

**MINUTES
HARBOR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT
AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 14, 2021 - 5:30 PM
DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairman Green called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 in the Destin City Hall Board Room.

2. ROLL CALL & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Present

James Green
Casey Jones
Jan Best
Ian Blaise

Members Absent

Mike Buckingham
Sandy Trammell
Mike Raim

Staff Present

Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk
Lauren Witt, Principal Planner
Louis Zunguze CD Director
Daniel Butler, Planner
Don Smith, City Engineer

3. MINUTES: March 10, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2021 as corrected was made by Committee member Best with Committee member Jones providing the seconded. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote for approval.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **Harbor CRA Master Plan**

According to Mr. Butler, based on their last motion from the previous meeting, staff would like to know if they would prefer to review the Plan in regard to consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and as well as the plan itself after staff has added the necessary inclusions or in chapters.

According to Committee member Best, they never did get a chance to completely review the Plan in its entirety. Noting there is a lot that they didn't get to review and comment on. She stated that she would like to review her concerns with staff in a one-on-one meeting.

Vice Chairman Green stated that he would like to review her comments and asked that it be placed on a next agenda for review and discussion. He also suggested taking it in chapters at a time.

➤ **2021 Work Plans**

Mr. Butler explained that from their last meeting, the work plan for Historical Plaques was added. And will be incorporated into the Wayfinding Plan.

Committee member Blaise asked what measures are being put in place for the Prevention of Rogue Operators in the Establishing Harbor Regulations Work Plan Item.

According to Mr. Forgione he and his staff are aware certain operations and asked if there are any violators that anyone in the public sees, he encourages them to contact the Code Compliance Department. Adding that some of the complaints that are coming in are vague in description and there is not a lot that can be done unless the FL number, business name and location is reported.

He commented on how complaints that come in just stating a blue boat with people on it in the harbor does not help at all. He also mentioned that he has gotten authorization from the City Manager and soon his department will be able to run tags in house. Additionally, he informed the member that there is not a lot he can do about the ones that are operating outside of the city's jurisdiction. However, he has recently caught a couple running out of Joe's Bayou. And the Sheriff's Office does assist his staff with these issues.

The Vice Chairman added that the Coastguard has cracked down on the illegal Charters that are working the in the waters of the State.

Committee member Best spoke Kudos to Committee Blaise's business that he runs in the harbor and how it is one of the few that is a respectful business and polite to everyone. Committee member Blaise thanked her and stated that its very important to both him and his staff.

➤ **Development Project Update**

Mr. Butler explained to the members that in their binders are the Development projects that have been approved in the Harbor CRA District.

The Vice Chairman asked about the status of the Capt. Royal Melvin Heritage Park.

According to the City Engineer, Don Smith, the footers have been poured and in the next 2-3 weeks the slabs should be poured. And is still on schedule to be finished by October 31st.

Vice Chairman Green asked about the bottom area where the Seafood Festival is held. According to Mr. Smith, the grant's expiration date is November 1, 2021 so, all the major work has to be done before that date.

The Vice Chairman also asked about the status of the Cross-Town Connector. According to Mr. Zunguze, Council has scheduled a workshop for May 10th and encouraged all the members to attend.

➤ **Zerbe/Calhoun Historical Update**

Mrs. Witt explained that the ordinance was drafted and recommended for approval by the Local Planning Agency at their March meeting and was brought before City Council for its first reading on April 5th, which was approved and will go for its second and final approval by Council on April 19th.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **Harbor Capacity Study Update**

According to Mrs. Witt, at the meeting last month, the members and staff worked on identifying issues currently in the harbor as well as the potential widening of the navigational channel, which was brought before City Council on April 5th for direction. And at that April 5th meeting, Council directed staff on performing the research and to see what that process would look like based on what the original authorization was. So currently, staff is working with the ACOE representative to find out what it would take to widen the channel.

The Vice Chairman mentioned that he spoke at both of the meetings Mrs. Witt mentioned regarding how important it is to widen the channel being that there has been significant growth since it was first

opened. Not to mention that it was way too narrow to begin with and the importance of the environmental standpoint to flush the water out and not just divert it. As well as this would offer more transient slips to the owners if it's widened.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

➤ **Committee member Jones:**

Spoke of being approached by a few Livery Vessel Business owners questioning how in the middle of the season if they have a boat break down, how are they to exchange it out for one that is working until the broken boat can be repaired. Adding that he was told that there is not a process in place.

According to Mr. Forgione, there is a process that has been in place and he will provide that information to him as well as anyone that contacts his department.

➤ **Committee member Blaise:**

Asked about the if the Point One Marina Project was the same thing that Chairman Buckingham mentioned at their last month's meeting.

According to the Vice Chairman, it is not the same and is a private marina on private property.

The City Attorney also stated to Committee member Blaise that he would be glad to speak to him about what he could, outside of the meeting. But since it is a project with a pending Development Applications and is considered a Quasi-Judicial Hearing there is some components that he cannot speak on. But once it is finished at the staff level, there will be a public hearing when it goes before City Council for approval.

Committee member Blaise asked if the project is on the harbor, then how come they cannot speak on it. According to the Vice Chairman, the Harbor CRA District does not include Holiday Isle, where the pending project is located.

➤ **Public Comment:**

None

➤ **DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Mr. Zunguze explained that Council has directed him and his staff to go forward with the update to the Land Development Code, which will impact the Harbor Parking Work Plan Item. And staff will bring forth their proposed remedies, as necessary.

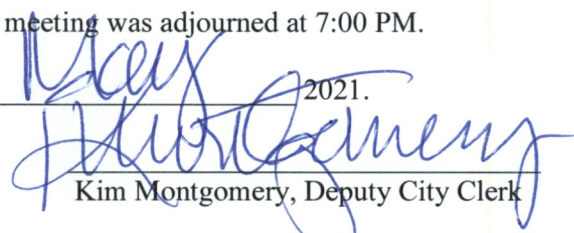
- **Next meeting: May 12, 2021**

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Adopted and approved this 12th day of May 2021.


James Green, Vice Chairman


Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk