sergeant Dan Thompson

- Update on solutions and on-going enforcement at special assessment district locations.
- Update on Santa Crawl as related to the downtown core.
- Update on downtown camera system.
- Identification of future Police Report agenda items.

Sergeant Blair informed the group that the Santa Crawl had occurred and that it was thought it went well. Sergeant Blair thanked the security directors for making sure containers did not get out of the casinos. At one point, Harrah's had security there stopping people. It was thought that there were fewer containers than seen before. There were over 80 police officers on scene which helped. This is one of the events that this type of cooperation will need to be continued on. It also helped to move the photograph to 10:00 p.m. It was also cold which helped. Sergeant Thompson informed the group that due to the cold temperatures there was less activity downtown. Officers were still proactive and made a lot of stops.

Sergeant Blair informed the group that the camera system is plugging along. Another camera is up and the server is as well. Now we will have 30 days of camera storage. If something happens downtown, we will be able to look back 30 days and review it. Hopefully, it will be up and going soon. It has been slow due to the cold.

Sergeant Blair informed the group that this was his last meeting. He will be going back to Detectives. He has enjoyed working with downtown personnel. Jim Gallaway informed the group that he still needed the email from Reno Police so that they can get a camera added to their budget for their location. Sergeant Blair informed the group that this email would be coming from Officer Borst instead of Officer Gallop and it was thought that there was a hold up with the City. Mr. Gallaway informed the group that they would simply be providing the money if they could get the email request. Sergeant Blair will make sure that Officer Borst takes care of this. Mr. Gallaway thanked Sergeant Blair for the good work he has done for the district and wished him well in his future assignments.

C. Financial Report & Expenditures/Revenue – Zac Haffner

- Review, explanation, and discussion of November financial reports.

Zac Haffner was not present. Chairman Clifton inquired if there were questions or comments on the financial reports. There was none.

D. Special Events Report – Alexis Hill

- Review, explanation, and discussion of previous and upcoming special events as they apply to the Downtown Police Special Assessment District.

Alexis Hill informed the group that the spreadsheet went out on the upcoming events and that it was pretty sparse. New Year's is coming up and as Sergeant Blair stated we had a successful Santa Crawl. Mr. Gallaway inquired what the attendance was at the Santa Crawl. Ms. Hill informed the group that they only use the attendance figures from the promoters. The promoter gave the City an amount of 15,000 estimated attendance figures but the City is working with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) on an economic impact study and she should have real attendance numbers in March 2014. It was thought that UNR would come and do a presentation for the Committee.

V. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT – Council Member Jenny Brekhus

- Update and discussion of actions taken or being considered by City Council.
(The Council Liaison Report may be taken out of order)

Council Member Brekhus informed the group that in terms of downtown focus right now she was concentrating on sidewalk ice in Ward 1. Pedestrian safety is really important.

Council Member Brekhus has been trying to make contact with some of the large commercial owners to keep the sidewalks ice free. The ice rink is revenue neutral to the City. During these months, no one brings people downtown like the ice rink. There are questions about what to do with the location next year when the Virginia Street Bridge is under construction. Council Member Brekhus informed the group that she wanted to come on this Committee since her background was in City planning. She has been doing this for 20 years and it is where her degree is. She was able to travel some this year and realized that the physical safety that people feel in downtown environments is the key to urban revitalization. This is a goal and focus of hers. Originally, it was thought that 2013 would be a catalyst for some private development downtown but that didn't quite happen. There have been some properties that have turned over and she hopes that some of them will be spill over to downtown since the commercial supply in Midtown is filled. She hopes that 2014 will be a turn on private investment downtown and maybe something that we haven't seen from some of the other business districts. Council Member Brekhus informed the group that her Ward is Arlington Avenue west but we cannot be a successful region until we have a highly successful downtown.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. (For Possible Action): Update, discussion, and possible recommendations to City Council relating to the next step in the process involving the increasing or decreasing tax district assessments, expansion of the tax district, increasing of business licensing fees for alcohol, and specifically, where the money should be spent, and any potential changes in the level or kind of service being provided in the tax district. *[On-going item]*
 - Council Member Jenny Brekhus and/or Steve Hardesty

