

WATERFRONT COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

City Council Chambers Thursday, May 1, 2008 – 7:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Parker at 7:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Brian Parker Eddy So

Bill Dann Clay Larson Steve Granholm Francesco Papalia

Members Absent: Kathy Diehl Staff Present: Ann Chaney

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Golden Gate Fields – offered up meeting space for future WFC meetings at the GGF facility. Cheasty distributed flyers regarding the fundraiser for Loni Hancock.

5. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, WHICH COULD INCLUDE REPORTS AND/OR PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS IF ANY:

5-1. Waterfront Visioning process – Discussion and follow-up

Chaney stated the contract with Fern Tiger (FTA) would be signed early next week.

Parker asked that the Committee be provided a copy of the signed contract.

Granholm asked about the timing for beginning the project.

Chaney replied FTA will conduct preliminary outreach, and intends to provide ongoing updates to staff as well as the Committee.

Granholm stated he would like the Committee to be sensitive to FTA's time allocation and ensure that meetings are substantive.

Larson asked about the level of Committee interaction with FTA, and whether there was a consensus among the Committee.

Papalia noted FTA had identified they would be attending most Committee meetings.

So suggested the Committee be readily involved, but not micro-manage.

5-2. Eminent Domain Reform Measures on June 2008 Ballot (Propositions 98 and 99)— Discussion and possible action on recommendations to the Albany City Council regarding official city position

Parker noted this item will be discussed at the City Council's May 19th meeting, and thought it appropriate for the Committee to discuss.

Larson stated he did not see the nexus.

So asked whether the item would be heard by the Planning & Zoning Commission, and thinks that this would be something they should discuss. So expressed concerns with the potential impacts these Propositions could have on homeowners.

Papalia noted that this item was put on the ballot fairly late, and raises suspicions about the intent, and agrees with So's concerns.

So motioned the Committee not make a recommendation to City Council regarding this item. Seconded by Larson.

Public Comment:

Ed Fields: Agrees that the item does not seem totally relevant to the Committee. Does not support Proposition 98. Encourages the Committee to provide recommendations to Council.

Caryl O'Keefe: supports So's motion, and does not see a connection between Proposition and waterfront.

Vote: In Favor – So, Larson. Opposed – Dann, Papalia, Parker.

Papalia clarified that Proposition did have relevancy to the waterfront.

Parker identified how Proposition 98 could have impacts on rezoning the waterfront.

Dann motioned the Committee recommend that City Council reject 98, and not recommending a position on 99. In Favor: Dann, Papalia, Parker. Opposed: So. Abstained: Larson.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

6-1 Burrowing Owl Habitat status

Chaney provided an update – construction fencing is up, not the final habitat fencing, and grading is underway. Flyers regarding the project are posted at the site.

Papalia encouraged more information be provided to the public that the construction fencing is temporary and not the final fencing.

Larson expressed disappointment in the habitat project.

So asked if there was any agreement that the land would be re-opened if owls are not established at the site.

Chaney stated the issue would be reviewed after five years, and that the District owns the land.

Public Comment:

Robert Cheasty: if habitat is developed there, it is likely that the land area will be retained as habitat area. Supports the project as it helps protect habitat from dogs.

Allan Maris: supports the project, particularly because the enclosed area will help protect habitat from dogs.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7-1. NEXT MEETING DATE TO BE DETERMINED AT THE MEETING DUE TO UPCOMING CHANGE IN VENUE AND REGULAR MEETING DAYS.

Chaney stated meetings will be changed to the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} Mondays of the month at the Community Center. May 12^{th} has been slated for a budget meeting for City Council. Memorial day is on the 4^{th} Monday.

The next meeting will be held June 9th. The Committee agreed to suspend the meetings for May.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.