



**MINUTES**  
**RIVER ROAD RENAISSANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, May 23, 2006 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Robert L. Simon Council Chambers**  
**Keizer City Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Vice Chair Jim Taylor. Those in attendance were:

**Present:**

Lore Christopher (arrived 5:40)  
Cliff Voliva  
Jim Nardi  
Hank Tarter  
James Taylor  
Renee Braun (arrived 5:10)  
Chris Arnett (left at 5:40)  
Vickie Hilgemann  
Stuart Crosby

Mayor  
Gateway North Representative  
Gateway South Representative  
Claggett Creek Representative  
Keizer City Council  
Sunset Triangle Representative  
Traffic Safety Commission Representative  
Keizer Points of Interest Representative  
Keizer Urban Renewal Board Representative

**Absent:**

Brandon Bay, Chair  
James Hupy  
Jack Lowery  
Tom Fox

President, Chamber of Commerce  
Chemawa Representative  
Planning Commission Representative  
Citizen At Large

**Also Present:**

Nate Brown  
Debbie Lockhart

Community Development Director  
Deputy City Recorder

**Appearance of Interested Citizens ~ None**

**Approval of March 28, 2006 Committee Minutes ~ Jim Nardi moved to approve the minutes. Hank Tarter seconded. Motion passed by all members who attended the meeting.** (Nardi, Tarter and Taylor with Arnett, Voliva, Hilgemann and Crosby abstaining).

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Shari's Update ~** Nate Brown reported that the final inspection on the interior remodel has taken place. A cashier's check for Shari's share of the sidewalk project is being held as security for completion of exterior work. It is anticipated that the project will begin in

the next couple of weeks. He reviewed in detail the plans: widening the sidewalk, enlargement of the corner, a masonry wall reflecting the one across the street with stamped concrete matching that in the plaza area and a seat-height wall.

**Baskin-Robbins Update** ~ Mr. Brown reported that large shrubs have been planted, Bradford Pear and Flowering Crab Apple will be planted in the tree wells. Completion is anticipated by the end of the week. Discussion took place regarding a celebration marking the completion of the project.

**Lockhaven and River Road Improvements Update** ~ Nate reported that the engineer has been asked to design a poured-in-place crash barrier that will meet ASHTO standards, with inset panels similar to those at Keizer Station. He pointed out that the stamped concrete that has already been poured was poured without color. Discussion followed regarding options for remedying the lack of color. General opinion was to do the other corners with color, stain the no-color corner and replace that concrete some time in the future. Nate noted that he would bring the plans to the next meeting for the designs on the corners of that intersection.

**West Coast Bank** ~ Renee Braun reported that a preliminary sketch of the plans shows a curvy sidewalk back from the road with diagonal parking in the front and patterned concrete across the driveway; hopefully a bench will be put under the tree. Nate added that after the drawings are refined and bids received, the bank will come before the Urban Renewal Board for a grant. Renee added that discussions are underway with 7-11 regarding continuing the improvements to the corner. Nate added that the property managers for Schoolhouse Square want to develop their corner to carry the theme across. He voiced the opinion that now that the Baskin-Robbins project is complete, Faith Lutheran Church may move forward on improvements to their property.

**Keizer Plaza** ~ Mr. Brown reported that the owner of Keizer Plaza would be making an application to KURB for Street Improvement and Façade Improvement grants. He explained the plan in detail adding that the applicant is requesting a grant for \$75,000 which is 20% of the actual cost. Discussion took place regarding improvements to include stamped concrete and seat height river rocks. It was noted that with the landscape improvement grant the total cost to the city could be \$115,000; however, this would remedy an eyesore and bring in businesses and job opportunities which would ultimately bring funds to the city.

**Other Business** ~ Lore Christopher suggested that businesses on River Road with green space adjacent to the sidewalk (which is next to River Road) be contacted via letter from the committee with a proposal to remove the green space and replace it with a wider sidewalk with street lighting and tree wells. This could be done for a significant length of the roadway and would have a positive impact on the look of River Road. Ms. Christopher suggested that the first project be paid for by the city to encourage other River Road businesses to follow suit. Nate encouraged consideration of the priority list and available funds. Discussion took place regarding improvements on the south part of River Road.

Nate Brown reported that Ms. Billingsley, the owner of Mole's Annex, has expressed an interest in continuing the improvements which were begun at Baskin-Robbins. Renee Braun added that Nora Nelson, owner of the property leased by the Palm Reader, is interested in continuing the improvements past her property as well.

Mayor Christopher spoke enthusiastically about citizen support of projects which were highlighted in the City booth at the Keizer Festival. Additional discussion took place regarding standardization of benches for River Road. Nate responded that there should be a standard for each district, possibly color-coded to match the color of the district. It was suggested that donation of benches, trash receptacles, tables, planters, etc. in certain areas be investigated with a catalog of specific items made available for anyone interested in donating.

Jim Taylor reported that the Wittenberg property had sold to a bank and this might be another opportunity for moving the sidewalks.

**Adjournment ~ Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.**

*Next Meeting*  
*Tuesday, June 27, 2006*

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_