

Newburyport Redevelopment Authority
Minutes for meeting held December 21, 2005

In attendance: Jan Marcus, Nathaniel Norton, Mary Lou Supple and Rick Taintor.
Guests: Stephanie Chlef, George Rolf, Gentlemen representing Great Hall Inc.

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. Minutes from the meetings held November 15, 2005 were reviewed and a motion was made and a seconded to accept them, with a few minor corrections.

There was no treasurer's report to be presented at this meeting; it will be reviewed at the next meeting on January 4, 2006. Annuals for 2004 and 2005 were discussed briefly; Mary Lou will make copies and present them at the next meeting. Interest rates for the upcoming year were discussed; Jan suggested that they look into a money market being offered by BankNorth.

Signage applications were reviewed and discussed. Jan said she had spoken to Dorothy Phillips who had spoken to the landlord of the building where the sign was placed. The sign was taken down; however it had been put back up. A motion was made and seconded to have the building inspector issue a cease and desist order. Signage for Amy Williams was reviewed and a motion was made and seconded to accept her application. The signage application for Great Hall Inc. was reviewed. Jan said she would need to submit it to the Planning office and would give it to Dianne.

Jan then read a letter written by Paula Benoit, the general manager at Not Your Average Joe's. The letter said that the company cleaning the restaurant Ecolab had seen no pest activity over the past month and that they check activity monthly.

A second letter sent by mayor elect John Moak was read asking to meet with all city committees sometime during January and February. The committee thought

it would be a good idea to meet with him sooner rather than later to gather his opinion on the survey being drafted. Jan said she would contact him to schedule the meeting for sometime in January.

Rick then handed out paperwork about old business and sandwich boards and proposed sign ordinance, to be discussed at another time

Mary Lou presented copies of an e-mail sent by Rick with comments and ideas on the RFP. The survey was reviewed and discussed. Jan shared her thoughts that the survey should be kept simple for a heavier flow of results. Other members of the committee thought adding additional information to the survey would be helpful for those who would be interested in reading it. These ideas and the addition and subtraction of certain survey questions were discussed. It was decided that Rick would re-work the questions on the survey and Mary Lou and Nat would re-work the format.

Newburyport resident George Rolf then presented results he had found while surveying the parking lots over the past five weeks. Rolf found that both the East and West lots held less than 60 cars per day at the times he surveyed. The busiest was the east lot, holding 107 cars on the afternoon of December 17, 2005.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Wilmot, Acting Note Taker

[Minutes reviewed by Note Taker Diana Lord 1/12/06]