

planning

Newburyport Redevelopment Authority
Minutes of Meeting Held 25 May 2005

In Attendance: Mary Lou Supple, Erford Fowler, Jan Marcus, Nat Norton, Rick Taintor, Attorney Carol Powers, and Recorder Diana Lord

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mary Lou, who presented the Agenda for the meeting. Two items were added to the Agenda: Application for Signage from Hemisphere and a letter from Ralph Steele, Harbormaster regarding a grant for placement of a dumpster in the NRA Parking Lot.

Mary Lou reported that minutes of past meetings would be completed for review possibly by the June meeting.

Treasurer Nat Norton presented the Treasurer's Report dated May 25, 2005, which was read and discussed. Nat reminded Carol Powers to submit an invoice for legal services.

There was a brief discussion of the need for someone to unlock the electrical box in Waterfront Park for a graduation event on 5/26 @ 1:30 p.m. Normally, City Electrician Zinck has custody of the key; however he is unavailable 5/26. Mary Lou agreed to unlock the box and return the key to Zinck.

Hemisphere's (17 Green Street) Application for Signage was discussed. It was noted that the sign is too large for the frontage of the building, no photograph was included in the package and no scaled drawing was provided. Mary Lou will write up these comments and return the application.

There was a discussion of the need for the Waterfront Trust and the NRA to hold a joint meeting with the Mayor in attendance to discuss consistency in regulations governing use of the groups' waterfront land. **Motion made and seconded: That there be a joint meeting of the Waterfront Trust and the NRA and that the Mayor be asked to attend.** This motion was passed unanimously. A suggestion to include Kevin Wallace in this meeting was postponed for later discussion.

The NRA Deed Restriction language was reviewed and discussed. It is clear that a survey and deed review of the area(s) is necessary to ensure the language reflects the intent of the NRA. **Motion made and seconded: Carol Powers shall be authorized to pull the related deeds and incur normal expenses not to exceed \$1,400 in doing so.** This motion was passed unanimously. It was noted that the relevant parcels and deed review will be more complicated than the review performed for the West Lot. Section 3.2 of the Deed Restriction will be re-drafted by Carol to better reflect the NRA's intent to create a park once replacement parking is available and to preserve the NRA's right to dedicate the land as park land.

A sub-committee will be responsible for the planning of the park and this subject will be discussed at the next NRA meeting. It was agreed that the Waterfront Trust and Developers should have input to this planning process.

The group reviewed the letter from Ralph Steele indicating that a grant is available for placement of a dumpster in the NRA parking lot. The group agreed that the NRA should decline to participate in placing a dumpster in the lot. This is an issue for the Harbormaster, not the NRA.

Mary Lou reported that Salisbury Landscape has performed no hole filling to date in the parking lot.

The Urban Renewal Plan ends in July and City Ordinances and Deeds control from that time forward. The design review function remains with the NRA until it is dissolved. City Ordinances state building facades and signage are subject to the design review of the NRA, and this requirement is noted on individual deeds.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. [8:02 p.m.]