

BAYFRONT ADVISORY COMMISSION

MEETING SUMMARY January 15, 2015

VIRGINIA BEACH RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Kal Kassir, Vice Chairman Scott Ayers, Joe Bovee, Norm Carrick, Faith Christie, Gee Faison, Charlie Malbon, Stacey Shiflet, Martin Thomas

STAFF PRESENT:

Clay Bernick – Planning & Community Development Department/Environment & Sustainability Office, Kay Wilson – City Attorney’s Office, Jen Smith, Planning & Community Development – Zoning, Officer McInerney – Police Department, Chris Wojtowicz – Public Works Department

CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman Kassir welcomed members and guests

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:

- Chairman Kassir discussed the following items:
 - o 2015 Commission meeting schedule
 - o Committee officially reconstituted and redesignated as a Commission by City Council on January 6, 10 members, 2 City Council liaisons, 4 ex-officio members (2 Planning Commissioners, First Landing State Park manager, Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story Commanding Officer)
 - o Discussion re: City legislative package for General Assembly
 - o Requested Clay Bernick investigate home-based auto repair on South Oliver Drive
 - o Staff liaison support shortcomings for Commission, add item to City Council retreat agenda, follow-up meetings with Planning Director Jack Whitney and Deputy City Manager Doug Smith
 - o Recognized Chris Wojtowicz for exemplary work on new Lesner Bridge
 - o Noted two recognition awards presentations for February meeting agenda – Bob Stanton and Ross Brockwell on behalf of father Dan Brockwell

CITY REPORTS & UPDATES:

- Chris Wojtowicz provided an update on new Lesner Bridge project
- Clay Bernick discussed the following items:
 - o Updates to Commission roster
 - o Updates to Commission website

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES:

- Design: Joe Bovee reported the following items:

- Met prior to today's Commission meeting
 - Design Guidelines draft for February meeting review
 - Public art at new bridge southwest abutment with Arts Commission and private fundraising, Emily Labows to brief Commission at February meeting
 - Neighborhood signs package completed, review with Public Works next step, marketing strategy for neighborhoods
 - Corridor Plan update
 - Revisions to Zoning Ordinance re: Section 1702 on applicability of design guidelines, resolution adopted by Commission, Clay Bernick prepare letter for City Council
 - Comprehensive Plan update underway
 - Bayfront lack of City staff support re: stormwater and drainage issues, new bridge communications, use Commission as conduit to community
- Communications: Vice Chairman Ayers reported the following items:
 - Bridge naming survey website underway, Commission visibility, press releases, media coverage, article in Virginian Pilot, interview for Richmond and Washington newspapers, local television stations
 - Prepare letter and package for City Council re: bridge naming survey
 - Newsletter distribution process improvement
 - Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access: Charlie Malbon reported the following items:
 - 50 new public parking spaces north of Shore Drive identified through removal of illegal signs, better pavement marking
 - Improve pedestrian access
 - Transit strategy for summer
 - Parking issues at Starfish Road and Shore Drive, Officer McInerney will follow up

PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- David Williams with the Shore Drive Community Coalition discussed crosswalk initiative due to confusing Virginia law, last 12 fatalities were from people not in crosswalks, revise wording and enforcement for 2016 legislative package, public safety issue
- Suggestion from public to update and post Commission's finalized goals to website, along with agendas and adopted meeting summaries

NEW BUSINESS:

- Chairman Kassir discussed:
 - Suggested Commission begin work on development of summer bus route / trolley system to link Bayfront to resort Area, adopted motion to send letter to City Council and Brian Solis, Hampton roads Transit City staff liaison
 - Proposed condominium development at Baylake Pines Upper School location

OLD BUSINESS:

- Chairman Kassir reviewed tasks and goals for the Commission for 2015:
 - Improved staff support
 - Funding for family oriented events
 - Funding for arrival flags to implement recommended locations

- Work with Commissioner of the Revenue to eliminate collection of tax for community events
- Fund future Shore Drive Phases (1 completed, 3 funded, 2 and 4 not funded)
- Safety on Shore Drive

NEXT MEETING (TENTATIVE):

- February 15, 2015 2:00 PM Committee meetings before 3:30 PM Commission meeting at Virginia Beach Resort Hotel & Conference Center

ADJOURN