



WEIRS TIF ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Thursday, April 19th, 2018 @ 1:02 PM @ Laconia City Hall-Room 200B.

Board Members Present: Robert Ames, Joe Driscoll III, Russ Poirier

City Staff: Kevin Dunleavy, Director of Recreation and Facilities/Ex-officio member

Absent: None

Public present: Ava Doyle

Meeting Minutes- Joe Driscoll motioned to accept the minutes of the October 5th, 2017 meeting as written. Seconded by Robert Ames. All were in favor.

Lakeside Avenue Project

a. Weirs Sign Irrigation

Kevin Dunleavy said he spoke with Studley's Landscaping and they planned to do the installation of the irrigation and the pipe boring under the walkway at the Weirs Beach sign in about a month. Kevin said that the Weirs Action Committee (WAC) would be paying for the irrigation installation at a cost of around \$1,350 and the City would be covering the cost of the pipe boring under the walkway at a cost of \$120. Kevin inquired on when WAC has the plants installed. Robert Ames said they wait until after Motorcycle Week for this area.

b. Banners

Robert Ames said that WAC has purchased banners for all the new ornamental light poles. Robert said that the double fixture poles and one by Route 3 do not have spindles for the banners. Robert said that the Laconia Motorcycle Week Association has their own banners they are planning on putting up for Motorcycle Week so the new banners will go up for a short time and will be replaced by Motorcycle Week Banners for a week. Then the regular banners will be reinstalled for the season. Kevin Dunleavy said he noticed that some of the banner spindles were broken or bent. Robert Ames said he believes DPW has some spare spindles.

c. Plantings

Kevin Dunleavy asked if there were any plans to have hanging baskets on the new light poles this year or planters in the bump outs. Robert Ames said there are no plans for this. The usual hanging planters on the boardwalk light poles will be there.

d. WAC Proposed Enhancements/Signage

Kevin Dunleavy said that his last conversation with Porky indicated that WAC was planning on installing historical signage on the Weirs Boardwalk. Kevin asked if any signage was planned for the new light poles. Robert Ames said that DPW was not receptive to the idea of signs on the light poles. Kevin said he would connect with Porky and see where they are at on this signage.

e. Trash/Recycling Containers

Kevin Dunleavy mentioned that WAC was hoping more of the large receptacles could be placed on Lakeside Avenue. Robert Ames said that in the previous discussion, six new receptacles were thought to be enough to complete what was needed on Lakeside Avenue. Kevin Dunleavy said with the new containers in the core areas, some smaller containers could be placed on the outside limits near the old waterslide and in areas up to Foster Ave. Robert said that the WAC would cover half the cost if the City would cover the other half. Kevin Dunleavy said he had discussed this with the City Manager recently and will get them ordered.

f. Parking Kiosks/Revenue

Kevin Dunleavy presented a summary of the revenue received from the kiosks from 2017. Kevin said that the two beach kiosks collected \$38K and the Lakeside Ave. kiosks collected \$129K. Kevin said the Lakeside Ave. revenue basically doubled from previous years. Kevin said that the City did not have the kiosks running until after Motorcycle Week last year so there will be a longer collection time this year. Robert Ames said that the revenue doubled and the parking rates were doubled. Kevin said that it was thought that people might buy more time than they needed if they used electronic payments but the numbers don't seem to reflect this. Kevin said that beach revenues did seem to be more than a typically year, but not substantially more. Kevin said that the beach revenue comparison to past years is different because a daily rate was charged. Kevin said that weather can impact the revenues. Robert Ames said that the good news is that the revenue increased significantly and heard no complaints. Kevin said that there were some minor problems but overall the system seemed to work well.

Kevin said that revenues from parking enforcement City wide was \$5,700. Kevin said the Weirs area is not broken out from the rest of the City. Ava Doyle wondered if different colored tickets could be issued in the Weirs so that those enforcement revenues could be known.

Russ Poirier asked if they removed the kiosks for the winter. Kevin said they removed some components like batteries and cover the units.

Robert Ames asked if there was any plan to enable customers to access the kiosks with a mobile application so visitors could add more time remotely to their parking space. Kevin said he believed the kiosk have that capability but additional equipment or modules might be needed. Kevin said he would inquire on this. Kevin said that if there are areas where turnover in the spaces is preferred, you might not want to allow this capability.

Russ Poirier asked if there was any impact to other City parking lots where visitors might be looking for free parking. Kevin said that he saw no impact to the Lucerne Ave. parking lot and that he thought visitors either were not aware of this parking lot or it's too far removed for people.

Robert Ames asked if there was any further consideration for using a different font and numbering system for the labeling of the spaces. Joe Driscoll said that a style of font that fits better with the character of the area would be preferred. Robert Ames said that adding the time limit at the end of the space number would help visitors know what the time limit is for their space. Kevin said he would reach out to DPW and see if this is something they are open to.

Weirs Beach Restoration

Kevin Dunleavy said the City has had several meetings and conversations with NHDES since we last met and the wetlands mitigation requirement is still being worked out. Kevin said that NHDES requires mitigation of impacts when you fill wetland areas. Kevin said there are a couple of options for mitigating the impact including creation of wetlands in the immediate area, the purchase of land with wetlands that can be set aside for conservation and in lieu payment for impacts. Kevin said these options are challenging and some are more possible than others. Kevin presented a concept plan created by the City's consultant Woods Hole Group showing a created wetland in the area between the public docks and the shoreline that is being submitted to NHDES for consideration. Kevin further said this terraced wetland would provide treatment for storm water and could provide educational opportunities for visitors and residents. Joe Driscoll asked if this would impact docking on the inside of the public docks. Kevin said that it would not allow docking on the inside areas but very few dock there now because it is shallow. Kevin said that there are concerns with the spacing of the public docks now and a future reconfiguration would provide more docking space. Kevin also said that a meeting with the Army Corps. of Engineers is being set up to discuss any future plans for maintenance dredging of the Weirs Channel that might provide an opportunity for the Army Corps. to partner with City. Kevin said that this project is complex and has a lot of moving parts.

Russ Poirier asked if the Army Corps. would allow a breakwater that extends beyond the jetty. Kevin Dunleavy said that the plan calls for the jetty to be extended 25 feet now and he does not think any further extension would be necessary and NHDES would likely not allow it if it's not needed.

Robert Ames wondered if any improvement to the jetty would allow for people to access it so people can experience the views from that location. Robert said it would be nice to have a gazebo at the end. Robert said people are not allowed on the end of the jetty now but why not make it an amenity. Kevin said he would see if this is possible.

Additional Advisory Board Members

Kevin Dunleavy welcomed Ava Doyle to the meeting and told the Board that Ava had applied to become a member. Kevin said that the City Council interviewed her at their last meeting and they would be taking action on her appointment at the April 23rd meeting.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for August 16th, 2018 @ 1pm at City Hall Room 200B.

Adjournment

Joe Driscoll made a motion to adjourn at 2:03pm. Robert Ames seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Dunleavy, Ex-officio Member of the Weirs TIF Advisory Board