



**WATERFRONT COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
Minutes**

**Community Center  
1249 Marin Avenue  
Monday, March 30, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

Members Present:      Dann                      Granholm              Papalia              So  
                                 Diehl                      Larson                  Parker

Staff Present:              Jeff Bond, Planning Manager

Others Present:          Fern Tiger Associates

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Allan Maris: was not aware of special public meeting.

Edward Moore: discussed the potential selling of Golden Gate Fields and encouraged the City and State parks to get involved in the discussions of the property sale.

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

**4-1. Update on Waterfront Visioning community engagement phase - Fern Tiger and Associates**

Fern Tiger provided an update. FTA presented a draft of the community publication, there are a total of 20 pages. The content will include: an introduction to the publication/process consisting of a letter from the City Administrator/Mayor, history of Albany and the waterfront, planning in Albany, Eastshore State Park, Measure C, maps that identify changes to the shoreline, comparative acreage parks to other parks, maps and diagrams of the shoreline from Oakland to Richmond including property ownership, land use designations, geological characteristics, cultural aspect/place, outline of the block workshop sessions and map, information regarding demographics, contact information, and opportunities to seek out more information.

The workshop sessions will consist of small group meetings of approximately 20 people each, running May through June and possibly some in July. The modules of the workshop will include: introduction/goals of the day and ground rules/overview of the project, overall vision for the city, agreeing to agree – review of facts and assumptions related to the waterfront and identify which of the facts and assumptions they agree with, site planning game for the waterfront to identify preferred uses, with and without the racetrack.

Schedule/calendar for sessions – outreach will begin in mid-April, including the waterfront model at the community center, a letter will be sent out community wide as a save the date for the workshop sessions, the community publication will be sent out in late April, a website will also be developed by late April. Reminder postcards will also be sent. The sessions will begin on May 16 and occur 6 times per week.

Analysis of the session outcomes will be conducted in July/August, with recommendations for supplemental outreach and subsequent analysis to guide the process.

So asked how demographics would be analyzed.

FTA replied they would review the attendee list and collect demographic information to compare with the existing demographics of the city. FTA will also hold supplemental sessions to reach out to particular groups if deemed necessary based on demographics review. Additionally FTA will have strands for commercial and other non-resident groups.

Parker asked how many sessions will take place.

FTA replied there will be approximately 36 sessions, plus some for commercial and other.

Parker expressed concern regarding the outreach being conducted and believes it is limited.

FTA replied they will have several outreach strategies including email groups, flyering local community centers, and other.

Papalia recommended the jurisdictional boundaries are well determined on the model, and asked when the dates will be provided for the sessions.

FTA replied the dates will be included within the letter and the publication.

Larson asked whether newer information regarding Magna's situation would be included in the publication.

FTA replied that there would be a date on the publication, and encourage visiting the website for any information that may be newer than the date on the publication.

Dann asked how the property would be valued.

FTA replied they would be looking at a range of information, and related property transfers in the area.

Diehl recommended an additional reminder postcard prior to meetings, and information on KALB.

Diehl asked for detail on the facts/assumptions module and how they would be generated.

FTA replied they would be developing the facts/assumptions and the sessions would be broken into small groups to analyze them further.

So asked if FTA would be doing a dry run of the sessions prior to starting them, and would like more information so Committee members can promote the sessions to the community.

FTA replied they would be doing a trial run with associates.

Parker asked if a Committee member could attend the trial session.

Public Comment:

Allan Maris: concerned with the delay in the schedule and does not see justification for the delay.

Would like email notifications when changes occur.

Caryl O'Keefe: schedule delay and amount of outreach are both reasonable. Recommends keeping confidence in FTA's ability.

Edward Moore: criticized FTA's method, believes there are about four different alternatives for the property. Suggests presenting the alternatives to people to discuss.

FTA replied this is part one of a dual phase process that will further engage the community in visioning.

Larson asked if the Committee would be able to review a draft of the publication.

FTA replied this item was discussed in October. Council approved review by staff.

Facts on other properties/agencies will be provided to each property/agency for review as well.

Parker agrees the publication should be reviewed by the Committee.

Papalia motioned the Committee have the ability to review the publication and provide comments to staff. Seconded by Parker.

Granholm asked for clarification whether there would be a Brown Act Issue.

Bond replied that individual comments back to staff are allowable, comments back to the Committee would not be recommended. Any document provided to the Committee becomes a public document.

Granholm stated the Committee should allow FTA to proceed with production of the document with staff review. Including the Committee in the review process could confuse the matter.

Diehl agreed that the community would perceive the process as being more neutral with staff review only.

So suggested the Committee not micromanage the project. So asked if the publication would be updated if someone found incorrect information. FTA replied that the information could be updated on the website.

Vote on the motion – In favor: Larson, Parker. Opposed: Dann, Diehl, Granholm, Papalia, So.

**4-2. Measure WW - Present proposals identified by Committee for Local Grant Program allocation - \$771,363 Citywide**

Diehl provided an update. Proposals were to be reviewed at this meeting and the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Diehl recommended this item be postponed until the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**4-3. Installation of bicycle rack at Waterfront Park**

This item was postponed to the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**4-4. Waterways map display (proposal)**

This item was postponed to a future agenda.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

**5-1. December 31, 2008 correspondence from Ed Moore regarding Ferry Terminal EIR/EIS and Waterfront as a cultural landscape eligible for the National Register of Historic Places**

**6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

(Commission/Committee/Board Member announcement of requests for future agenda items. No public comment will be taken on announcement of future agenda items).

**6-1. Next meeting April 13, 2009.**

So suggested Committee attendance at FTA's trial run of the visioning sessions be discussed.  
Diehl added discussion of the \$27 Million WW funding.

**6-2. Special Joint Meeting of Waterfront Committee and Park & Recreation Commission - planned for April 27, 2009.**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 p.m.