

**Ashton Urban Renewal Agency**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 6, 2016**  
**Ashton, Idaho**

Vice Chair Sara Bowersox called the meeting to order about 4:30 PM.

Attendance

Board Members: Mark Chandler, Mayor Teddy Stronks, Stacy Dexter, and Sara Bowersox Roz Jenkins (left early).

Visitors: Michele OMalley, Sara Reinke, Darryll Reinke, Devin Burton and Brandon Hoffner (Henry's Fork Foundation)

Administrative Support: Katie Cook from ECIPDA

Amend Agenda

Stacy Dexter motioned to amend the agenda to add Brandon Hoffner from Henry's Fork Foundation at the beginning of the agenda. Teddy Stronks seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Henry's Fork Foundation

Brandon Hoffner from the Henry's Fork Foundation was present to give the board an update about the acquisition of the old hospital building. He still plans to present a formal proposal to the Ashton URA asking for participation with some costs associated with the project. The Phase I environmental is complete, but the main concern is the gas tank that was used to power the generator. They plan to remove the tank that was installed around 1998 so there are no issues in the future and there is no record of leaking with the previous tank that was on the property. The full report on the asbestos and lead paint abatement has not been completed, it is still being worked on. They plan to close on the building June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Last time Brandon visited the Ashton URA it was estimated that the cost of the project would be around \$500,000, but after receiving some bids, it is looking like it will be closer to \$1.1M to refurbish the entire building. They will likely finish it in phases, but plan to finish it in 18-24 months. They have already raised \$150,000-200,000 for the project and he anticipates there will be more coming in soon.

Brandon has a Henry's Fork Foundation board meeting in a week and he would like to be able to give them an idea of what the Ashton URA is willing to help with. Sara Bowersox reminded him that at the meeting held on April 21, 2016 the board voted to support the project and that the Ashton URA is interested in setting up a working meeting to decide how they can best participate with the Henry's Fork Foundation. Brandon would like to meet sometime in July with the Ashton URA board after he has had a chance to prepare a proposal.

## Agenda

Teddy Stronks motioned to return to order on the agenda, Roz Jenkins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## Approval of Meeting Minutes

Sara Bowersox asked for a motioned to approve the meeting minutes from May 16, 2016. Stacy Dexter motioned to approve the meeting minutes from May 16, 2016, Roz Jenkins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## Consideration of Payment of Invoices

There were no new invoices presented to the board for approval. Grover Landscape requires ½ of the cost of their bid upfront to get going on a project. Because the board had already approved the work, and the amount being done by Grover Landscape, Katie Cook let the board know that a check for \$8,813.95 was given to Grover Landscape since the last meeting.

## Project Discussion

### Pocket Park

Sara Bowersox followed up with the contractor that is putting in the sidewalk and the concrete will be poured tomorrow or Wednesday and they anticipate being completely done by Friday. She then called Josh Grover to let him know the timeline and when his crew could get started and he will have them start on Monday. The sod and the sprinklers will be the last things done and he anticipates he can have that done by June 27<sup>th</sup> so the grass will have a full week before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Sara asked him about whether the sod could handle people being on it a week after being put in. He thinks that if the water is turned down the night before, it should be ok. Jan at the City has put in a work order to get the water meter installed. Sara will let Michele OMalley know when the flower beds are done so she can plan out the shrubs and ground cover.

### Park Benches

The Vasak Trust will be donating 2 benches for the park; Sara Reinke has worked closely with them and they are working on getting the funding. The Palmer family, in partnership with the Ashton Community Foundation, want to donate a bench in memorial of Randy Palmer, but due to some technicalities of the way the Foundation is set up, they will not be able donate a personal bench with a personal message. They thought maybe a bench that is more general and inclusive of the losses felt throughout the community could be a good solution. The Palmer family is asking if it would be possible to have a plaque by a tree in the park dedicated to Randy Palmer instead of a personal bench.

As of now, the Vasak Trust will be donating 2 benches, there will also be an American Legion Veteran's bench and Kevin Kidd contacted Teddy Stronks and indicated they would be interested in donating a bench as well. The Foundation is requesting that a bench with a general message in tribute to those that have been lost also be considered. Stacy Dexter voiced concern about having 5 benches due to the size of the park and he suggests that only 4 benches be placed. Sara Reinke asked the board if they would be willing to fund 2/3 of the cost of a bench for Randy Palmer and his family would pay the other 1/3. As the board discussed it, they felt it would be a good thing to do, but felt it would be unfair to the other people paying for a full bench. It was

finally decided that a community bench will be donated by the Palmer family and the Community Foundation and the Kidd family can have a plaque by a tree if they choose to do so.

Sara Bowersox made a motion that the benches be general memorials and that it be opened to the public to do personal, individual memorials on plaques by the trees. The plaques will come from the same company as the benches for uniformity and will need to be approved by the board. Stacy Dexter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### Tractor Art

Tom Howell was not able to attend the meeting, so Darryll Reinke filled in for him. Darryll and Tom spoke about the placement of a piece of tractor art in the park. They decided that it was a bit late in the planning of the park that they would back off of the idea and will look for another place for the tractor to be placed.

### Other Business

Mayor Stronks has invited Devin Burton to serve on the Ashton URA board. He was in attendance at the meeting to observe, and after his name is presented to the City Council for approval, he will be officially welcomed to the board.

Stacy Dexter wanted it stated on record that he is concerned about the involvement the Ashton URA takes with the Henry's Fork Foundation. He thinks it is a good project, but that the board should proceed with caution as they decide how to participate in the project.

### Public Comment

Sara Reinke took a minute to give the board a packet of the drawings, ideas and planning associated with the pocket park done by the community group Main Street Matters. Those drawings will be archived with minutes from this meeting. She feels that the final plan is pretty close to what was originally presented to the Ashton URA. Sara Reinke also gave a packet with some informational documents on developing a strong community and a list of those who serve on the Main Street Matters committee. These items will also be archived with the minutes from this meeting. The board members expressed their gratitude for the work and effort that was put in by the Main Street Matters group and for the opportunity to join the community together on a project.

### Next Meeting Date

The meeting was adjourned at about 5:15pm. The next meeting date was not set, the board will wait to hear from Brandon Hoffner and the Henry's Fork Foundation to arrange a meeting.

Meeting minutes prepared by Katie Cook

Minutes accepted by:

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Mark Chandler, Chairman