



Resort Advisory Commission
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RESORT ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: June 3, 2021
TIME: 3:00 pm
PLACE: Virginia Beach Convention Center, Room 3AB

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

BJ Baumann
Randy Thompson
Bill Gambrell
Billy Almond
Chuck Cayton
Doug Douglas
George Kotarides
John Zirkle
Lori Overholt
Mike Eason
Michael Mauch
Michael Ronan
Michael Levinson
Paige Miyares
Tyler Brown

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Guy Tower, Council
Frank Fentress, P&R
Capt. Harry McBrien, VBPD
Capt. Sean Adams, VBPD

Bobby Melatti, IMG
Brian Solis, CMO, RMO
Emily Archer, SGA
Lauren Townsend, CVB
Mark Shea, Planning
Nancy Helman, CVB
Stacey Parker, The Pilot
Terri Boothe, Civic League
Worth Remick, OEC
Kathy Warren, SGA
Robin Hart, SGA, Recorder

BJ Baumann called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.
Motion carried to approve the May 6, 2021 minutes as written.

Urban Forest Management Canopy Plan – Frank Fentress

Parks and Landscape Services Administrator Frank Fentress reviewed the City's Urban Forest Management Plan, explaining trees' value to the City in costs and energy savings, clean air, and increases in property value. He reviewed the plan's three-pronged workforce management plan of Quantification, Communication and Management Initiatives. The plan is currently being updated.

In 2008, they discovered that the City had a tree canopy coverage of approx. 38%, which is under the recommended average of 40% for a city the size of Virginia Beach. Council requested the city try to obtain a 45% canopy coverage in the next 20 years when they adopted the plan in 2014.

Capt. McBrien – Introduction and Discussion

BJ Bauman introduced Capt. McBrien, returning to oversee the second precinct. He reviewed the status of the precinct, current programs in place, and state of the resort.

Chairman's Report

RAC meetings will take place in person at the VBCC and RAC Committees to remain virtual until further notice.

The FY22 RAC Strategic Planning Session is scheduled for June 9 from 9:30am-12:30pm, VBCC Room 3AB.

Committee Reports

Transportation, Parking, Pedestrian Committee (TPPC) & Resort Area Mobility Plan (RAMP) Steering Committee

Chuck Cayton reported that the TPPC did meet last month. He presented a letter from the TPPC for RAC review in support of applying for the USDOT RAISE Grant Program for Laskin Road Phase I-B.

Motion carried to send the letter to the Mayor and City Council.

The TPPC had an update on the Pacific Avenue Pedestrian Improvements Project Update from Ric Lowman and a presentation from the SGA's Parking Department on their technology, management program and marketing from Rob Fries and Casi Hansford.

The RAMP committee did not meet last month.

Planning & Design Review Committee (PDRC)

Billy Almond reported that the PDRC met on Tuesday and heard presentations on the 20th Street Showers and Restroom as well as the "The Shipyard at 17th" project at 829 Virginia Beach Boulevard, which were shown to the RAC.

Billy reviewed the designs for the funded 31st Street canopy.

Oceanfront Strategic Growth Area Committee (OSGAC)

The committee heard a presentation on the City Project Development Process from Planning's Kaitlen Alcock.

Oceanfront Enhancement Committee (OEC)

The OEC did not meet in May.

Resort Investment Committee (RIC)

The committee discussed RAC priorities that were already in place, and which needed to be removed from the RAC upcoming priorities and which needed to remain on the list to monitor. They also discussed which items needed to be added to the list for future consideration.

They discussed speakers under consideration for upcoming RIC and RAC meetings, which included suggestions for a presentation for Atlantic Park, a law enforcement plan for the summer season, an update on the new voting system, and any updates on Short-Term Rentals.

A motion was carried by the RAC to approve the revised Remote Participation Policy, effective July 1, 2021.

The revisions to the RAC Bylaws and Attachments (RAC Committee Mission Statements, RAC Committee Guidelines and Remote Participation Policy, eff. July 1, 2021) were presented to the Commission, with the necessary ordinance changes to be submitted by Rod Ingram at the future Council meeting.

Motion carried by the RAC to approve the changes and forward to Council.

G.R.E.E.N.

The G.R.E.E.N. committee did not meet in May. Michael Mauch reported for the G.R.E.E.N. committee on Earth Day Cleanups and efforts to celebrate Earth Day and promote the message all year around.

Staff Report

Brian Solis introduced the new Block by Block Regional Director, Ashley Cannon, and the recently hired Block by Block Operations Manager, LaDonya Winston.

Brian also provided an update on the Special Events Office programming schedule and fireworks plans.

Kathy Warren provided an update on the Atlantic Avenue Pilot Project.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.