

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS
AUGUST 22, 2005

The Council of the City of Ruidoso Downs met in regular session on August 22, 2005. Mayor Miller called the workshop to order at 5:00 p.m. and asked Jean Stoddard to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, the following were present:

Councilor Miller	Councilor Morales
Councilor Olivo	Councilor Garrett

Clerk Virden informed Mayor Miller there was a quorum.

Also present:

Dan Bryant, City Attorney
John P. Waters, City Administrator
Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Miller entertained a motion to approve the Agenda. Councilor Miller moved to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Olivo. Roll call votes: Councilor Olivo, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller stated next on the agenda, question and answer session in regards to Gift Agreement with Hubbard Foundation to acquire Hubbard Museum of the American West and Jean Stoddard is here. Mayor Miller welcomed Jean Stoddard.

Ms. Stoddard said I am very impressed the team from the Hubbard Museum is here. They have been working with a very short staff. They are all very good workers and I hope the City welcomes them with open arms. I know change is tough. None of us like change very well but it is a very great team that you are going to inherit.

Councilor Garrett asked Ms. Stoddard if each one could stand up and introduce themselves and Ms. Stoddard said sure and tell them all the things you do.

Janis Rowe said I am the director of membership development and the graphics coordinator and all other duties as assigned.

Coda Omness said I am curator of education at the museum and like Janis, and all other duties.

Cheryl Bunch said I am the current office manager and all other duties.

Mary Ann Harrison said I am a volunteer.

Sunny Hirschfeld said Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium which is our other duties assigned that we all do especially bids coordinator. This month we have been busy. Friday night we had a party, Saturday night next Friday, next Saturday, a lot of events going on.

Joetyne Wright said I am a volunteer.

Eddie Parker said I am part-time at the museum. I do ticket sales, help with parties, bartend, mail, and whatever I am asked to do. Today we spent the whole day selling Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium tickets. We sold about \$6,000 tickets today.

Ivan Munoz said I am the facilities maintenance.

Bobby Brown said I am security and whatever Joetyne and Eddie want me to do.

Councilor Miller said I think they do a wonderful job with the museum. We are very proud that it is in Ruidoso Downs and it will be an asset to us. I think if it is not broke, don't fix it. You all do a great job.

Ms. Stoddard said I have seen the ladies in their very nice dresses mopping the restroom floor when it overflowed at a party. I have seen them up on the roof scraping up gum from one of the Kid's Corner after a party about 1:00 a.m. It is a team. As you see we do have fun but we work very hard.

As a volunteer I want to tell you how many compliments are received there, what a fine museum it is, it is clean, everyone is nice and personable. It is quite an asset and I hope everybody takes care of it. Mayor Miller said we are going to try to keep it that way exactly as is.

Councilor Morales said we toured the facility and we were totally amazed at the amount of room you had there. When you look at what you have as far as the museum it looks kind of small. It took us about two hours to tour it. All of the decorations and collections you have it is just amazing.

Mayor Miller said I was there for the western art and it was fabulous. Ms. Stoddard said they want to make it an annual event. I think the final commissions we got from the art sale were about \$35,000.

Ms. Stoddard said I think the Council has the Agreement in front of them. In that Agreement the Hubbard's have offered to continue with the support of the museum. We do have three major sources of funding that we call our major fundraisers throughout the year. Of course one of them is the Lincoln County Cowboy

Symposium. We average about \$50,000 net profit from that. We are here not only as a team to say "welcome" but to solicit your help. It takes a ton of volunteers; it is a fun event but it is a very hard event on the staff. The fun part of it is when people call in they want to visit about what a good time they had last year while they were here, what they ate on the chuck wagon, what they liked and what they didn't like so you do spend a lot of PR time on the phone. Tickets went on sale August 1st. From August 1st right after our major fundraiser of the year right up to the event everybody on staff is spending most of their time on the Symposium. We start out with a concert on Thursday night and of course the staff splits the time to work on the event. I think we have a little bug on how overtime hours are handled. I think it was Steve that said then you can take off the next week. I said no, we are cleaning up but we will work out those bugs. Any volunteers are needed especially on Saturday to help haul chairs. The next major fundraiser is usually the same weekend as the Rainbow Futurity and as you know we sell tickets to a vehicle and that brings profit on just the car ticket sales of around \$50,000 to \$60,000 depending on the price of the car. Ruidoso Ford gave us a little bit of break on the car this year. We have a silent auction; we have a live auction. The Hubbard's are very good about getting people to donate to those and we have an auxiliary that helps with the silent auction. We charge \$100 per ticket and we get the racetrack to cater it and they give us a break on the food. Our net this year I believe was a record breaker of \$165,000 net on that. The last major fundraiser is the cart golf tournament that has been held in Palm Desert a couple of times. We held it here this year because of the 70th birthday celebration. Mr. Hubbard is hoping to continue that also. Those are the three major fundraisers and then of course the rent of the museum. Income comes from membership and Janis has done a great job. Of course admission and gift shop sales.

Administrator Waters said one thing that we failed to mention and it is a large portion of the funds we will receive. The State agreement originally quoted \$150,000 a year for the next ten years. Mr. Hubbard was gracious enough to agree to provide the entire \$1.5 million at the onset of the project so we will get that in our City government and then put it into an account that will draw interest just for the museum. We can stretch out the annual operating even that much further. In addition, we hope to improve the operations of the museum as far as bringing new events in and fundraisers. It is a fantastic resource. I think all of the council members have expressed to me at one time or another what a fantastic resource it is and even as great as it is now it has greater potential. We certainly are happy to work with the staff and I know Steve has worked very hard with Jean and the staff members to try and determine what everybody does and try to back this semi into the garage because it is kind of a tricky proposition. We feel like we have done that and of course Carol's department is going to be very, very busy training everybody on procurement code which is a new word that you are going to become to know and hate. The procurement rules are something that we all have to follow in state or city government in the State of New Mexico. There is a lot of hard work coming up

but I think it will all be worth it. We look forward to long marriage with the museum if that is the Councils' wish.

Councilor Garrett said I want to thank the Hubbard's for offering it but we really need their support. Without their continued support I don't think we can do this. I guess that is what I wanted is the assurance from R.D. and Joan Dale is that they would continue supporting the museum. Ms. Stoddard said yes, in that paragraph in the agreement they have agreed to do that.

Mayor Miller said we certainly appreciate your presentation. Ms. Stoddard said we thank you and like I said the Hubbard's are willing to stay involved. Again, be nice to our staff. They are wonderful, wonderful hard workers and they have fun.

Mayor Miller said I know they do and that is great. We are going to try keep that.

Councilor Miller said it just makes it more pleasant to have a little fun

Councilor Garrett said we appreciate all of them. They need to know if they have questions we are here for them.

Mayor Miller entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion was made by Councilor Morales and seconded by Councilor Miller to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob A. Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer