



Resort Advisory Commission
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RESORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES

DATE: March 5, 2015
TIME: 3:00 pm
PLACE: Volunteer Rescue Squad

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Billy Almond
Jim Davis
Bryan Cuffee
Bobby Melatti
Kristina Chastain
Laura Habr
Nancy Creech
Sam Reid
Craig Roback
Bill Gambrell
Randy Thompson
Joe DaBiero
Tom Brown

John Hawa
Sylvia Strickland
Michael Cloud-Butler
Preston Midgett
Gerrie West

OTHERS PRESENT

Bill Macali, Deputy City Attorney
Mark Shea, SGA
Stacey Parker, The Pilot
Bill Reed, BEACON
John Uhrin
Mike Eason, SGA/Resort Mgmt.
Robin Hart, SGA/Recorder

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Chair Billy Almond called the meeting to order at 3:00p.m.

Motion carried to approve the minutes from the February 5, 2014 meeting as written.

Advertising Vehicles

Mike Eason introduces Bill Macali Deputy City Attorney, for discussion on advertising on bicycles in the resort area. Bill will discuss policy and recent decisions made by the Attorney General.

Bill handles zoning matters in the City Attorney’s office. The city has always considered ads on moving bicycles to be billboards, and the city no longer allows billboards since the ordinance was revised in the late 1980’s. The billboard ordinance is part of zoning, and it was ruled a couple of months ago by the AG that the city does not have that authority to regulate advertising trailers on city streets, because the billboards fell under the zoning ordinance.

The Attorney General did however, leave the option open regulate the ads under other aspects that the state has provided, such as traffic laws, for pedestrian safety. At the request of a councilmember, they drafted an ordinance to that extent. The draft essentially says that you cannot have advertising on a trailer attached to a bicycle

unless the city grants you a franchise or by some other agreement. You cannot do it as a matter of right.

There was discussion on where the draft ordinance specifically applies (the bike path), and what would be required to draft another ordinance for enforcement on city streets, if desired. The Attorney General says that we cannot have a zoning ordinance that prohibits this type of thing on city streets. If you want to prohibit these types of things on city streets, you need a new ordinance under a public safety-type of ordinance.

The ad mobiles seen on the streets were not subject to the advertising clause because they conducted deliveries and therefore not considered a billboard. The surreys are different and do not apply here, and are allowed by franchise agreement.

Motion carried unanimously to support the ordinance to prohibit bicycle advertising on the bike path east of Atlantic Avenue.

Bob says that if the ordinance morphs into something more than that, we can bring it back to RAC later.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Transportation, Parking, Pedestrian Committee (TPPC)

Sam Reid introduces Rob Fries to review some recommendations on the RPP proposed program changes.

Rob says that these items have already been reviewed by the RBCL and the TPPC and both have weighed in. What he brought today is what TPPC endorsed. Most of it is housekeeping but there are a few new items:

(1) Sec. 21-351, regarding new residential multi-housing family units and housing complexes, the TPPC recommended that any multi-housing family units and housing complex of eight units or more, with off-street parking, not be eligible for the RPP program. Currently the FBC says that any unit or complex is able to participate as long as the first 50 units have two spaces per unit and anything over 50 units has 1.75 spaces per unit. If you use alternative compliance and only provide 1.3 spaces per unit, the unit or complex will not be allowed to participate in the RPP.

The question was what would happen with future large developments, which would make them eligible for everything, but also be getting temporary permits. Current code reads that they get 10 permits per month and worst-case scenario, if all exercised that right, we would crowd everyone out and create extra congestion. The RBCL had a smaller threshold of four units, but TPPC requested eight units. The obvious concern is density.

These regulations still have to go to the attorney for proper wording, and there will be due process for violations.

(2) Sec. 21-359 concerning the fees sets them up to sell monthly employee permits for \$20.00, as they currently cost \$25.00 each year.

The last piece is new, but concerns the first item:

Temporary 72-hour passes for guests are free for the first five passes and the next five passes will cost \$5.00 each.

