

DDA still concerned about 1st Street parking

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NEDERLAND

The February 4 meeting of the Nederland Downtown Development Authority began late on this snowy morning, and with three of its members absent: chair Teresa Warren was attending the Downtown Colorado, Inc. meeting; Mayor Pro Tem Betty Porter was on vacation; and Secretary Steven Culver was away. Ken Adler chaired the meeting.

Nederland Town Administrator Jim Stevens attended, to give the Town's perspective on the DDA's tentative proposal to limit parking on 1st Street. He stressed that the Town does not have the funds to support enforcement of a two-hour parking limit. When asked, he opined that revenue from tickets would not cover the cost of a parking monitor. The idea of soliciting volunteers was raised.

Other suggestions included informing businesses where their staffs could park all day, and having businesses provide parking maps to customers. Adler noted that free parking areas could be marked more clearly. Ron Mitchell and Will Guercio suggested "courtesy tickets" that would thank visitors for shopping in Nederland. The subject was tabled for a later meeting.

Riverwalk

In his Director's Report, Paul Turnburke stated that he was able to obtain an original copy of Nederland's Colorado State Recreational Trails Grant proposal that can be used to develop further proposals. He contacted that organization, and their representative will be coming to Nederland to assist with a new application.

Meanwhile, Joy Lujan, from the National Park Service, who had toured the prospective Riverwalk with Turnburke in January, "got excited about its potential," he reported. Mike Hinke of CU Denver has offered to develop GIS plans for the Riverwalk – "a great set of plans to help us with our next application," according to Turnburke.

Sidewalk maintenance

Turnburke also met with Town Public Works director Tim Underwood regarding the proposed pilot program for clearing the new sidewalks. The proposal is that the DDA's commitment of \$3000 for snow removal be considered an ongoing commitment for financing for equipment for the task.

Underwood has contacted Black Hawk, which will let Nederland borrow their side-by-side ATV during a snow storm to test its effectiveness. He will also try other similar units. Then Underwood will check out used side-by-sides with additional equipment, such as brushes, and water tanks, in order to facilitate year-round use of the unit. The idea is to have this all arranged before next winter.

Public balance sheet

Mitchell suggested developing a statement of the DDA's assets and liabilities to show Nederland merchants and residents what their DDA mill levy has done for the Town. The group saw this as good public relations, and Turnburke suggested a press release and a mailing about this once the sidewalks are operational.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45. The next meeting of the DDA will take place on Thursday, February 18, at 8:00 a.m. at the Pioneer Inn.