Steve Hardesty informed the group that the Subcommittee for the Future of the Downtown Police and Maintenance Districts has been meeting for the last 6 months or so. It has been very informal without a Chairman or Vice Chairman until this last meeting. They are now formalized and they approved an expansion area which doubles the size of the existing police district. All of the areas either border on the district or are extra areas that require police presence which spills over from the district. There are other areas along the edges that have also been benefiting and haven't been paying. There is good explanation and reason for these areas to be included in the new district. This is what they approved and will bring to Council on January 15. Another item brought up when figuring how the expansion should be funded was the decision that the 14 officers will continue to police the district. Chart 3B was approved by the Subcommittee. They have worked hard. It is a big group with lots of different input and considerations. There are residents, businesses, and casinos represented. One of the things the police department has been working on is the Reserve Officer Program or something similar which the group got excited about. What they want to recommend to Council is to not only expand the district but to expand it with the 14 officers that we have now and take the funding for 2 additional officers and use that towards the administration of the Reserve Officer Program. This would double the amount of people in the streets in uniform. This is around \$190,000 that they are proposing to put towards the administration of that program which will stay in the downtown district. A staff report is currently with the Reno Police Department Chief and with the Committee Chairman to make sure all items are covered. This staff report is due on December 24. If at the January meeting Council says 'go for it' it will be 'Katie, bar the door'. There will be 1800 letters that have to be out in a week. They will have to have the petition done in one month then go back to Council in less than a month to get the expansion legally done. Then he will have to have certified letters in the mail for estimated assessments no later than April 18. If it rolls, there might

be 3 different mailings and 2 different public hearings. This is what is coming up. Mr. Landrus inquired if the property owners would have to approve the expansion. This was affirmed. Mr. Hardesty informed the group that in the current district there are 1010 properties. When we expand, this will increase to 1835 properties. The 10/25 Rule will be used where 10% of the property owners have to approve representing 25 of the assessed value. We need 184 property owners to be in the affirmative. We will have to raise a little over \$61 billion dollars in assessed value. In the original district alone we have \$145 million of assessed value. Bottom line the existing district can create the expanded district. It was inquired what this would do to the assessments. Mr. Hardesty informed the group that currently we are at 90¢ per \$100.00 of assessed value – almost 91¢. It will take it down to 62¢. This takes about 30¢ per \$100.00 off. With this expansion, it will take 15 years to get back up to add about 5¢ more to the assessments. Mr. Gallaway inquired if we would be placing an item on the agenda for discussion as to who would oversee the policy of the district and maybe expand the mandate of this committee. Chairman Clifton informed the group that what was decided at the last meeting was that the Chairman working with the Vice Chairman would come up with a proposal for this and it would be a separate committee from this one. We will not expand the powers of this committee but move additional powers over to the new committee. Mr. Hardesty informed the group that the understanding was that the Subcommittee would continue following this line and this group would stay the way it is with the same role. Chairman Clifton informed the group that this group is supposed to make recommendations as to how the money is spent on police services and this is why this group has the police reports. Chairman Clifton requested that Council Member Brekhuis take our recommendations and at least listen to them. Council Member Brekhuis was interested in hearing about the utilization of the resources. Chairman Clifton thanked Mr. Hardesty for his hard work and requested that this item be left on the agenda for updates. This committee's next meeting is the same day as when the Subcommittee's staff report goes before Council. There won't be an update on this item for the January meeting.

2. (For Possible Action): Update, discussion, and possible recommendations to City Council regarding parking meters in the downtown corridor.
– Council Member Jenny Brekhuis

Council Member Brekhuis informed the group that the City entered into an agreement. We are getting an additional 600 meters to our current 1100. It was noted that Kurt Dietrich was involved in this from Public Works. The contract has been executed and they are rolling out the new meters. They will be stand alone and double head meters. The focus was on introducing them where they have not been before. Downtown will be where they pull out the coin. We will be keeping some coin in the lesser used areas. It is a quick deployment within 30-60 days. Lisa Mann informed the group that installation will start in early January and should be complete by first week of February. We will send out news releases from the Office of Communications and Community Engagement saying when it will start, when they are out, and when people have to pay. There are samples in the lobby for people to try. They can use debit cards and credit cards as well as coin. Chairman Clifton requested that this item be kept on the agenda until finished.

