



**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
LAUREL RENEWAL AGENCY  
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019  
11:00 AM  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Public Input:** *Citizens may address the committee regarding any item of business that is not on the agenda. The duration for an individual speaking under Public Input is limited to three minutes. While all comments are welcome, the committee will not take action on any item not on the agenda.*

**General Items**

1. Roll Call

Daniel Klien  
Janice Lehman  
Linda Frickel  
Don Smarsh  
Mardie Spalinger  
Judy Goldsby

Nick Altonaga (City of Laurel)  
Michelle DeBoer (prospective advisory member)

2. Approve Meeting Minutes: July 22, 2019

Members review minutes from July 22, 2019.

Daniel motions to approve minutes from July 22 with minor correction  
Mardie seconds.  
Motion carries.

3. Big Sky EDA

No representative from Big Sky EDA present.

**New Business**

4. Follow-Up: 2019 Large Grants

Nick Altonaga presented that the Large grants were approved by Council and applicants had already begun receiving reimbursement.

**Old Business**

5. Small Grant Application: D&D Trust

Members discussed the new version of the D&D Trust Application.

- No business physical address listed
- 105 E Main St.

- Discussion of what work has been done and is planned to be done on the property
  - Wastewater, stormwater and other utility and
- Parking issues on Main Street. Has been a concern for many years.
- Discussion of grant and eligibility
- Discussion of possible historic designation

Don makes motion for approval of General Small Grant for \$3,016 and Façade Grant for \$7,500.

Daniel Seconds.

Motion Carries.

## 6. Follow-Up: LURA Board and City Council Discussion

Discussion of Different options and projects moving forward.

Members would like to see a regular budget report/presentation: Paid out, pending, what currently exists

The Planner and Board Members discussed the future bondable project and the TIF District. Don remarks that the mayor has the best interests of the city at heart. Initially joined the board and heard about TIF funding was used for façade and rehabilitation work, not infrastructure.

Don comments on the TIF District and overall situation:

- Lack of communication was irritating
- Misdirected and misrepresented by CAO
- Lack of control
- Members Board should have been able to review project ideas and make recommendations but had no chance to do so.
- Was ready to resign because he felt that our input was not valued.

Chair mentions that the LURA Board got off on the wrong foot initially (At founding).

- Trip to Miles City on presentation
- Initial idea was that TIF was for everything BUT infrastructure
- Bozeman and Livingstone had done incredible work within the TIF District.
- If the Board had a project or concept being discussed, it could have been presented as a bondable project, but there was nothing in the works.

The Chair and Board Members discussed that there will be a need to look at the rules and confines of the District but are ready to move ahead.

Council member Herr mentioned that it is important to communicate and be clear about district boundaries.

General Discussion about past projects: The Lighting District – What happened to the funds set aside for this project?

## 7. Follow-Up: General Small Grant Program

Members discussed the General Small Grant program sheet. The board will need to vote to amend the MT Firefighters memorial.

## **Other Items**

Chair accepts motion to approve Michelle DeBoer as an Advisory Member to the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency.

Daniel Motions to approve Michelle DeBoer as an Advisory Member of the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency.

Mardie Seconds

Motion carries

## **Announcements**

8. Next Meeting: September 16, 2019

Mardie motions to adjourn

Daniel Seconds

Meeting adjourned at 11:45AM.

**The City makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. Persons needing accommodation must notify the City Clerk's Office to make needed arrangements. To make your request known, please call 406-628-7431, Ext. 2, or write to City Clerk, PO Box 10, Laurel, MT 59044, or present your request at City Hall, 115 West First Street, Laurel, Montana.**

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**