

## CapitolRiver Council Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting, 5:15 p.m., via Zoom videoconference.

- I. Chair Jess Grams called the meeting to order. Attendees were asked to briefly introduce themselves to the group.
- II. Previous meeting minutes: The September 20 meeting minutes were approved.
- III. Discussion – Strategic planning overview: Several board members met on October 7 and began discussing strategic planning. Jon Fure provided an overview of that meeting and recommended a process for the board to follow, so that the board members would all have the opportunity to participate. All board members are invited to participate in future discussions on the first Friday of the month, via Zoom.
- IV. Listening Session Update: Judy Miller provided an update on CRC’s listening sessions in June and September, including results of the surveys with attendees. She said the survey results indicated that people like living Downtown. Some responses were less positive regarding the statement, “I feel part of a community and I feel safe and comfortable.” Comments included that people would like to see a movie theater and more retail and restaurants, and maybe a flea market. Many people expressed interest in volunteering to create more ways for residents to connect, such as forming meetup groups.
- V. Jon Fure provided an update on a data practices request for City policies related to the Community Engagement Contract, which has been sent to City staff. The monthly financial statements are posted on the website.
- VI. Committee Updates
  - Public Realm: The committee requested that CRC form a work group to work with City staff to study and develop strategies to make public bathrooms available downtown, which requires a motion by the board. The work group would be similar to that of the Pedro Park Work Group, where members were recruited to serve for a limited time, and the charge would be to study and develop recommendations to address the issues that have prevented downtown from having more public access to bathrooms. Chair Jess Grams and Jon Fure will meet with Council Member Noecker to talk about this.
  - Skyway Governance Advisory Committee: A [recent Pioneer Press article](#) describes the locked door on the skyway level in the Railroader Printing Building. The committee will discuss the article and implications related to enforcement of easement agreements and City ordinances at its meeting on Friday, October 28, at 9 a.m.
  - Development Review: An idea was discussed to plan a public, in-person event for renters and residential property managers to discuss rent stabilization. A grant opportunity through the Jaycees for \$2,500 would allow us to hire a part-time, contract worker to assist with logistics. The deadline to apply is Oct. 31. A board member expressed concern that we shouldn’t hire a consultant every time we do something like this, and that it should be part of the strategic planning discussion to determine when we hire a consultant and when we rely on board members and other volunteers.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.