



Voice Vote:

Beverly	Yes
Kindred	Yes
McConnell	Yes
Mila	Absent
Pender	Yes
Rapp	Yes
Siwik	Yes

**Unfinished Business**

- 1. Adoption of 2017/2018 RDA Budget.** Finance Director, Kyle Kershaw, handed out a copy of the RDA tax increment history for general information. A copy is attached and incorporated by this reference.

Mr. Kershaw advised the Board that staff has not made any changes to the RDA budget since the public hearing.

Board Member Kindred feels funding for the South Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce is a little out of whack and he would like to discuss a possible road to having the direct cash contribution to the Chamber go away over time. He is fine with the in kind contribution of office space. He feels the Camber should be supported more by its members than by the City. He would like them to be totally self-sufficient and they would get a better product overall.

Board Chair Rapp agreed with Board Member Kindred.

Board Member Beverly agreed that they should have a long-term plan. The Chamber was invaluable when they were fighting against the homeless shelter and there was a lot of momentum at that point and that would be a good recruiting tool. She does agree with a long-term plan but questioned why they are doing it at the last minute. They should have been talking about it a month ago. She doesn't think it is fair a week or two before they need to pass the budget.

Board Member Siwik said they have been tied up on the City Council budget and this is the first scheduled RDA meeting that they've had prior to the budget.

Board Member Beverly advised that Board Chairman Rapp, or she, as vice chair, would have set a meeting up if it had been brought to their attention. She didn't hear about it until last week.

Board Member Pender asked what the RDA has given year-to-date to the Chamber.

Mr. Kershaw said as of June 12 it is about \$41,025. There is \$52,000 budgeted.

Board Member Pender is also okay with the in-kind expense as well.

Mr. Kershaw said his estimate of where the Chamber will end up at the end of the year would be similar to last year which was \$49,150.

Director Beverly suggested a \$5,000 cut this year to get it started and be more on top of it next year and discuss it earlier.

Board Member Pender said he is looking at a two or three year plan. He wouldn't mind cutting five or ten thousand from the Chamber this year. Next year it would have to be a ten to fifteen thousand dollar cut.

Board Member Kindred said it would do the Chamber a benefit if it got more buy-in from members and that would mean cash from the people it services. He is fine with the in-kind contribution.

Board Member Siwik said last year they didn't do anything. Even if it is the eleventh hour he doesn't think it comes as a surprise that they are having this conversation.

Board Member Kindred is fine if they start with a \$5,000 dollar cut this year.

Board Member Siwik felt if they start with \$5,000 they need to outline tonight what the body's expectation is for the next two or three years.

Community and Economic Development Director, Mike Florence, suggested that they wait on the decision to cut everything in three years and have another RDA meeting and talk about the valuable services that he gets from the Chamber. It would be good to come back at another time and talk about the things the Chamber provides that the City can't, to try and retain their businesses.

Board Member Siwik said that it the excuse they use every. They say they will come back to it every year and they never do.

Board Member Beverly said that would be Board Chairman Rapp and her job to set up some work meetings.

Board Chair Rapp said he had no problem doing that. The Chamber plays a big roll. They saw that with the homeless shelter situation. But there are a lot of other cities out there that don't take money from the General Fund for their chambers and the City should get away from that if they can.

President and CEO of the South Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, Gary Birdsall, explained that the chambers that were contacted do not have a contractual relationship with their city to do economic development, Promise South Salt Lake, and programs like that to support the City. This is a contractual relationship. They pay \$800 a month rent. The Council gets frustrated and he gets frustrated because he hears the same stuff every year. It is not a cash give away. They can get together and come up with a plan but they will downgrade their services to match the cash that they get. For a year the Council has received a monthly report from the Chamber. He wants to

make sure there are no misconceptions of what they do and what they have been doing for four plus years. They have a contractual relationship that they will revisit based on what the Council wants to do. It is not they are writing him and check and he says, "Thank you very much." He has put a lot of effort into the City, as has the Board and the ambassadors. They do a lot and he gets frustrated that there is not the recognition for what they do.

Director Kindred asked what percentage of their budget comes from the City.

Mr. Birdsall said about forty percent.

Director Kindred asked if that amount was reduced if the Chamber would be able to offset it through memberships.

Mr. Birdsall answered that they could over time. But they would readjust their contract on what he and his Chamber colleagues would do on a monthly basis for the City.

Director Beverly suggested another follow-up question when speaking to other chambers would be, "what services is that chamber providing the city?" That is something they need to look at. Not only what are other cities paying but what other chambers are doing for their city. They need to compare that.

Director Siwik suggested since it is a contractual agreement they could either have the Chamber do X amount of service or they hire an additional staff person to do it. They are putting out X dollars and getting X service. He doesn't think it does any good to knock five or ten thousand dollars off because they will just get less service. The reality is do they just want a staff person to do this and eliminate the contract completely? He doesn't think it does any good to reduce it five or ten thousand in a contractual situation.

Director Beverly said it would cost a lot more than \$50,000 to hire a full-time staff position when you include benefits. The Chamber also has all the relationships. A new staff person would have to spend a lot of time building relationships in the community.

Director Siwik said that is part of the discussion. If they eliminate funding to the Chamber then they will get less service back. So do they want to continue that or go a different direction altogether.

Director Pender asked if Promise South Salt Lake is putting money towards this as well.

Mr. Birdsall answered no.

Director Kindred asked what the Chamber does for Promise.

Mr. Birdsall said they are a major player in their Jobs in the Economy program. That did not get started until he got here and Kari got to know and trust him and they decided to start running hard in the Jobs in the Economy program. What they get with Mr. Birdsall is an in depth exposure and knowledge of the market that a brand new employee wouldn't have. Between he, Mike Florence, Mayor Wood, and the City Council, they have a pretty solid reputation in the Salt Lake Valley for knowing what they are doing and doing it well. You can't put a dollar value on that.

Chairman Rapp asked if the Chamber is paying rent.

Mr. Birdsall said they are paying almost eight hundred a month to the City. They do not have free rent.

Chairman Rapp said in-kind services are not the case if they are paying rent. He suggested the Council take a look at this.

Director Beverly suggested if it is contractual services that they wait until next year to look at it.

Director Siwik said he didn't want to wait that long. He asked when the contract would be up for renewal.

Mr. Birdsall said July 1.

Director Kindred said he doesn't agree with the contract. He would rather do the economic development activities in-house.

Director Siwik agreed.

Board Chair Rapp suggested holding another meeting next week to discuss it further.

Director Siwik moved to schedule a follow-up RDA meeting for the budget for June 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION: Shane Siwik

SECOND: Ben Pender

Roll Call Vote:

Beverly Yes

Kindred Yes

McConnell Yes

Mila Absent

Pender Yes

Rapp Yes

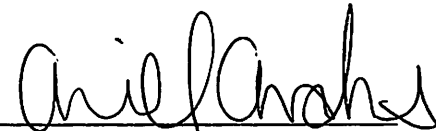
Siwik Yes

Director Kindred moved to adjourn.

MOTION: Mark Kindred  
SECOND: Sharla Beverly  
Voice Vote:  
Beverly Yes  
Kindred Yes  
McConnell Yes  
Mila Yes  
Pender Yes  
Rapp Yes  
Siwik Yes

Redevelopment Agency adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

  
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Kevin D. Rapp, RDA Chair

  
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Craig D. Burton, RDA Secretary  
Anel Andrus