Minutes of the August 16, 2000
Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facilities District Board

Approved on: 09-13-00

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Ruben Suarez called the Board meeting to order at 5:45 pm, Wednesday, August 16, 2000 at the Apache Room of the Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Avenue, Tucson, Arizona.

Present:

Chair Ruben Suarez | Secretary Corky Poster | Olivia Hernandez

Absent/Excused: Alice Eckstrom

Staff Present:

John S. Jones, Project Director
John Updike, Project Manager
Bill Hicks, Esq., Snell & Wilmer
Elisabeth Sotelo, City Attorney's Office
Kay Gray, Finance Director
Marty McCune, Historic Program Administrator
Fernando Castro, City Manager of South Tucson

It was determined that a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Poster moved approval of the June 14, 2000 minutes, Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (11-0)

3. Update on Rio Nuevo Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC)

Mr. Jones provided an update to the Board and reviewed the minutes from the most recent CAC meeting included in the agenda package. The next CAC meeting is scheduled for September 6 at 5:30 pm at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel.

4. Status of RFP for Rio Nuevo Master Plan Consultant Services

Following a brief overview of the selection process by Mr. Jones, the communication to the Board was reviewed and the recommendation that the Board authorize the Chairman to execute a consulting contract in the amount of $600,000 with Hunter Interest, Inc. was made. Mr. Poster commended all four firms that interviewed in public on August 3 and 4 at the Presidio Plaza Hotel on a job well done, and moved

the staff recommendation. Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

5. **Status of RFP for Archaeological Consultant Services**

Ms. McCune provided a brief update on the status of the selection process. There is a goal to make the final selection in September. As the selection process is on-going at this time, no further information could be provided. A further update will be provided at the next Board meeting.

At this time, Michelle Rehm from the westside area rose to spoke, and the Chair acknowledged her. She indicated that she and others did not support the selection of Hunter Interest, Inc. The Chair thanked her for her comments.

6. **IGA with Cities of South Tucson and Tucson regarding Advanced Payment**

Mr. Jones provided a review of the IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) and Rules amendments placed before the Board for consideration. The substantive amendment accelerates a portion of the total payment owed to the City of South Tucson in an amount of $250,000 as expeditiously as possible. Mr. Poster moved approval of the amended IGA and Rules, and Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

7. **Tucson Origins Property Acquisitions**

Mr. Jones reviewed the communication, and Mr. Updike provided a brief outline of the future required steps involved in acquiring the properties noted in the communication. Mr. Poster moved the staff recommendation to conduct due diligence on the properties at 196 and 200 N. Court Avenue and return to the Board with a purchase offer for approval at the next meeting. Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

8. **Request of Arizona State Museum**

Mr. George J. Gumerman, Director of the Arizona State Museum (ASM), led a brief presentation to the Board regarding the ASM proposal to locate a facility with Rio Nuevo. Mr. Poster inquired as to the status of their construction budget, and Mr. Gumerman indicated that ASM officials are continuing to work on that aspect of their proposal. Mr. Poster welcomed the proposal as advancing the purpose of creating a cluster of cultural museums at Rio Nuevo. Mr. Poster recommended that this proposal be reviewed by the Rio Nuevo Citizen's Advisory Committee (RNCAC), and that decision-making and evaluation criteria be developed by the RNCAC for this and future proposals. Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

9. **Request of the Insect Museum**

Mr. Robert Duff led a presentation regarding the insect museum proposal covering 3.5 acres, with an estimated construction budget of seven to nine million dollars. The presenters led those in attendance through a review of their exhibits on display in the meeting area. Mr. Poster requested that the group collaborate with those affiliated with the former arachnid museum venture. Mr. Poster recommended that this proposal be reviewed by the Rio Nuevo Citizen's Advisory Committee (RNCAC), and that decision-making and evaluation criteria be developed by the RNCAC for this and future proposals. Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

10. **Proposal from Tucson/Pima Arts Council to Provide Tour Services**

Mr. Jones reviewed the communication to the Board. Additional input will be solicited from the RNCAC. Additional information will be provided to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

11. **Call to the Audience**

Two unidentified audience members spoke regarding the fact that there are other museums of note and complexes located in other cities worth investigating. Mr. Carl Bedford noted that the Washington D.C. mall complex of Smithsonian-affiliated museums is particularly noteworthy. Mr. Steve Dolan asked for a brief review of the upcoming master planning process. Mr. Jones provided a brief overview of the process ahead, and indicated all four teams interviewed for the contract displayed a multi-disciplinary approach to the project.

12. **Next Meeting**

The next Board meeting will be on September 13, 2000 at 5:30 pm at the Community Resource Center at 310 N. Commerce Park Loop Drive.

13. **Adjournment**

Mr. Poster moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (11-0) at 6:45pm.

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