



**MINUTES**  
**RIVER ROAD RENAISSANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, October 20, 2009 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Keizer Civic Center**

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Chair Taylor. Those in attendance were:

**Present:**

Lore Christopher (6:11)	Mayor
Jim Nardi	Gateway South Representative
Richard Hoover	Traffic Safety Commission Representative
Doug Schneider	Planning Commission Representative
Jim Taylor, Chair	Keizer City Council
Hank Tarter	Claggett Creek Representative
Christine Dieker	Chamber of Commerce
Cliff Voliva	Gateway North Representative

**Absent:**

A.J. Nash	Keizer Urban Renewal Board Representative
Vacant	Keizer Points of Interest Representative
Dennis Blackman	Sunset Representative
Tom Schuh	Citizen at Large
Dennis Scott	Chemawa Representative

**Staff Present:**

Nate Brown	Community Development Director
Debbie Lockhart	Deputy City Recorder

**Appearance of Interested Citizens** ~ Christine Dieker volunteered to serve as a non-voting Chamber Representative for this meeting. She noted that Greg Frank would be the representative after this meeting.

**Approval of Minutes** ~ Doug Schneider moved to approve the July 2009 Minutes. Jim Nardi seconded. Motion passed as follows: Nardi, Hoover, Schneider and Taylor in favor; Voliva, Tarter and Dieker abstaining, and Nash, Blackman, Schuh and Scott absent, Christopher absent at time of vote and one position vacant.

**OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES**

**Copeland Property** ~ Nate Brown reported that saw cutting had begun. He distributed a site plan to members pointing out places where there was minimal space which would mean minimal planting. He explained that there will be a new entry into the building with

two planters on either side of that and planting adjacent to the sidewalk on Dearborn. He noted that both parties have signed easements/agreements, completion of paving will be dependent on weather but curbing and hardscape can be done now.

**Town & Country Lanes** ~ Mr. Brown reported that KURB had authorized the grant but the bidding process will take place in February or March for the next construction season. The project must be completed by the end of June since that is the end of the fiscal year. Discussion then took place regarding the location of the art pad, improvements to the coffee place (Java Crew) and the façade improvement grant. Christine Dieker noted that this is the second time around for Town & Country because they received an Urban Renewal Grant for the flower boxes before River Road Renaissance was established. Nate responded that if the funds were low this might be a problem but it is not an issue at this time. It will, however, be a policy decision that needs to be addressed. He voiced the hope that at some point other business owners will begin to take advantage of the program and improve their properties.

**Art Walk:** Christine Dieker distributed a letter from the Chamber for Keizer Public Art Committee, Keizer Art Association and Artists in Action requesting funding for the art platforms. Discussion followed regarding grants, platforms, lighting, fund raisers and stipends. Nate clarified that this request is for the City to fund, out of Urban Renewal dollars, all the pads so that the Art Association does not have to repay the City for the pads already in place. He voiced the opinion that it is consistent to have the City pay for these because they are permanent and one-time only. Ms. Dieker added that she had talked to Councilors about this and the swaying opinion comes when one looks at the business participation in the program. She noted that this is a combination effort with the Chamber, the Art Association and area businesses.

Mayor Christopher moved that this committee recommend to KURB that the cost of 12 platforms (permanent fixtures) on River Road be paid for by the Urban Renewal Fund. Hank Tarter seconded.

Richard Hoover offered a friendly amendment that the platforms be lighted. Mayor Christopher and Hank Tarter accepted the amendment.

Mr. Brown clarified that passage of this amendment would absolve the Art Association from paying the City back for the existing platforms.

Christine Dieker added that the Art Association is working on an agreement with the existing artists to leave their artwork up one more year and will recruit four more artists for the new platforms. She reviewed planned fundraisers, grant applications and funding needs.

Motion passed unanimously as follows: Nardi, Hoover, Schneider, Taylor, Christopher, Voliva and Tarter in favor, Dieker abstaining, Nash, Blackman, Schuh and Scott absent, and one position vacant.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Brown reported that the City is talking with the owner of the property in the triangle next to the Christmas tree about purchasing that property. He noted that the car lot is gone and there is no current lease on the property so the owner has expressed a willingness to talk. A meeting is set up for October 30. Funding would be from Urban Renewal because this is one of the first places identified as a focal point. Mr. Brown noted that he has asked Public Works Director Nate Brown to do a traffic count for the one-way right turn at Greenwood with the idea of possibly closing that off and developing a plaza on both sides of the tree.

Mayor Christopher suggested that two benches be placed by the artwork at Stats Lake. Discussion followed regarding the placement, cost and recruiting possible donations.

Mayor Christopher moved to recommend to the Urban Renewal Board that benches be placed by the artwork by Stats Lake. Cliff Voliva seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Nardi, Hoover, Schneider, Taylor, Christopher, Voliva and Tarter in favor, Dieker abstaining, Nash, Blackman, Schuh and Scott absent, and one position vacant.

Additional discussion took place regarding the placement of the artwork at the Keizer Plaza.

Mayor Christopher moved to recommend to KURB that the art platform be lighted and moved to the center of the plaza at the Keizer Plaza if the cost is reasonable. Doug Schneider seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Nardi, Hoover, Schneider, Taylor, Christopher, Voliva and Tarter in favor, Dieker abstaining, Nash, Blackman, Schuh and Scott absent, and one position vacant.

Additional discussion took place regarding additional benches: one at the traffic triangle at River Road and Lockhaven and the other at Chase Bank. Doug Schneider responded that KURB had opposed the placement of the bench at the traffic triangle and Mr. Brown confirmed that the Chase Bank location had been discussed.

**Adjournment** ~ Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

*Next Meeting*

*Tuesday, January 26, 2010 – Civic Center, Room A*

*Approved: 1-5-10*