

BAYFRONT ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
JUNE 18, 2015
VIRGINIA BEACH RESORT HOTEL &
CONFERENCE CENTER

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Kal Kassir, Gee Faison, Stacey Shiflet, Vice Chairman Scott Ayers, Norm Carrick, Mercedes Holland (JEB Little Creek/Fort Story Liaison), Louis Jones (Bayside City Council Liaison)

STAFF PRESENT:

Clay Bernick – Planning Department, Kay Wilson – City Attorney's Office

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Kassir

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Chairman Kassir welcomed Vice Mayor Jones
- Chairman Kassir made a special award presentation to Bob Stanton, former Chair and member of what is now the Commission for his service and vision to the Commission and community
- Chairman Kassir reported on 2 meetings held with City's Arts Foundation concerning public art for the new bridge; RFQ mailed out; working to raise \$350,000 for art
- Chairman Kassir reported on City progress concerning the gateway flags; noted Public works will make presentation to Commission in near future
- Chairman Kassir noted Commission will be working with City staff on Waterman's Walk proposal for CIP
- Chairman Kassir noted the Greystar project will be including public art at the corner of Shore Drive and Page Avenue
- Chairman Kassir noted the Commission's annual workshop will take place August 12
- Chairman Kassir noted the farmer's market kickoff went smoothly on June 13
- Chairman Kassir noted the fishing tournament is still in the works
- Chairman Kassir noted contributions forthcoming from Beach Events for fireworks in the Bayfront community

- Chairman Kassir noted concerns about truck signs
- Commission did not have a quorum so meeting minute approvals postponed to July meeting

CITY REPORTS & UPDATES:

- Clay Bernick reported Norm Carrick and Faith Christie were reappointed to the Commission through June 2018; no new zoning enforcement issues except for continued illegal signs; Comprehensive Plan draft should be completed by early fall 2016; Jack Whitney retiring as Planning Director effective August 1; Planning Commission would hear a zoning ordinance revision for group homes as an allowed use in areas zoned B-4 on July 8; Chesapeake Bay Board hearing request for pool on Breezy Road on June 22; Wetlands Board heard 2 dune violations and fined parties involved on June 15; Board of Zoning Appeals has no Bayfront items on their July or August agendas; City staff scheduling meeting with Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek staff; City Council approved Baylake Pines Upper School site plans and rezoning with proffers on June 2; City Council approved Greystar development with conditions on June 16; City Council scheduled to approve farmer's market use permit on July 7/Planning Commission recommended approval on June 10; staff will look into bike racks at beach accesses; staff will provide report to Commission at August meeting concerning short and long term plans for Northampton Boulevard to Shore Drive ramp area; staff will request Public Works investigate drainage issues at east end of new bridge project; noted July 7 City Council agenda would hear Zoning Ordinance changes for Shore Drive Corridor; reiterated City Manager's Office directive for Commission to work on Waterman's Walk concept plan and strategy for inclusion in FY 2016-2017 City budget

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES:

- Design: No report
- Communications: Vice Chairman Ayers noted positive press in local media for Bayfront area; noted poor condition of Northampton Boulevard overpass area as embarrassing entryway to City from Bay Bridge-Tunnel as a missed opportunity; Commission discussed evaluation of current conditions, ownership and opportunity to tie in with gateway flags project; Norm Carrick reemphasized City's 3 Beaches campaign; Virginian-Pilot will be having new staff person cover the Bayfront area; need to send Commission letter for thanks to former staff contact; Chairman Kassir noted need to market new neighborhood signs concept; need to receive final package from Public Works to start publicity efforts
- Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access: No report

COMMUNITY REPORTS & UPDATES:

- Wally Damon of Chesapeake Beach Civic League noted June 20 Chicks Beach Art Shoe and June 27 Paddleboard Race; noted Civic League request of need for 4 –way stop signs at Fentress Avenue and Lookout Road
- Todd Solomon of Cape Story Civic League noted Community Coalition trolley survey underway and review of results to occur at June 29 Coalition meeting; advised of Public Works notice of bike lanes for Shore Drive from Diamond Springs Road to Greenwell Road; noted neighborhood concerns about loss of live oak trees; suggested closure of Starfish Road during farmer’s market hours

NEW BUSINESS:

- Commission discussed funding for fireworks and City permit requirements for parades; Chairman Kassir noted need to resolve Admission Tax issue with Commissioner of the Revenue’s Office

OLD BUSINESS:

- No report

PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- No report

NEXT MEETING (TENTATIVE):

- June 18, 2015 2:00 PM Subcommittees (if scheduled); 3:30 PM Commission meeting at Virginia Beach Resort Hotel & Conference Center
- Clay Bernick noted need for Subcommittees to advise him of need to meet one week in advance of meetings so proper legal notice can be complied with

ADJOURN