

BAYFRONT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING
SUMMARY
FEBRUARY 18, 2016
VIRGINIA BEACH RESORT HOTEL &
CONFERENCE CENTER

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Kal Kassir, Vice Chairman Scott Ayers, Joe Bovee, Faith Christie, Wally Damon, Gee Faison, Charlie Malbon, Joe Miller, Stacey Shiflet, Martin Thomas

STAFF PRESENT:

Clay Bernick – Planning & Community Development Department/Environment & Sustainability Office, Kay Wilson – City Attorney’s Office, Bill Macali – City Attorney’s Office, Karen Lasley – Planning & Community Development Department, Wayne Wilcox, Parks & Recreation Department

CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman Kassir welcomed members and guests

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:

- Chairman Kassir discussed the following items:
 - o Site visit at Lesner Bridge re: public art location
- Meeting summaries for the following meetings approved with corrections noted:
 - o October 2014
 - o November 2014
 - o November 2015
 - o January 2015
 - o July 2015
 - o January 2016

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

CITY REPORTS & UPDATES:

- Wayne Wilcox from Parks & Recreation gave a presentation on bike rack opportunities for beach access areas along the Bayfront:
 - o Inverted U design on pad is best design option
 - o Doing more at access areas than bike racks is a possibility
 - o Estimated cost of \$3,000 - \$6,000 per site for full amenities including bike racks
 - o Full amenities could include trash receptacles, drop off areas for vehicles
 - o Commissioners suggested items to consider including desirability of trash receptacles given these already exist on beach, desirability of drop off areas given narrow streets, etc.
 - o Chairman Kassir requested Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access Committee review options, develop recommendations for action plan and report back to full Committee

- Wayne Wilcox suggested detailed plan following recommendations would take 2-3 months to prepare
- Wayne Wilcox from Parks & Recreation discussed the Shore Drive bike lane extension project:
 - Went to bid in early January, bid received late January, \$4 million estimated cost, \$2.4 million low bid
 - Late March/early April notice to proceed, 120 days estimated construction timeframe
 - Adds paved shoulder east and west bound from Diamond Springs Road to Greenwell Drive
 - Virginia Beach received Bronze Level Award as Bike Friendly Community
- Bill Macali and Karen Lasley gave presentation on Event Houses:
 - Most difficult zoning issue ever addressed by City
 - Uses not size of houses is the issue
 - Houses built as single family homes for rental use
 - Briefed City Council in November, no unanimity or consensus at that time
 - City staff have developed 2 preliminary ordinance drafts to utilize as means to start consensus building and gauge community concerns/issues
 - Primarily is issue in Sandbridge area but could also affect other areas of the City, particularly those with beaches
 - Cape May, NJ and Southern Shores, NC cited as examples of communities with current ordinances re: event houses
 - In Bayfront area currently 2 such houses exist in Baylake Pines and one on Lauderdale Avenue
 - Proposals would limit number of special events at houses each year
 - Bill in General Assembly would allow anyone to rent out their home as a bed & breakfast facility
 - Requested that staff post copy of presentation on Commission website
- Kay Wilson discussed the following item:
 - Neighborhood identification signs proposal needs further refinement
- Clay Bernick discussed the following items:
 - No application submitted to date for Baylake Pines Lower School site for veterinary clinic
 - Traffic visibility at Shelton Road and Independence Boulevard still under evaluation
 - Requested Commission awards recipient info for posting on Commission website
 - Requested missing issues of Commission newsletter for posting on Commission website
 - No application submitted for Water Boxes project proposal at Marina Shores to date
 - Provided copy of letter sent by Chairman Kassir to new City Manager David Hansen

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES:

- Design: Joe Bovee reported the following items:
 - Met January 29 to review Shore Drive Phase 3 plans and developed list of detailed comments/suggestions, met February 17 with Public Works and Planning staff to review Shore Drive Phase 3 plans and shared refined list of detailed comments/suggestions, 90% plans anticipated June/July 2016, improve design of proposed wet pond at Shore Drive and Page Avenue, intersection traffic movement issues at Shore Drive/Page Avenue/Vista Circle/Cherry Street intersection, bike lanes included, consistency with Phase 1 appearance and landscaping identified as concern, stormwater designs still conceptual – to be coordinated with Cape Henry Drive drainage improvements, potential parking issues at City park near Jade Street, LED street lights less light pollution, no landscaping

- drawings at this phase, all utility poles to match black poles in Phase 1
 - Flag designs for gateway areas need to be developed
 - Waterman's Walk plan to meet within 30 days on first phase
 - No action on revisions to Design Guidelines
 - No action on revisions to Corridor Plan
 - Public art at bridge site conflicts due to overhead high tension power line alignment and drop down area from new inlet crossing poles, concerns that elimination of underground cable in lieu of overhead replacement was never communicated with Commission or community, Commission may want to consider moving public art and overlook to northwest side of bridge, continue work with Art Foundation
 - Address neighborhood signs at March meeting
 - Faith Christie to send email re: revise design guidelines to include residential criteria along with existing commercial criteria as Comprehensive Plan recommendation
 - Revisit and make recommendations for next recognition award recipients
- Communications: Vice Chairman Ayers reported the following items:
 - No meeting
 - Increase distribution of Commission agenda
 - Completion of move to one Commission website
 - Consider ways to encourage greater community input to newsletter – example historic photos, old memories, etc.
 - Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access: Charlie Malbon reported the following items:
 - Proposed summer bus route, met with First Landing State Park to add stop for day and night use at campground area, issues with bus making turn into State Park entrance, nearby stop not realistic on Shore Drive, will work with Councilman Wood o address matter, suggest eliminating return route at night through Hilltop area
 - Discussion on bike racks at beach access areas proposal

COMMUNITY REPORTS & UPDATES:

- None

OLD BUSIENSS:

- None

PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- Brad Waitzer and Lisa Murphy to brief Shore Drive Community Coalition on Marina Shores Water Boxes proposal on February 29

NEXT MEETINGS (TENTATIVE):

- March 17, 2016 Committee meetings at 2:00 PM before regular 3:30 PM Commission meeting at Virginia Beach Resort Hotel & Conference Center

ADJOURN