Discussion included concerns over the increase in the fee for the parking passes for employees, but the idea is tempered by the fact that the meters are operational only four months out of the year.

Mike Eason adds that, starting last year, the employee passes also allow free parking in the municipal lots Monday through Thursday.

Window stickers, as will the guest pass and the 72-hour temporary pass, will have bar codes, and every time the fee is paid, the barcode is updated. Those who borrow cars will use a hang tag with the bar code.

Tom Brown asks how large the area is for parking and Rob replies that the area runs from Shadowlawn to about 29th Street and west to Parks Avenue. Not everything is a perfect block; the area is a little irregular. The map is a link on the Parking Management page which directs you to the Visitors Center map.

Mike adds that the irregular RPP areas are determined by the residents. They vote to participate and not participate in the program.

Motion carried that the RAC support all changes to the RPP program recommended by the TPPC on March 2, 2015.

HRT Trolleys

Sam reports that the committee choice for trolley color was Option B, the two-tone trolley with the light tan with the blue colors.

The RAC is good with the blue (Option B) for the color selection. No motion is required.

Sam reviews the inside wood materials on the inside, which will be long-lasting and low maintenance.

John Uhrin comments that when that first trolley comes in here, we should have some type of celebration marking its arrival.

In addition, Randy Thompson brings up a good point, that we really do need to have a color pattern for the whole resort area, such as poles are this color, and we have talked about it in the past and we should have one. Barry Frankenfield says that we have one from 1986, with the coral, the blue, the white and the slate gray.

Mike Eason says that we did start the process, with not only the colors but also the materials and the benches, trashcans, etc. They would have a general one-page or two-page description of what we would like to see, with model numbers. They can add the color scheme to that and let Public Works know about that.

Planning and Design Review Committee (PDRC)

Billy Almond reports that PDRC met this month, reviewed an open-air café application for 2801 Atlantic Avenue, and asked the applicant to report with additional information before they take any action.

An update on the Edge / Sandbar Block project included a meeting about a month ago and they asked the owners to provide the group with ideas on what they want to do and will proceed from there.

The 27th Street hotel project was not ready to come back to PDRC for this last meeting although there is some positive work being done.

The discussed the LED lighting on the boardwalk, and they are moving forward.

They talked about the canopy replacement, and it looks like they will replace the same canopy that is out there, due to cost and availability. Mike Eason says that they did receive direction to get anew canopy and are moving forward with an RFP.

Letters went out about the sidewalk sandwich boards to all property owners, specifying what is acceptable.

They have had requests for monuments on the boardwalk from two different groups and is now being processed through Emily Labows and the arts commission.

It brings into discussion about monuments and their use on the boardwalk, and he believes that it is something that the RAC needs or get behind it to find out where the appropriate locations should be, etc.

Joe DaBiero mentions that there is concern about the pile driving during the resort season for the 27th Street hotel project. Billy says that they talked about that in the meeting and Mike verifies that the construction period is Sept 15 to May 1.

Joe says that there is construction being done all up and down the beach and they want to protect the tourist season itself. The letter went out that proposed from May 1 through October 1.

Oceanfront Enhancement Committee (OEC)

Jim Davis reports that the OEC did not meet last month.

Resort Investment Committee (RIC)

Billy Almond reports that they met yesterday morning and had an update on the arena from Barry, Doug Smith and Courtney Dyer.

They also discussed appointing additional people to the Commission, subcommittee attendance, the advertising vehicles, and preparation for the City Manager meeting for the resort update.

Oceanfront Visionary Committee (OVC)

Billy Almond reports that the OVC did not meet this month.

G.R.E.E.N. Committee

Laura Habr reports that the G.R.E.E.N. committee did not meet last month, but she

briefly discusses the draft of the Clean Beach Program, and that the committee will resume discussion on this at the next meeting. Laura says that there is no other program like this, targeting a Clean Beach, and welcomes for any support and ideas.

Economic Development Report

None

Staff Report

None

Old Business

Laura mentions distributes information on the background and mission of the First Friday VIBE (17th through 23rd Street). They will be briefing Council in two weeks

Motion carried to support the concept of the The VIBE.

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.