

Newburyport Redevelopment Authority
Newburyport Public Library
May 18, 2011
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 and Adam Guild.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Update on Paid Parking Plan

James Shanley said the meters have been installed but are not yet operational. The concrete bumpers have yet to be installed and the lines must be painted. The delay in the implementation of the plan does not negatively impact the NRA because ordinarily it would not yet have begun to charge for parking.

5. DEP Tier II Status

James Shanley said he met with Carol Powers and representatives from Weston and Sampson. A couple of hot spots were found but no PCPs or hydrocarbons. Weston and Sampson will prepare a report that will include a list of restricted activities and uses and a soil management plan. The deadline for the completion of the work will be met. The NRA will receive a copy of the report after it has been sent to DEP.

James Shanley said he met with Tanya Hartford of Mass. Development. The NRA will receive a grant to cover the cost of the Weston and Sampson work, which was \$50,620. The NRA will be required to file a report every six months. The grant would be converted to a loan if the terms of the agreement were to be violated. Adam Guild moved to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with Mass. Development. Patty Dorfman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Spring Fest Dumpster Request

Ann Ormond of the Chamber of Commerce has requested to place a dumpster in the east lot for Spring Fest, which is to take place on May 29 and 30. Patty Dorfman moved to allow James Shanley to meet with Richard Jones about the request. Adam Guild seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Brewfest Parking Request

Brewfest Chair Libby McNeill has requested that the tent for the event be moved to a different location in the east lot. The Yankee Homecoming Committee prefers the location that was approved at the March 9 NRA meeting, but Richard Jones is concerned about the loss of permit parking spaces. Patty Dorfman said that while the simplest solution would be the elimination of

permit parking during Yankee Homecoming, a decision could not be made without Richard Jones being a part of the discussion. The NRA would prefer that the location of the Brewfest not be moved and would be willing to donate space for temporary permit parking if the City does not wish to eliminate the permit parking during the event. Patty Dorfman moved to authorize James Shanley to meet with Richard Jones about the issue. Adam Guild seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

8. Yankee Homecoming Musician Parking Request

The request for parking spaces for the Yankee Homecoming musicians has not changed from last year. NRA members agreed 20 parking spaces could be designated for the musicians and the Yankee Homecoming Committee would not be charged for them. The area would have to be roped off by the DPS and the Yankee Homecoming staff would be responsible for policing it. Patty Dorfman said a better solution would be the elimination of permit parking during Yankee Homecoming. Residents have been charged to park in lots during the event in past years. The 28 permit spaces in the west lot could be used for members of the Yankee Homing staff. James Shanley said he would speak with Richard Jones about the issue.

9. Stakeholder Meeting

A meeting to discuss a common vision for the waterfront was attended by Mayor Holaday, Andy Port, Geordie Vining, Cliff Goudey, Doug Locy, James Shanley, Brad Duffin and Barry Abramson. James Shanley reported there were divergent opinions on how to approach the development of the waterfront. Brad Duffin had said that while development might be incremental, it should not be done in a piecemeal way and a master plan should be prepared. Patty Dorfman said the City, the NRA and New England Development would be the key players in the development of the waterfront and a series of meetings involving these three groups should take place. The Harbor Commission and the Waterfront Trust should be made aware of any progress made but should not be asked to be a part of the decision making process. James Shanley agreed that involving the other groups would bring too many conflicting responsibilities into the process. Patty Dorfman said she thinks the NRA would best accomplish its mission by working with New England Development. If the NRA were to help New England Development reach its goals, the city would benefit through an increase in tax revenue. Patty Dorfman moved to approve a payment of \$1,000 to Barry Abramson for his attendance at the meeting and the preparation of a report. Adam Guild seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. Proposal by Abramson Associates

James Shanley said he and Barry Abramson reviewed and edited the proposal. Mr. Abramson would like to use PDFs rather than Excel spreadsheets that could be altered. The next step is to sign the agreement. James Shanley said he would like John Morris and Tim Brennan, who were not present at the meeting, to have the opportunity to vote on the proposal. Adam Guild said while he would like to extend the courtesy of allowing the other NRA members to express their opinions, he is anxious for the process to begin. Patty Dorfman moved to approve the agreement with Abramson Associates. Adam Guild seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. James Shanley said he would sign the agreement, which involves a small amount of money for a defined task.

11. Review of Time Line

Adam Guild will contact Barry Abramson to begin work on the timeline.

12. Treasurer's Report

There was no treasurer's report. Patty Dorfman moved to report a payment of \$4,770 to ND Landscape. Adam Guild seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. ND Landscape has changed billing system. The company is now issuing coupons books and has instituted a budget payment system.

13. General Business

James Shanley said he attended a talk by Bill Harris about Section 106 requirements. The discovery of a section of a timber bulkhead at the Bartlet Wharf has brought attention to the issue.

James Shanley displayed a map of the waterfront from 1972. The map shows a large number of buildings on the waterfront that no longer exist.

14. Approval of Minutes

The approval of the minutes of the April 13 meeting was deferred.

15. Upcoming Meetings

The next meetings of the NRA are scheduled for May 25 and June 1.

16. Adjournment

Patty Dorfman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30. Adam Guild seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.