3. (For Possible Action): Update, discussion, and potential recommendations to the Director of the Office of Communications and Community Engagement for the City of Reno regarding options for improving the perception of the downtown area. *[On-going item]*

Mr. Gallaway informed the group that we had a presentation for the proposed City of Reno app and inquired if Council had acted on this. Council Member Brekhuis inquired if

this was the one that the City was doing. Deanna Gescheider presented it at Council. It was determined that the app is now live. Ms. Mann informed the group that a press release went out. Mr. Gallaway inquired if he could download it now. This was affirmed. There are some restrictions on phone operating systems. Ms. Mann will send the press release to the Committee Secretary for distribution. It was discussed that this is on the new website as well. Mr. Gallaway wants to compare it to the Washoe County Sheriff's app. Sergeant Thompson informed the group that he was one of the beta users and within 3 days he was seeing action with graffiti items.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Welcome to Downtown Security Directors member Larry Garrison completing the term of Guy Hyder.**

– Chairman Darrell Clifton

Chairman Clifton welcomed Larry Garrison to the Committee.

- 2. Presentation on the proposed Downtown Maintenance Standards Ordinance.**

– Alex Woodley

Alex Woodley did a presentation on the proposed Downtown Maintenance Standards Ordinance which has not been finalized yet.

- 3. (For Possible Action): Update, discussion, and potential recommendations to City Council regarding a loading zone at the Montage.**

– Craig Schoenky and Alex Woodley

Mr. Woodley informed the group that one of the benefits with his job is to go to these meetings and listen to input from people. There were concerns with a lack of a loading zone for the Montage. Mr. Woodley was able to see the situation first hand when Mr. Kutten had Mr. Woodley meet him at the Montage. Mr. Kutten took a cab and the cab had to stop in a traffic lane. Soon Virginia Street will be closed and traffic on Center and Sierra will be increased. The Montage is at 80% occupancy with only 59 units left. Mr. Woodley met with Public Works on this. Mr. Woodley and Mr. Schoenky met with the President of the Association at the Montage to identify a location. Mr. Schoenky informed the group that the loading zone was denied before because there were 2 parking meters in this location. Parking meters provide better turnover of cars. Mr. Schoenky explained that in the downtown area when a loading zone is put in people park there all day. When this last request came through the parking meters had been removed. The sign has gone in for the 24 hour loading zone. The paint will go in when the temperature goes up. Mr. Woodley informed the group that this was a dual partnership. With the location of the loading zone by the Montage double doors allows for security to see who is using the loading zone and if abuse is occurring they will call RenoDirect. There is only 3 minute parking. Council Member Brekhus inquired if the original plans had been looked at. Mr. Schoenky informed the group that originally when he got the request he walked around with the manager who showed him that inside the parking garage there was a place for taxis to drop off right at the elevator but this is no longer allowed. It is illegal to stop in a traffic lane. It was discussed that the loading zone would be in 2 spaces on the inlet. Mr. Kutten informed the group that he understood the problem but unfortunately, he has to use a cane. If dropped off at the end of the block sometimes he is unable to walk to the door. Being dropped in front of the door is great. Mr. Schoenky noted that the group

should understand that this is not reserved parking but a loading zone. The best thing would be to get access for taxis into the underground garage. Council Member Brekhus thought that in an urban environment you need both. Mr. Woodley will work on this and make sure it is enforced.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Identification of agenda items for January 15, 2014, meeting.
(This item is for identification of agenda items and there will be no action taken until such items are listed on future agenda as an action item.)

Chairman Clifton inquired if there were additional items for the agenda for January. Discussion was held as to what positions were open on the committee and if a quorum was from all positions. This was affirmed. It was thought that we should move to having 2 resident members. This will require a change to the bylaws. A review of the bylaws and discussion of proposed changes will be put on the January agenda.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE/LOCATION

Noon, January 15, 2014, at 1 E. 1st Street, (City Hall) 7th Floor, Public Works Conference Room, Reno, NV 89501.

Chairman Clifton informed the group of the next meeting date and time. The next meeting will be in the Public Works Conference Room.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT – This item is for general public comment.

There was no public comment.

XI. ADJOURNMENT. (For possible Action)

Chairman Clifton requested a motion for adjournment.

Sergeant Thompson inquired if anyone had heard anything regarding putting lights in the Douglas Alley. Mr. Hanson had been discussing this with the City. Discussion was held and it was thought that the lights had been put up. It was suggested that Mr. Schoenky check on this when he is out in downtown tonight.

Jim Gallaway made the motion to adjourn. Greg Landrus seconded. There being no opposition, the meeting was adjourned.