

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BAYFRONT CORRIDOR COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, July 6th, 2017 AT 7:30 A.M.
IN THE SANDUSKY CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
SANDUSKY, OHIO**

PRESENT:

Members:Chair Carl McGookey, Sec. Tim Schwanger, Dave Miller. Tim King, Judy Corso, Bill Seman, Lance Warner, John Lippus, Tim King

Staff—Casey Sparks, Talon Flohr

**MINUTES OF THE
PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Meeting to order 7:37am

The minutes of the June 1st 2017 meeting were approved upon a Motion by D. Miller seconded by M. Harrington Motion carried.

STAFF UPDATE

Development Department Casey Sparks updates.

A). Jackson Street Pier/Shoreline Drive/Chesapeake Park- (C. Sparks) Update from consultants will be sometime in mid-July. (J. Lippus)-consider changing green and red lights at pier corners to a different color-current lights give impression boats are entering a channel, etc. (T. Schwanger) Chesapeake Plaza Update- (C. Sparks) Legal Department is working on issues. (D.Miller) Pier has generated more comments in all the years he has lived here. More and more people are commenting to keep parking along the pier. Lot was over full on the 4th of July. Pier is full more than on “Easter Sunday”. Major center for community activity. (C. McGookey) On 4th of July all areas of waterfront were full. Son and wife from out of town opinion is totally different idea for pier than what locals want. (J. Corso) Is this (Friends of Jackson Street Pier-58 Dockers) version of the pier the City’s version? (T. Schwanger) No. It is from Friends of Jackson Street Pier and 58 Dockers. Consultants are preparing their own renditions-there have been two different organizations and individual whom have submitted ideas with different ideas—Tyler Franklin was one—Shawn Fox from Cleveland also. Three renditions from consultants were provided at a State Theater meeting Thursday July 20th.

B). East Bay Vision Plan- Consultant PowerPoint presentation will be sent for next meeting. (C. Sparks) it is on the City Webpage as well. (L. Warner) ongoing maintenance for these type projects need to be taken under consideration. Mentions Team Depot and Save Our Shoreline Parks concrete repair work on Washington Street Pier as an example of City maintaining areas. There are many areas not being maintained. (D. Miller) Discusses each plan showing there will be another road east of Meigs Street going

between the City Hall property and Sailing Basin. This is a presumption that should be a reality if the project happens. (T. Schwanger) June fire station public meeting to generate ideas and designs—attendees were broken up into 5 groups—only one group indicated a desire for private development in the footprint of City Hall over to tennis courts. Remainder of groups recommended non-private improvements. At State Theater meeting, some weeks later, the consultants unveil 3 plans with private development from City Hall to Damons parking lot and one rendition with private development in the park area at Battery Park. (C. McGookey, C Sparks)—reminder meetings were held with private groups and organizations beyond any public meetings. (D. Miller) I agree. I tried to identify the plan we worked on at fire-station but was not there—the Mayor’s wife was in my group—we did discuss private development on the City Hall site—the plans presented at the State Theater did not represent the public ideas developed at the fire-station. (J. Corso) felt it was very difficult to look at each proposal because of the way the forum was set up with “stations”. Found confusion with the color coding of dots put on the designs of “likes and dislikes” (C. Sparks)—Consultants will take feedback from State Theater meeting and meetings in private with other groups and finalize 2 plans to present to Planning Commission and Bayfront Corridor Committee then City Commission. (D. Miller) Deadline for Grant? (T. Schwanger) Deadline end of June? (C. Sparks) No-end of July.

