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MINUTES STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR VAUGHAN-WORTH-BRIDGE REVITALIZATION 7:30 A.M. – Wednesday, August 2, 2017 Conference Room A Portsmouth City Hall

Members in attendance: Rebecca Perkins, Chair; Vincent Lombardi, Historic District Commission; Dexter Legg, Planning Board; Everett Eaton, Economic Development Commission; Barbara Destefano, Resident; Jay McSharry, Downtown Business owner

Members absent: Nancy Pearson, City Councilor

Staff Present: David Moore, Assistant City Manager

1. Call to Order

Chair Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. Urban Design Workshop – Translating Concepts to the Study Area

Assistant City Manager Moore stated that the last few meetings have been broad discussions of potential reuse strategies of the parcels and now he is bringing in some specificity with consultants. He introduced Ted Touloukian of Touloukian Touloulian Architecture and Urban Design and Bob Uhlig of Halvorson Design Partnership to give a presentation based on what they have seen so far and what they would be thinking about if they were on the committee.

Following the power point presentation (available at the cityofportsmouth.com website), Chair Perkins opened the discussion of the various concepts presented.

Mr. Legg asked why there is a different concept for the Worth Lot open space and the Bridge Lot open space which is more passive. Mr. Uhlig stated it's the perception that the Bridge Lot's proximity to adjacent neighborhoods would be more appropriate for passive space as well as if Bridge Street is narrowed, then it is more of a traffic area.

Discussion continued on the need for parking and traffic issues and the potential changes in the next 20-30 years. Discussion also ensued regarding potential development in other areas of the city and the importance of connectivity which this particular area would play an important role.

At the conclusion of the discussion it was decided that the committee members would submit a wish list of items to the team to incorporate into the scope of the analysis.

Chair Perkins opened the floor to the public:

<u>Eric Spear</u>, City Councilor, stated the Council talked about having parking on the Worth Lot 6 years ago and likes this conversation. He asked that this report be concluded by the end of 2017 for the current City Council and asked that once a concept is adopted, that it begin being implemented and not be pushed off for years.

<u>Dan Rawling</u>, stated that Worth Lot serves as open space to the surrounding buildings and the service needs of the buildings need to be kept in mind as well. He stated that he would like to see public gathering and open spaces incorporated out of the downtown core.

3. Adjournment

Chair Perkins closed the meeting at 9:05 a.m.