

Summary Minutes

Alexandria Waterfront Committee Meeting March 16, 2010

Lee Center Gold Rooms

Members: Engin Artemel
Jay Atkinson
Christine Bernstein
Henry Brooks
Mel Fortney
Doug Gosnell
Linda Hafer
Nathan Macek
Peter Pennington
John Renner
Robert Taylor
Van Van Fleet

City Staff: Roger Blakeley, Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities (RPCA)
Jim Hixon, RPCA
John North, Fire Department
Laura Seidler, RPCA
Sgt. Brian Thompson, Police Department
Nancy Williamson, Department of Planning and Zoning

Guests: Susan Cohen
Shaun Guevarra
Charlotte Hall
Harry Harrington
Joanne Platt

Welcome and Introductions

Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

Macek noted that the spelling of Joanne Platt's last name should be corrected in the February meeting minutes. Moved by Brooks, second by Renner to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Report from Police Department

Thompson provided an update on Waterfront security. Typical of winter months, the rate of incidents near the Marina is down.

Report from Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs

Capital Improvement Programming and Operating Budgeting: Seidler reported that RPCA's budget had been submitted, with budget levels similar to the previous fiscal year. The City planned a series of hearings on the budget in the following weeks.

Letter to Transient Boaters: Macek reported that the Marina Subcommittee had discussed the issue of allocation of transient and leased slips at the City Marina at its March 11 meeting. The Subcommittee had expected participation by transient boaters impacted by the City's recent reallocation of lease and transient slips, but none attended. The Subcommittee discussed outreach to transient boaters to welcome them to use the City Marina, inform them of the new policy, describe the services available at the Marina, and summarize procedures for reserving and docking. The letter would also mention that as part of the Waterfront Plan, the City is considering developing additional slips to accommodate larger watercraft in the long-term. At the Subcommittee meeting, RPCA Director James Spengler offered to draft and send a letter to transient boaters. Seidler confirmed that a letter would be forthcoming.

Docking by Tall Ship Peacemaker: Seidler reported that RPCA staff had recommended to Council that it permit the Tall Ship Peacemaker to dock at the City Marina for 22 days from April 29 through May 20 and waive associated fees of \$10,010. Pennington moved to draft a letter to Council requesting its approval of this recommendation. Second by Van Fleet. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Report from Department of Planning and Zoning

Art Night Update: Williams reported on the March 8 Art Night Waterfront Plan meeting, a summary of which had been posted on the City's [Waterfront Plan website](#).

Waterfront Plan Update: Williams reported that the Waterfront Plan would be tentatively introduced at a public meeting in April. The Planning Commission would hold a Waterfront Plan work session on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Workroom at City Hall, and the City Council would hold a Waterfront Plan work Session on Tuesday, May 25, 2010 in the City Council Workroom at City Hall.

Report from Marina Subcommittee

Management of Marina During and Following Snow Emergency: Gosnell reported that the Subcommittee discussed the City's response to clearing snow at the City Marina, and recommended drafting a letter to the City urging it prioritize the various users of the Marina in planning snow removal, including public safety and emergency services, commercial and institutional users, pleasure boaters, and pedestrians and visitors. Gosnell moved to draft a letter to the City summarizing the Committee's position on snow removal from the City Marina. Second by Pennington. Motion carried on a voice vote

Review of Marina Night and Marina Vision Statement and Briefing Paper:

Macek stated that the Committee had approved a draft Marina Vision Statement and Briefing Paper prior to Marina Night. At that time, the Committee discussed revisiting the statement following Marina Night. Macek reported that the Marina Subcommittee reviewed the statement at its March 11 meeting, and recommended final adoption of the document with one amendment, the inclusion of a statement regarding transportation access and parking at the Marina. Pennington moved to formally adopt the Marina Vision Statement and Briefing Paper as approved by the Committee in January with the addition of the following statement: "Transportation and parking are required to promote commerce and access recreation at the Marina, but should not impinge on the Waterfront experience. This requires a comprehensive parking plan. In addition, access to the Marina shall be facilitated by a variety of transportation modes, including transit, bicycle, boat, and foot." Second by Hafer. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Presentation by Shaun Guevarra, American River Taxi

Guevarra provided a presentation on the water taxi service his company plans to provide to various locations along the Potomac River. American River Taxi hopes to eventually serve Alexandria. Macek noted that the Marina Subcommittee would meet in April to discuss the issue of how to accommodate additional commercial vessels at the Alexandria City Marina.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

Pennington moved to adjourn, Brooks seconded. Motion carried on a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 a.m.