

BAYFRONT ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2019
VIRGINIA BEACH TENNIS AND COUNTRY
CLUB

REGULAR MEETING:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Kal Kassir, Wally Damon, Stacey Shiflet, Gee Faison, Joe Bovee, Martin Thomas, Faith Christie, Mercedes Holland - Navy

STAFF PRESENT:

Victoria Rice – City Attorney; Mark Shea – Planning Department;

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jeff Holste – Harbor View, Denise Bowman-Scott - BAC Volunteer, Norman and Bernadette Carrick – Chesapeake Bay Shores, Empsy Munden – Cape Story by the Sea, Lib Conner – Baylake Pines, Duanne Gauthier – Marriott Delta Hotels, Drew Stephenson/Tim O'Brien – Pleasure House Brewing, Bill Prince – Leaping Lizard Cafe

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Faison made a motion to approve the minutes from 11/15/18. Mr. Damon seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

CHAIRMAN REPORT:

Chair Kassir gave a recap of the Lesner Bridge ribbon cutting.

He thanked staff for the binders that contain all of the planning documents relevant to development in the Bayfront.

He continued with discussion of the fireworks on July 4th. Ms. Munden arrived and interjected that Cape Story does not intend to organize the fireworks next year and recommended that the City provide a barge on the east side of the bridge for publicly sponsored fireworks. The fireworks on the west side would remain privately funded for the 3rd of July. The cost of a barge was estimated at \$15,000. This would be in addition to the \$10-12,000 that Cape Story spends without a barge. Ms. Holland indicated that the Navy could help in some fashion as they would benefit from the entertainment.

Chair Kassir discussed the Strategic Plan handout and indicated that he and Mr. Malbon would be presenting the plan to the City Manager and Council members Wood and Jones on 1/22/19.

STAFF REPORTS:

Mr. Shea indicated that there was a CBPA submittal for a property on Buccaneer Drive and a BZA setback/impervious cover variance for a property on Pleasure Drive. Both appear to be minor in nature.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Design – Mr. Bovee requested a copy of the Shore Drive Phase III 100% design. Mr. Shea will get these to him.

Communication – No report

Infrastructure – Mr. Malbon provided an update on the Bayfront Shuttle (HRT Route 35). This route will continue to run from Pleasure House Road to Rudee Loop but will make a slight diversion to include a stop at the eastern Fort Story gate. This will prevent the need for lighthouse visitors to walk ½ mile from 82nd Street to the gate. Ms. Holland indicated that the Navy will be making gate improvements to accommodate cars along with pedestrians.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

Mr. and Mrs. Carrick expressed concerns with the appearance of many business areas along Shore Drive. They also expressed concern regarding the requirement that Chesapeake Bay Shores provide their own bags for dog waste. They stated that residents at the Oceanfront did not have to provide the bags. Mr. Shea will look into this.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2019:

Mr. Thomas nominated Kal Kassir to remain Chair. Ms. Christie seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-0. Mr. Kassir accepted the position.

Mr. Thomas nominated Charlie Malbon as Vice-Chair. Mr. Faison seconded the motion and the motion was approved. Mr. Malbon will need to accept the position at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Gauthier gave an informative presentation regarding design features and construction information related to renovation of the former Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center. The new hotel will be named Delta Hotels by Marriott Virginia Beach Bay Front Suites. The presentation will be placed on the BAC web page. The site plan for the hotel is currently under review in the Planning Department.

Mr. Prince gave a brief presentation regarding proposed improvement to the Leaping Lizard Café on Shore Drive. The plan is to convert the storage barn into a tap room. Mr. Shea confirmed with Planning and Zoning staff that a rezoning application was needed for this conversion. Mr. Prince indicated that the tap room was small in size and intended for small gatherings. He indicated that he currently has more parking than required on site. This application has yet to be scheduled for Planning Commission.

Mr. Stephenson gave a presentation regarding the new location for Pleasure House Brewing off Pleasure House Road. The business has outgrown their current site east of the Lesner Bridge. The new site will accommodate outdoor seating and food trucks. The property currently has screening and a fence with sound attenuation to protect the neighborhood to the rear of the building. The applicant is currently working out a cooperative parking agreement with a nearby business. This application will be heard by Planning Commission on 2/13/18.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Holland indicated that 80,000 visitors are expected at the lighthouse during the next year.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30.