

Niwot Local Improvement District Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Present: Scott Firle, Eric Bergeson, Lisa Rivard, Sarah Cioni, Jeff Knight, Keith Waters

Guests: Angela Hudgins, Chuck Klueber, Biff Warren

Staff: Mark Ruzzin

Call to Order:

Scott called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

There were no meeting minutes for the committee to consider.

Treasurer's Report:

Mary Coonce, NLIDAC treasurer, was absent from the meeting, so Scott provided a high-level overview of the Treasurer's Report that Mary had shared with committee members in advance of the meeting.

Scott noted that through September 2023, LID sales tax collections were down 3.9%, or nearly \$8,500, in comparison to the first nine months of 2022. That said, 2023 collections are nearly \$16,000 above 2021 levels through the first nine months of the year. Remote sales tax revenues have decreased nearly 31%, or \$13,000, over 2022.

Through November the committee has approved nearly \$257,000 in funding requests, or 119% of its 2023 budget, and thus is nearly \$42,000 over-budget. This total does not include the \$45,000 owed to Fletemeyer & Lee for the work on the NLIDAC connectivity plan.

Scott noted that one-time funding requests in 2023, minus the Fletemeyer & Lee expenses, are about \$37,000.

Mark noted that the decrease in LID sales tax revenue in 2023 is consistent with the performance of other county sales tax funds.

Funding Requests:

The advisory committee considered the following funding requests:

1. Niwot Business Association: Tree Sculpture Area Clean-up - \$862.00

Chuck Klueber presented the funding request proposal for the NBA. With the removal of the last two Eddie Running Wolf tree sculptures for preservation, two large tree stumps and other piles of debris were left in the Boulder County right-of-way and need to be removed. Chuck noted that We Love Trees, a Niwot-based tree service, will be hired to remove the debris piles and flush the two tree stumps to near ground level. The NBA and NCAA will contribute \$200 to the cost of the project.

ACTION: On a motion from Eric, seconded by Jeff, the advisory committee unanimously APPROVED the funding request for \$862.00.

2. Niwot Business Association: Old Town Electrical Lighting Upgrades - \$6,200.00

Angela presented the funding request proposal for the NBA. Angela noted that the project will improve the entire lighting system throughout Old Town Niwot. The current electrical panel board and timer system is no longer working as it should. In addition, the current streetlamp ballasts have become unreliable, with streetlamps going out more often than they should. This upgrade will convert ballasts and bulbs to a more modern and efficient LED lighting system that most towns and cities have moved to. Many of the downtown business owners have asked for better nighttime lighting and more consistent lighting, and this project will help fulfill that need.

The work to be completed will include installation of a new 100-amp panel board with new breakers; installation of a new time clock with photocell and manual override switch; installation of new LED lighting on 32 existing pole lights; installation of a new 120-volt lighting contactor; and installation of a new underground wire to the existing light pole near the Excel Building that is not working.

Rosewood Electrical of Niwot will be hired to complete the work. As this project will be completed in January 2024, it will be paid with 2024 LID revenues.

ACTION: On a motion from Jeff, seconded by Lisa, the advisory committee unanimously APPROVED the funding request for \$9,985.00.

Event Report: Rock and Rails

Biff Warren provided a Rock and Rails concert series event report to the committee. As a result of timing, the series had 14 concerts in 2023. While overall sponsorship spending was down in comparison to previous years, community support for the series continues to be strong. The Tip Jar raised over \$27,000 for 23 locally based nonprofit organizations. Biff noted that over 100 volunteers keep the series up and running year after year. In total, Rock and Rails raised over \$40,000 to be split between the NCAA and NBA; the NCAA profits are used to pay for the annual maintenance costs for Children's Park. In total, the 2023 Rock and Rails concert series contributed over \$70,000 to the Niwot community.

New Business:

Mark walked the committee through a discussion on 2024 meeting dates. He noted that there has been a request from a committee member to move the January 2024 meeting from January 2 to January 9, and in November, the monthly meeting date falls on Election Day. The committee agreed to delay both the January and November meeting dates one week, to January 9 and November 12, respectively.

Mark informed the committee that three committee seats will come open in 2024 – Cornelia's business representative seat and Heidi and Lisa's resident representative seats. The board and commission recruitment period has opened, with an application deadline of January 19.

Old Business:

Eric provided the committee with an update on the connectivity plan project. Eric noted that Angela is compiling the feedback that was collected at the November all-organizations meeting. The Connectivity

Subcommittee is working on expanding its community outreach through one-on-one meetings with community organizations, and also with Niwot residents who live near Old Town. Eric expects this outreach to be completed in the next two to three months.

Eric informed the committee that on December 13 the Grange will be holding a Diagonal Highway community meeting in partnership with Boulder County. In November the subcommittee met with county and state transportation engineers to see some draft plans for the Niwot Road underpass. The work is progressing well.

Eric noted that the tree carving restoration team has been in conversation with Commissioner Loachamin regarding a permanent home for the restored carvings.

Eric informed the committee that a recent meeting was held to talk in more detail about completing the sidewalk and street repairs at Niwot Road and 79th Street. The county is aware of the need to complete the project.

Jeff noted that the Niwot Community Association remains strongly interested in being a partner in the connectivity and other planning efforts.

The committee spent some time discussing the connectivity project and the tree carving preservation effort.

Eric mentioned that the committee should soon start thinking about its annual meeting with the county commissioners. Topics of interest could include the connectivity plan, commercial property taxes, and the county's local minimum wage.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 PM.