

**Newburyport Redevelopment Authority**  
Newburyport Public Library  
June 13, 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 and Tom Salemi.

**3. Reading of Mission Statement**

Patty Dorfman read the mission statement.

**4. Minutes**

Patty Dorfman moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2012 meeting as amended. Tom Salemi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Adam Guild said the balance in the checking account is \$1,264.97 and the balance in the money market account is \$163,304.16.

Adam Guild moved to approve a payment for an invoice from Barry Abramsom dated May 30 in the amount of \$1,650 for work performed between May 16 and May 30. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Tom Salemi moved to approve a payment for invoice #12-01 from John Burke dated June 1 in the amount of \$1710. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adam Guild moved to approve a payment for invoice #014288 from Mass Development in the amount of \$12,500. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Mass Development will bill the City directly for the other half of the \$25,000 payment.

Adam Guild moved to approve a payment to the Chamber of Commerce for invoice #61199 dated June 12 for sponsorship of the June 21 breakfast that will be held at the Mission Oak Grill. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mass Development forwarded invoices to the NRA from Fort Point Associates and Union Studios, as is required in the MOA. No action was necessary.

#### **6. Waterfront Trust: New Survey of Existing Boundaries**

Joe Brown said the Waterfront Trust voted at its June 11 meeting to enter into a contract for the surveying of the existing boundaries. The NRA and the Waterfront Trust will split the cost of the survey, which is not to exceed \$5,000.

#### **7. Public Presentation**

James Shanley said a public meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, June 16 at 10:00 a.m. at the Firehouse. The presentation, which will focus on regulatory constraints and their potential impact on design, will be followed by a walking tour.

#### **8. New Business**

- Invitation to John Fitzgerald

James Shanley said he would like to invite John Fitzgerald, who works with redevelopment authorities, to attend an upcoming meeting. James wants to invite him to a meeting. Public might have questions for him.

- Past Surveys

Tom Salemi commented on a letter submitted to the *Daily News*. The letter stated past surveys indicated that residents favored non-commercial use of the waterfront and did not support development. He said he compiled a report on the results of the surveys and found that in 1987 the percentage of voters opposed to development equaled those voting for mixed use without a hotel. In 2000, 37% of the respondents supported open space and development and 8% supported commercial use only. When these figures are combined they almost equal the 49% that wished the land to be used as a park only. In 2006 only two options were a part of the survey – park or parking lot. Patty Dorfman said the past surveys speak more for development than no development. She said the combined support for a hotel or a hotel with mixed use was equal to that for no development. Tom Salemi said in his perception there are many different opinions and he would like to write about this in the blog.

- Local Historic District

James Shanley said a public hearing on the local historic district has been scheduled for June 21 at the High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m. He said members should attend the hearing, as the NRA land is in the district. The waterfront from the Gillis Bridge to Federal Street is included in the district.

#### **9. Upcoming Meetings**

Meetings of the NRA will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Newburyport Public Library on the following dates: June 27, July 11, July 25, August 8, August 22, September 5 and September 19.

#### **10. Public Comment**

Susan Hern, 22 Broad Street, asked which group is planning to install the showers and bathrooms on the waterfront that were mentioned in an article in the *Daily News*. She

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was told the Harbormaster and Harbor Commission are working to develop a transient boaters' facility.

**11. Adjournment**

Patty Dorfman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Adam Guild seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.