

Newburyport Redevelopment Authority
Newburyport Public Library
June 27, 2012
Minutes

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Newburyport Redevelopment Authority was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair James Shanley.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members James Shanley, Patty Dorfman, Adam Guild, John Morris and Tom Salemi.

3. Reading of Mission Statement

Patty Dorfman read the mission statement.

4. Minutes

John Morris moved to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2012 meeting as submitted. Patty seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Proposed Bike Path

Geordie Vining presented the schematic plans for the extension of the Rail Trail between Parker Street and the central waterfront. The multiuse pathway would connect with the completed first phase of the trail, creating a loop. A public meeting on the plan is scheduled for June 28 at the Firehouse at 7:00 p.m. The pathway would cross the NRA property behind the Custom House and connect with Custom House Way. The City will approach the NRA about an easement after Mass DOT has approved the 25% complete design plans. A dedicated bicycle path would run behind the berm through Market Landing Park but the exact location of the path has not yet been determined. In the interim the path will follow the boardwalk and signage will be installed that will instruct bike riders to dismount. The preliminary design for this phase of the trail is to be developed this summer and a package will be submitted to National Grid, which owns or leases a portion of the property along the waterfront, and Mass DOT. The construction of the trail is planned for 2015.

6. Treasurer's Report

Adam Guild said the balance in the checking account is \$6,208.22 and the balance in the money market account is \$149,304.16.

John Morris moved to approve a payment in the amount of \$1,441.20 for four invoices from ND Landscape for the months of March, April, May and June. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adam Guild moved to approve a payment in the amount of \$1,800 for an invoice from Barry Abramson for work between May 31 and June 13. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adam Guild moved to approve a payment pending review in the amount of \$5,750 for an invoice from Barry Abramsom for 28.5 hours of work between June 14 and June 27. The motion was withdrawn. James Shanley moved to table the approval until the July 11 meeting in order that the invoice might be reviewed. Tom Salemi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adam Guild moved to approve a payment in the amount of \$150 for minute taking for the June 13 meeting. Tom Salemi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. John Morris moved to approve a payment in the amount of \$150 for minute taking for the June 27 meeting. Tom Salemi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Payments from the City for parking revenue were received in the amounts of \$7,127.35 for April and \$10,744.90 for May. The revenue for the two lots from May 2011 through May 2012 totaled \$92,741.

7. Waterfront Trust: New Survey of Existing Boundaries

James Shanley said he met twice with Joe Brown and Scott Sutherland from the Waterfront Trust. They renegotiated the contract for the survey and the price was reduced from \$5,000 to \$4,000.

8. Public Presentation

James Shanley said the presentation by Union Studios on Saturday, June 16 was informative and well attended. Tom Salemi will post a video recording of the presentation. Patty Dorfman and John Morris were present at the Chamber of Commerce breakfast, which was also well attended.

9. New Business

James Shanley said the NRA was copied on a letter from the Secretary of the Commonwealth to the Maritime Society. A grant from the Preservation Project Fund is to be awarded in the amount of \$45,000 subject to the allocation and authorization of the funds. The grant would be used for the re-pointing of two facades and the repair of the roof and chimney on the Custom House.

Tom Salemi said he is building a database of emails for the Constant Contact account. Addressees may be sent to 22828NRA or NewburyportRA@gmail.com.

10. Public Comment

Susan Hern said tables with umbrellas have been added around the fountain at the Park Street station in Boston. James Shanley said seating would be a good addition to the waterfront.

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Lisa McNulty asked about parking revenues. James Shanley said the lots are currently the only source of revenue for the NRA. Under a two-year agreement with the City, the NRA receives the revenues from the meters, while the City retains the revenue from permits and tickets. Susan Hern noted that the permit parking spaces in the west lot are frequently empty.

11. Upcoming Meetings

Meetings of the NRA will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Newburyport Public Library on the following dates: July 11, July 25, August 8, August 22, September 5 and September 19.

12. Adjournment

John Morris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.