

MAIN STREET BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

March 12, 2012 – 10:00 AM
City Hall – Commission Room

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:00. Roll call:

Member present:	Tom Bosch	Members absent:
	Matt Gabbert	
	Gary Gaspar	
	Susan Scott	
	Matt Smith (chair)	

Approval of November 18, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Gaspar, second by Scott, to approve the November 18, 2011 meeting minutes. Motion passed 4 yes, 0 no.

Resolution of Intent – Hotel Occupancy Tax

Brent O'Neil of the City discussed a proposed amendment to City ordinances that would allow for a hotel occupancy tax to be collected within the Business Improvement District. O'Neil stated the hotel tax would allow for up to a \$2 per room per night to be charge. The tax would only be imposed on hotel properties that specifically request to be included, and that the collections are to be used for pre-determined public projects mutually agreed upon by a subject hotel and the City. O'Neil said that the proposed Hilton Garden Inn on the River Ramp site would be the first hotel to participate and the funds would offset extraordinary site development costs such as River Ramp removal, underground parking, and environmental remediation.

Participation by the Hilton hotel was specifically requested by the ownership group which affirmed its support of this change.

Members asked several questions regarding legality and mechanics of the BID. It was noted that multiple legal reviews and inquiries have occurred and support this change. It was also noted that this change is structured so the Hilton property will be responsible for both the property assessment and the occupancy tax. The framework also allows for some of the occupancy tax to fund a special DTSF project in later years.

Motion by Gaspar, second by Scott, to recommend approval of a resolution of intent that would allow a hotel occupancy tax in the BID and to include the future Hilton Garden Inn as a hotel subject to the tax. Motion passed 4 yes, 0 no.

Sub-committee Update on BID Ordinance

Gaspar and Smith reported on their meetings with City and DTSF staff. The committee discussed many considerations including having sub-districts, including industrial properties in the assessment, addressing differences in residential rates, eliminating the distinction "land" and "building" assessment rates. It was decided by both the board and committee that until pending legal issues are resolved, the process should wait for clarity on that and no action should be taken. The committee will remain intact and reconvene as warrants in the future.

Adjourn

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:50.