



**MINUTES**  
**RIVER ROAD RENAISSANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, July 29, 2008 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers**  
**Keizer City Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Taylor. Those in attendance were:

**Present:**

Jim Nardi	Gateway South Representative
Cliff Voliva	Gateway North Representative
Richard Hoover	Traffic Safety Commission Representative
Hank Tarter	Claggett Creek Representative
Doug Schneider	Planning Commission Representative
Joanne Bielke	Keizer Points of Interest Representative
A.J. Nash	Keizer Urban Renewal Board Representative
Lore Christopher (5:50)	Mayor

**Absent:**

Jim Taylor	Keizer City Council
James Hupy	Chemawa Representative
Shelly King/Joe Egli	Chamber of Commerce
Tom Fox	Citizen At Large
Position Vacant	Sunset Triangle Representative

**Staff Present:**

Nate Brown	Community Development Director
Debbie Lockhart	Deputy City Recorder

**Appearance of Interested Citizens ~ None**

**Approval of Minutes** ~ A correction was made to the minutes. Doug Schneider moved to approve the April 2008 Minutes as corrected. Richard Hoover seconded. Motion passed as follows: Nardi, Hoover, Tarter and Schneider in favor with Fox, Voliva, Nash and Beilke abstaining and Taylor, Hupy, King/Egli and Fox absent.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Lockhaven and River Road Improvements Update** ~ Community Development Director, Nate Brown reported that the drilled rocks had been procured, site has been marked, electrical installed and a nine-day traffic control plan has been approved. He concluded that he hoped to see water flowing within two weeks.

**Copeland Property** ~ Nate Brown, reported that he had a meeting set up with both property owners but Ms. Bowerly was unable to attend. Mr. Brown met with Mr. McCarty who voiced concern regarding preserving options for the future in case either party should choose to develop the property differently. This would involve including an option out of the easement.

The next step will be to develop a draft agreement that would address their concerns. Mr. Brown concluded that this has been a slow process but he is convinced that it will be worth it in the long run.

**Wells Fargo/Wittenberg Property** ~ Mr. Brown distributed a small site plan noting that this would come to the Urban Renewal Agency on August 4 for funding. He explained that pricing seemed reasonable and that improvements will go down the side streets as well as on River Road. He noted that sidewalk changes will require an amendment to the plan adding that he would be meeting with the landscaper regarding moving the trees so that they would be between the sidewalk and street to provide more separation between pedestrians and traffic. Bench and transformer locations were reviewed as well. In closing, Mr. Brown noted that he would like to "beef up" Development Standards so that the City would have some control over building design.

**Flowering Trees** ~ Committee members reviewed a handout of various flowering trees with discussion taking place regarding grouping of colors and assuring that the trees would be consistent on both sides of the street in the districts. Following lengthy discussion, members agreed that trees did not have to be flowering but should be interesting, that grouping was important and that standards should be developed for grouping and impact. It was suggested that electricity should be run to trees so that they could be lit in the winter.

**Electronic Message Signs** ~ Mayor Christopher explained that Council is reviewing the electronic message signs in the sign code and voiced concern about the future look of River Road. She asked for feedback from members of the committee. Mr. Brown provided clarification. Following lengthy discussion, members of the committee indicated that their hope for River Road was to increase the safety and enhance the appearance of the River Road corridor, keeping it a vibrant corridor where businesses will want to locate and making it aesthetically pleasing to the community while providing safety incentives.

**Business Incentives** ~ Discussion took place regarding improving the appearance of businesses along River Road and providing information regarding available grants to businesses in need of attention. Mr. Brown indicated that with the Civic Center project in full swing, cash flow is an issue so there has not been a push to advertise about the grants available. Additional discussion took place regarding the roll of the district representatives, doing a mailing to businesses on River Road, outreach through K23 and development of a coalition of people with the Chamber. A.J. Nash volunteered to work with Mr. Brown to draft a letter that could be sent to River Road businesses.

**Keizer Public Arts** ~ JoAnne Beilke reported that the easements have been acquired for the artwork; the unveiling will be on September 20 with an Artist Reception fundraiser on November 15. She reviewed the four sites noting that the children at Heritage Center are the 5<sup>th</sup> and the TD Keizer statue at the Civic Center will be the 6<sup>th</sup> site. She added that the concept is to bring attention to River Road, expose the community and children to art and to create events around business to bring people to River Road. Ms. Beilke then reviewed the voting process for the art walk, the history of the event, and grants that have been received.

**Adjournment** ~ Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

*Next Meeting*

*Tuesday, August 19, 2008 – City Hall*

*Approved: 1-27-09*