

BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON
Citywide Neighborhood Committee
Meeting Summary

March 8, 2017 Conference Room A, City Hall
Present: Cliff Lazenby, Cristy Cardoso, Kathy Bergeron, Paul Mannle, Larry Cataldo
Also Present:
Absent: Marie Kelleher (e)

Cliff called to order at 7:02

Attendance sheet, copy of minutes is out to look over for the last meeting in November 2016.

Motion to approve – Christi, second, Larry. All in favor.

Passed out written summary of Outreach Forum

Kathy summarized what happened at the Ward 2 Nbhd Outreach meeting.

Larry asked if crime was talked about. No one recalled that being spoken of.

Cliff brought up the Legislative Meeting for March 28 with legislative representatives

Christi expressed that this could be a very good thing for the residents of Portsmouth. There are many issues that our local council does not have control over. It will be good to get issues before our state representatives prior to them happening.

Kathy: Hopefully this will be an annual thing.

Cliff: Talked about the Master Plan. It has been adopted. Readable but lengthy. We can hopefully have Juliet come and talk about the master plan.

Paul: Disappointed that many of the land use regulations from 2005 were tossed. No explanation was given. Paul asked to have an addendum added with what has been accomplished and why things have been removed.

Christi: Got the feeling that this master plan was less specific to property. Goals are not written that cannot be accomplished because of it being private property, etc.

Resident Parking:

Cliff: We had the parking director Joe Giordano come in last May. At the time they were trying to get through the Deer Street parking garage project prior to creating a resident parking program. Mr. Bohenko said that they are working on a resident parking program prior to completion of parking garage.

Are there issues?

Larry Cataldo: Effects Ward 2 and Islington Creek. Larry thinks we can do more to reach out to neighborhoods.

(Woman from Fleet St): What are people expecting with Resident parking

Larry: People expect parking spaces when they get home from work. It is a challenge

(Woman from Fleet St): : Thinks that there should be designated spots in the Hanover Street garage. Shouldn't have to circle.

Cliff: It involves input. We can help with input gathering and definition so the city can put boundaries around what the citizens want.

(Pannaway Manor). It will take staff

Paul: Thinks with the size of Portsmouth we won't need much more staff.

(Pannaway Manor):. Asked about Vaughn Street.

Christi: That is privately owned, will go away soon due to development.

Larry: We can help in identifying what is needed and help draft the resident parking program.

Cliff: Welcomed Jim Splaine.

Jim Splaine: We have been talking about parking since 1971 and will be still talking about it in 50 years. Would like to suggest we invite Joe Giordano to a May meeting.

Christi: Glad that the Parrot Avenue lot was taken off the table.

Zoe Stewart: Pet Peeve is Middle School teachers parking in library parking lot

Jim: Will bring it up with John Bohenko

Larry: Just wanted to make sure that there is the election for Chair and Vice Chair on the agenda.

Paul: Brought up the issue of our term limits changing to new committee with a new council election.

Cliff: Confirmed his and Kathy's terms, were voted in November 2015 and March 2016.

Jim: Thinks we should propose what we want and the council will be receptive

Christi: Talked about the continuity

Cliff: We should talk about it at a steering committee meeting and draft a proposal.

Christi: Dealing with blighted properties and lack of code enforcement in Atlantic Heights. City is not enforcing, even with a court order. Where do we go from here?

General Discussion

Jim Splaine: Talked about successes in past situations. He will talk to Bob Sullivan, city attorney

Christi: Spoke with Bob two weeks ago. Christi thinks that the inspection department is not inspecting the property or enforcing

Discussion on what is the procedure, what should the procedure be. Larry and Paul will talk to Bob Sullivan.

Sarah McLaughlin: Creek Neighborhood. Has 160 people on NextDoor. Had a small nbhd meeting, was quiet due to weather. Trying to track what happened with things from the forum in November.

Kathy asked that she copy our committee on the email of status of projects discussed at the forum.

Larry Cataldo: Islington Creek: Not much going on. Most of the issues are parking related.

Cliff: Will send summary around.

Zoe Stewart: Frank Jones neighborhood. Ward 1 was big. Water/Sewer was a big issue. When will it start? Christi showed her contact info for public works.

Susan Shay: South End. Parrot Ave lot was an issue. Pretty quiet. Need a stop sign at end of Washington intersection with Pleasant. Was told to Parking and Safety.

Elwyn Park: Here in place of Aaron Garganta. Talked about sound barriers. Will be at the legislative meeting to talk specifically about barriers.

Paul Mandle: Upper Islington St. Bypass to Plains are on septic, some will get city sewer. Will be torn up in August. Putting in sidewalks to Plains.

Christi: Losing neighbors that have been very active in the associations. Sad. Looking to motivate newer nbhds.

Kathy: Nothing going on. Just construction fatigue

Cliff: Water park traffic will be an issue. Looking forward to Outreach, not much going on in Elwyn Park

Meeting ended at 8:55.