

## **Nederland Downtown Development Authority Minutes for November 5, 2009**

**Board members present:** Bunny Spangler, Ken Adler, Betty Porter, Teresa Warren, Steve Culver, Director Paul Turnburke and Will Guercio.

**Absent:** Ron Mitchell.

**Also present:** Kathleen Chippi, Mayor Martin Cheshes, Donna, Mike Massa and Police Chief Ken Robinson.

Meeting called to order at 8:08 A.M.

1. Paul Turnburke talked about why construction crews didn't seem to be working on good weather days. He said there are a lot of factors they have to take into account including ground moisture content. Paul said there was a progress meeting yesterday and what is considered a working day is decided by the engineer. The engineer agreed that if only one half of the crew could work because other sections were too wet, then only one half day would be charged against the contractor. Teresa Warren asked Paul to notify the DDA Board on progress meeting times. Paul said these are usually set up on a last minute notice. Teresa also asked Paul to update her right after the meetings on anything new that may have come up so she is better prepared to answer questions from businesses and the community.
2. Betty Porter updated us on the last BOT meeting. She said the vendor fee for collecting sales taxes in town has been eliminated. The BOT will be pursuing a lodging tax in town. This will be taken up in the spring and possibly be on the ballot.
3. Betty Porter said there is no new information on the Riverwalk Project Grant even though the grants were to be announced on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Betty said the Town is working on an easement on the Snyder property with the Historical Society.
4. Teresa Warren updated us on the sidewalk maintenance plan. The Town is looking into an ordinance change for residential shoveling for those residents whose property backs up to the new sidewalk. Tim Underwood has said that a regular pick-up plow truck would be too big to clear the sidewalks and has suggested a smaller utility type vehicle with a plow on front and a dump bed in back to hold gravel. Teresa Warren asked if the DDA Board would like to vote to put \$1000.00 into the sidewalk maintenance this year. This issue will be put on the agenda at the next DDA Board meeting.

Paul Turnburke said the sidewalk will not be turned over to the Town for maintenance or anything else until the entire project is completed and there has been a thorough inspection of the condition of the sidewalk. Even though some sidewalk sections look completed they are still under the control of the contractor.

5. Mike Massa said there have been no changes to the financial standing of the DDA since our last Board meeting. Mike said that we have not received any payments from CDOT for our sidewalk project and at this time he doesn't know when we will. Mike asked the DDA Board about invoicing the bank for their contribution to the sidewalk construction in front of the bank. Teresa Warren said she would get accurate figures from Loris & Assoc. about construction costs and Ken Adler said he would talk to John Benedetti at the bank to settle on an amount to invoice.

6. Teresa Warren asked Police Chief Ken Robinson to attend our DDA Board meeting and discuss parking improvements to the town. A major concern is the limited parking along First Street. Ken Robinson said we should look into improving the conditions of existing parking areas and recommending display signs for "Free Parking", to direct visitors into areas where there is more available parking. After much discussion on the problems of business owners and employees of local businesses occupying prime parking spaces all day along First Street we came to the conclusion that there wasn't an easy solution to this problem and more study was needed. It was decided that the DDA or the Town should do a study to see if limited time parking or installing parking meters would solve the problems and notify the businesses along First Street that this was going to be done.

7. Our next DDA meeting will be on Thursday, November 19th. The meeting will take place at 8:00 A.M. at the Pioneer Inn, unless otherwise notified. Some of the items to put on the agenda will be another contribution to the Town for sidewalk maintenance and the approval of minutes from previous meetings.

Teresa Warren adjourned the meeting at 9:53 AM.

Submitted by Stephen Culver, Secretary.