

**VISION SONORA COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
JANUARY 22, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Vision Sonora Committee was scheduled on this date at 2:00 p.m. in the Sonora City Hall Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER: The Vision Sonora Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. with the following Committee Members present: Bill Canning, Darin Grossi, Rachelle Kellogg, Tim Miller, Connie Williams and Sherri Brennan. Absent was Committee Member John Gray.

Chairperson, Connie Williams, welcomed the public.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES: None

I. MINUTES:

MOTION: Approve the minutes of the December 11, 2014 Vision Sonora Committee Meeting, as mailed.

MOTION: Canning **SECOND:** Grossi

VOTE: **AYES:** Canning, Grossi, Kellogg, Miller, Williams (5)
 NOES: None (0)
 ABSTAIN: Brennan (1)
 ABSENT: Gray (1)

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Presentation of the Final Vision Sonora video by Cole Video

Cole stated that the video was revised as directed by the Vision Sonora Committee.

Chairperson, Connie Williams, commented that this is the first piece of real marketing for the Vision Sonora Plan and anyone wanting a cd should ask the Committee or city staff.

III. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Consideration for recommendation to the City Council, The Stockton Street-West Gateway Corridor project.**

Committee Member, Rachelle Kellogg, recapped the project saying this was the third time this project had come before the Committee. The idea was to incorporate a walking path and beautification along Stockton Street. It does include lighting, crosswalks and a pathway that ties into the Mother Lode Fairgrounds to downtown. She stated that this was the first phase of the Stockton Street Improvement Project included within the Vision Sonora Plan, This project also ties into the Dragoon Gulch trail for people wanting a longer walk. She also stated that the final plan should not remove parking from the street and accommodate all business driveways.

Committee Member, Tim Miller, reminded everyone that this was a conceptual plan and does require permits from CalTrans. If the Committee agrees to make a recommendation to the City Council this would be the first step in the process. He stated that there was no funding for the project to proceed at this time.

Public Comments Received:

- Make sure there is a crosswalk added near Save Mart.
- The Maynard's sign is not attractive and should be removed.
- Concerns regarding parking and driveway access near the Stan & Jim's Body Shop.
- Cost associated with ongoing maintenance of the proposed improvements.
- Removal of parking spaces.
- New sidewalks would be better than the proposed walking path.

MOTION: Recommendation to the City Council for approval of The Stockton Street-West Gateway Corridor project.

MOTION: Canning **SECOND:** Grossi

VOTE: **AYES:** Canning, Grossi, Williams, Kellogg, Miller and Brennan
(6)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

ABSENT: Gray (1)

A. Consideration for recommendation to the City Council, for the closure of Linoberg Street to vehicular traffic from Stewart Street to Green Street.

Committee Member, Tim Miller, stated that this was an item that was brought up at the last meeting and asked to be placed on this agenda. His

recommendation was to have the City Council authorize staff to evaluate the possible closure of Linoberg Street between Stewart and Green Streets.

Public Comments Received:

- ¼ of traffic goes the wrong way on Linoberg between Washington Street and Stewart Street.
- The City has been talking about closing Linoberg since 1978.
- Should only close the east side of Linoberg Street between Washington and Stewart Street.

Committee Member, Bill Canning, stated that this was a priority project for those involved in the Vision Sonora Plan’s development and the subsequent prioritization activity.

Committee Member, Darrin Grossi, stated that staff would have to look at circulation not just vehicles but pedestrians, bicycles and transit too.

Committee Member, Rachelle Kellogg, stated that the west side is currently closed for special events and is in need of beautification but may not need to be closed permanently to vehicular traffic.

Chairperson, Connie Williams, asked why Theall Street was not included.

Committee Member, Tim Miller, stated Theall Street is related to the Stewart Street Plaza Project. As such it was not included on the agenda for today’s meeting.

MOTION: Recommendation to the City Council to authorize staff to evaluate the possible closure of Linoberg Street between Stewart and Green Streets.

MOTION: Williams **SECOND:** Kellogg

VOTE: **AYES:** Williams, Kellogg, Canning, Grossi, Miller and Brennan
(6)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

ABSENT: Gray (1)

B. Consideration for recommendation to the City Council, solicitation of an RFQ

for architectural services related to the Stewart Street public restroom facility.

Committee Member, Tim Miller, stated that this item was brought up at the last meeting and asked to be placed on this agenda. This project was high priority from the Vision Sonora Plan and subsequent prioritization activity. The location now serves as the Farmer's Market office, storage area and restrooms. He would recommend to the City Council that the City's economic development funding be used to pay for the architectural services.

MOTION: Recommendation to the City Council for the solicitation of an RFQ for architectural services related to the Stewart Street public restrooms.

MOTION: Kellogg **SECOND:** Canning

VOTE: **AYES:** Kellogg, Canning, Williams, Grossi, Miller and Brennan
(6)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

ABSENT: Gray (1)

IV. SUBCOMMITTEES REPORTS:

A. Community Design Committee chaired by Connie Williams

- Reviewed pictures of City of Sonora's street lights, benches, plaques and other hardscapes. Recommended that existing wooden planters be removed.
- Will continue to identify options to discuss with the consultants.
- The Committee is planning a tour of other communities.

B. Tourism, Marketing and Public Outreach chaired by Sherri Brennan

- Discussed low or no cost promotional activities.
- Suggested the use of Youtube and other links to websites that would be free.
- Discussed joining the Visitors Bureau at the Home and Garden Show, set for April 11th and 12th, to show the promotional video.
- Members suggested displaying the video on Yarts or other sources of transportation, along with having channel 8 show the video.

- Other activities discussed included; Friends and Neighbors Magazine article, store front displays and postcard size information handouts.

Committee Member, Bill Canning, said they could possibly be put in banks, DMV, markets and to move forward with it.

C. Finance Committee chaired by Bill Canning

- Has not met yet, but planning a meeting the first week of February.

D. Transportation and Mobility Committee chaired by Darrin Grossi

- Has not met yet, but are working with CalTrans District 10 staff and Safe Routes To School Grants related to Vision Sonora projects.
- Darrin Grossi provided a handout regarding what the tour bus companies need.

V. INFORMATION & QUESTIONS

Chairperson, Connie Williams, reminded everyone that there are 4 Subcommittees. The public should contact staff or someone on the Committee if they want to be a member.

Chairperson, Connie Williams, stated that the City and RBF Consulting were awarded the 2014 Central Section Outstanding Planning Award for Urban Design.

Committee Member, Bill Canning, stated that this was a large section of Central California so receiving this award was impressive.

Chairperson, Connie Williams, adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheala Wilkinson,
Special Programs Coordinator