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**Florence Urban Renewal Agency Meeting  
Florence City Hall  
250 Hwy 101  
Final Action Minutes  
May 22, 2019**

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**CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL**

Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m.

Directors Present: Chairperson Joshua Greene, Vice-Chairperson John Scott, and Directors Joe Henry, Ron Preisler, Mike Webb, Ron Caputo, Patricia Riley, Carmela West and Bill Meyer.

Directors Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Manager Erin Reynolds, Administrative Services Director Anne Baker, City Project Manager Megan Messmer and City Recorder / Economic Development Coordinator Kelli Weese.

Guest Present: Public Arts Committee Chairperson Harlen Springer

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Start Time: 5:30 p.m.

Action: Approve agenda as presented

Discussion: The Agency discussed...

- Recognition of Director Carmela West.
- Potential addition to the agenda to discuss chairperson and vice-chairperson positions.
- Authority to remove a chairperson and bylaws relating to chairperson appointments.
- Additional agenda item concerning public art grant funding allocation.
- Concerns for the process for placement of new agenda item #6 on the agenda.

- Director Henry’s assertion to challenge any decisions on the public art grant funding allocation.

Directors: Henry, Meyer and Chairperson Greene,

Action: Removal of Agenda Item No. 6 from the Agenda  
Motion: Director Henry  
Second: Director Meyer  
Vote: Directors Caputo, Henry, Webb, West, and Meyer voted ‘Aye’;  
Directors Preisler, Riley, Scott and Greene voted ‘Nay’;  
Motion passes 5-4

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

This is an opportunity for members of the audience to bring to the Council’s attention any item not otherwise listed on the Agenda. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person, with a maximum time of 15 minutes for all items. Speakers may not yield their time to others.

Start Time: 5:39 p.m.  
Comments: None

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Consider approval of the Florence Urban Renewal Agency meeting minutes of March 27, 2019 and May 22, 2019.

Action: Approval of the minutes of March 27, 2019 and May 22, 2019.  
Motion: Director Meyer  
Second: Director Webb  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **4. SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

Consider approval of the Urban Renewal Agency Resolution No. 2, Series 2019, a resolution adopting the 2017-2019 Supplemental Budget and making appropriations.

Start Time: 5:40 p.m.  
Handouts: Staff Presentation  
Discussion: The Agency discussed...

- Clarification on Urban Renewal's loans and changes,

Director: Riley

Action: Approval of Resolution No. 2, Series 2019  
Motion: Director Meyer  
Second: Director Scott  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **REPORTS, PRESENTATIONS & UPDATES**

#### **5. PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE (PAC) UPDATE**

The Public Arts Committee will provide an update on their activities.

Start Time: 5:46 p.m.  
Handout: Public Arts Committee Timeline  
Gift of personalized of Paint Brushes  
Discussion: The Agency discussed...

- Public Arts Committee Chairperson Harlen Springer's report on an overview of work of the Committee including work on the Central Lincoln PUD Mural, Siuslaw Bridge Steps, Art Exposed, and receipt of the Oregon Community Foundation grant.
- Director Henry's concerns of Chairperson Greene's role as Council Ex-Officio on the Public Arts Committee.
- Director Henry's assertion that the City Council did not defund public art, but rather the Florence Urban Renewal Agency did so.
- Director Henry's concern for the length of time allocated to Chairperson / Councilor Greene during Public Arts Committee meetings.
- Director Henry's concern for the amount of staff time spent on public art projects.
- Director Henry's concern of comments posted to social media by Chairperson / Councilor Greene stating that three members of the City Council were supported by right-wing political extremists.

- Director Henry's assertion that the Council could elect to disband the Public Arts Committee, the Public Arts Committee could form a non-profit organization, become a committee of the Florence Urban Renewal Agency, or could behave like the other committees of the City, and then would receive the support of the City Council.
- Director Henry's assertion that the Florence Urban Renewal Agency has spent 50% of its meeting time discussing public art, but no time discussing the priorities of the City Council.
- Director Henry's concern for the leadership of the Florence Urban Renewal Agency and declaration that were other options for the structure of the Urban Renewal Agency including utilizing the City Council for its leadership.
- Director Preisler's assertion that the Florence Urban Renewal Agency made a commitment to fund the Public Arts Committee's work plan projects and belief that the Agency reneged on its decision through the FY 19-21 biennial budget process.
- Director Riley's noted that the Florence Urban Renewal did not vote to defund the Public Arts Committee, but rather the City Council elected to do so via their goal setting process. She asserted that those actions were done without the Urban Renewal Agency's discussion or action. She noted that during the Florence Urban Renewal Agency budget process, the agency was told that the City had the ability to not allow the Public Arts Committee to seek funding from Urban Renewal and that was why the Public Arts projects were not included in the Urban Renewal Agency's budget.
- Director Scott's declaration that the Florence Urban Renewal Agency did not discuss or decide to not fund public art.
- Director Henry's reminder that the Florence Urban Renewal Agency agreed to fund the public arts projects that were already under contract.
- Director Greene's belief in the need for a clear discussion and vote on public art funding and thus the reasoning for his request for the agenda item that was subsequently removed that evening.
- Director Caputo's request to move on to the next agenda item and appreciation for Mr. Springer's presentation and the hard work of the Public Arts Committee.

- Mr. Springer’s belief that it was a mischaracterization to state that the Public Arts Committee was dominated by Councilor Greene.
- Mr. Springer’s concern for the political and personal battle between Mayor / Director Henry and Chairperson / Councilor Greene and its role in downplaying the achievements of the City’s Public Art program.

**6. PUBLIC ART GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION**

Discuss and consider directing staff to amend the FY 19/21 budget to transfer the \$20,000 public art grant funding from reserve to future public art projects.

Agenda item was removed during Agenda Item #1 - Approval of the Agenda.

**7. REVISION FLORENCE**

Staff will provide an update on the ReVision Florence construction and financing.

Start Time: 6:16 p.m.

Discussion: The Agency discussed....

- Overview of status of the ReVision Florence project and notifications to businesses.
- Addition of height to temporary pavement.
- Weed growth along the highway.
- Clarification on changes to the landscaping near the Dairy Queen.
- Appreciation for the work of staff and the professionalism of the project.

**8. CITY MANAGER REPORT**

- Update on Boathouse Brewing predevelopment project

Start Time: 6:22 p.m.

Discussion: The Agency discussed...

- Upcoming meetings and events.
- Update on status of the Boathouse Brewing project.
- Next steps with ReVision Florence project and public communication.

Chairperson Greene asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak on the action items before the Urban Renewal Agency.

Commenter 1: Katie Prosser – Florence, OR  
Handout: EMAC Ethics Training Presentation Slide  
Discussion: Ms. Prosser discussed....

- Declaration of her role on a City Committee.
- Concern for Mr. Harlen Springer’s interview on the KVAL news channel concerning the Central Lincoln PUD Mural and its appropriateness due to the City’s Committee and Commission Policy Manual.

Comments: Chairperson Greene and CR Weese

Commenter 2: David West – Unknown Address  
Discussion: Mr. West discussed....

- Mr. West’s concern for the type of mural placed on the Central Lincoln PUD building and belief that it could have been a better design.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Joshua Greene, Chairperson

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Kelli Weese, City Recorder