C). Neighborhood Initiatives Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative- (Talon Flohr) Process wrapped up with public meetings in neighborhoods, State Theater, Planning Commission then City Commission in July—\$1 million dollars available. (D. Miller) working plan—In Cove District the pier track (Ogontz to Washington Street Extension) should be a serious priority. Concern is legal issues every time pier track is talked about. Push by planning groups may help this project move along. This is an anchor project. (T. Flohr) Law department is working on it. We are confident we own much of the pier. BCC should put it out the support this idea. (L. Warner) concerned about emergency vehicle access. (C. McGookey) at some point the BCC did support the pier track issue. (J. Corso) I live in the Cove—I believe our attorney believes residents have ownership from Ogontz Street to last boathouse on Cove Park Blvd.—what happens at the NW end of the pier—opposed to a bridge. (B. Seamans) boat opening at NW end. Ramped up bridge would be high enough to address all issues. (T. Schwanger) there is one sailboat in the Cove which can be addressed regarding a bridge—there will be improvements to the pier track (widening for emergency access) no different than emergency access to Washington Street Pier, etc.—this issue goes back to Mike Will bending over backwards with improvements addressing the concerns of boathouse owners (private gates, a pavilion in honor of one of the residents, etc.). There might be a way to physically go around the disputed property rights by filling in. From Meigs Street to the Pipe Creek Wildlife Area there is absolutely zero access points for people living in the 1st Street area. McKewen Street is fenced off at the end. I believe the City now has control of the end of Ogontz Street. Legal Department has it’s handful. (T. Schwanger) there was not a public hearing at Planning Commission and will not be a public hearing at City Commission? (T. Flohr) correct.

D). Justice Center-City Hall- No update.

OLD BUSINESS

Washington Street Pier repair. (T. Schwanger)—finished-high water kept us from repairing everything-temporary fix-complete overlay will be expensive-hopefully permanent repairs will happen in next 3 years—people walking by as we worked were grateful for our efforts (handicapped)-65 bags of concrete.

New Business John Blakeman proposals for waterfront areas—wants to keep natural look-(J. Lippus) I think it is important to keep the names of some of these areas such as the Paper District-it gets people talking about the heritage of the community and history for locals and visitors—need information boards—Vancouver, San Diego, etc. (L. Warner) need to research on placards making a walking tour of historic areas. Need to be careful how we spend City money only for the benefit of visitors and not benefit citizens. (T. King) Downtown Historic signage is an eye catcher. (B. Seamans) Paper District signage does work. (T. Schwanger) I agree with need for more directional and identifying signage—Battery Park example-need a sign indicating Battery Park—only sign for Damons and Battery Park Marina giving impression it is private. There are people in Sandusky that think Battery Park is private. Many of the items Mr. Blakeman mentions are already in place. Shelby Street Boat Launch name can change. I can reach out to Mr. Blakeman with a thank you and detail some of the projects that are ongoing he references. Shoreline Park and trees-we cannot have park areas without trees for shade. Mr. Blakeman's suggestion on signage—I believe he is asking for directional signage in addition to the current “Historic downtown” signs now in place. (J. Corso) partner with Lou Shultz on historic tours and signage. (D. Miller) paper District is all about history and Sandusky. (J. Lippus) agree with most everything Tim said-signage will give a return on investment. (L. Warner) again research and implementing a walking tour with signage is very important. (C. McGookey) the Bicentennial Committee and local Historical Society are working on walking tours—was on vacation where a walking tour of homes was available—brochures were available-no plaques-information needs to be available—we need to do a better job marketing our waterfront-(L. Warner) brochures need to be available—some sort of kiosk. (J. Corso) perhaps an information booth at Jackson Street Pier? (L. Warner) update from Bicentennial Committee? (B. Seamans) check out Erie County Historical Society webpage-talk of plaques with QR codes instead of brochures. Bicentennial website is running.

Adjournment With no further action, the Committee adjourned at 8:30am upon motion from (L. Warner) second (B. Seamans).

Tim Schwanger, Secretary

Mission Statement: The Bayfront Corridor Committee, a cross-section of community stakeholders serving at the pleasure of City Commission, reviews proposed waterfront development projects relative to adopted city plans and their benefit to the community and makes recommendations to

the administration and City Commission with the purpose of maximizing the advantages of Sandusky's strategic location on Lake Erie.