

## **Riverfront Board Minutes**

December 6, 2004

Present: Green, Wall, St.Clair, Martin, Stacey, Darling, Klein

Absent:

Staff: Herrigel, Wachs

Minutes: Minutes approved (6-0) with changes proposed by Darling and Wall.

### **Facilitated Discussion of Board Goals**

Herrigel reminded the group that at the last meeting the new Board members had asked for a visioning and brainstorming session at which the Board could discuss its mission and its ideas for the Riverfront Park. She said she'd met with Darling and St. Clair individually to bring them up to speed on the Board's history and the background on the Downtown Riverfront Plan development. In these individual meetings Darling had said she wanted to discuss what folks saw as the Board's mission and action plan and St.Clair Wanted to know what folks wanted to see in the Park itself.

Herrigel proposed the following as an agenda:

- **Where have we been (Board history)**
- **What is the Riverfront Board's *current* mission and should that change?**
- **What vision do we all have for the Park?**

She noted that Jason Wachs of Community Services was in attendance to be a scribe and to help facilitate the meeting.

### **Where have we been ?**

Herrigel went through a time line showing the history of the Riverfront Board since the original members were appointed. (see attached) She noted two important motions that the group had passed regarding the boat ramp. (also on the attached)

### **What is the Board Current Mission ?**

Herrigel led the group through their most recent work plan from 2002. (attached) Wall requested that the Board get copies of both the Chronology of Board activities and the 2002 work plan.

The group began discussing their current mission:

**St.Clair:** are we or aren't we going to have a ramp?

**Darling:** Seems that Council directed us to have one.

**Wall/Green:** No, Council never directed us to have a ramp.

**St. Clair:** The ramp seems to be the best way to tie the River to the downtown.

**Darling:** I think if we can resolve the ramp issue we'll move forward. The ramp and the boaters that use them are here to stay and we need to include them is what we do – we can't push them away – we need to deal with this issue. But we don't want to blacktop the whole Riverfront. We want it to be a place for all citizens to enjoy. She noted that Mike Stacey has indicated that the issue is really parking. Maybe we should decide how much area we have and then distribute the use amongst various users. We should use a democratic process and then move on.

**Wall:** During the public input process for the Plan we really didn't get any input from the boaters.

**Stacey:** The former Mayor did. (ie: got input from the boaters.)

Wachs and Herrigel noted that the group was to deal with the work plan or mission first and they (the Board) seemed to be moving into the second agenda item

**St Clair:** The current mission statement starting with "advise" does not inspire me. I want to make things happen. I'm thinking fundraising, advocacy etc. I want to make it a better place. I want the Board to take the lead and take responsibility for changing the Riverfront.

**Martin:** We (the Board) got really involved in the planning but then the money ran out. We are assuming that there will be money again someday.

**Green:** I remember that the Board members had made a point to exclude fundraising from our work.

**Wall/Stacey:** Concurred and noted that there was a perceived lack of time, not interest.

**Green:** Personally I welcome new ideas and energy. We have historically acknowledged the City's lack of funding but tried to maintain the vision of what we want and try to hold the line against intrusions into the park. We've also made a point of not taking money for projects that we don't support.

**Wall:** Our mission is to remind folks of what our vision was originally and to keep that alive.

**Darling:** We all have passion for what we're here for but will Council listen to us if we recommend something?

**Wall:** Council has historically followed our recommendations. I'm confident in our ability to advise them. Regarding fundraising – I think we have to be realistic about how many hours a day we have to put into this – that's why we stayed out of fundraising before.

**St Clair:** We can't just wait until funds come to us – we need to pursue them.

**Darling:** How can we fund something if we don't have a plan?

**Herrigel :** When we find \$20-30,000 we can finish the final plan and design for the Park (north of Kellogg Creek). When that's done we can begin pursuing grants or other funds to build the park. But without that initial \$20-30,000 it's difficult to get the plan done.

**Green:** I recommend that we jump off and begin to get some plans developed and get public input on some options. Then maybe Oregon Solutions or Metro or the State Parks

Department will come to us to help us develop the park. If we need a project or a work plan for this year – maybe we should take on design of the park.

**St Clair:** Let's brainstorm some ideas and get them out.

**Darling:** What parts of the Riverfront do we want? Maybe we should go around the table and say what we (board members) want.

**Green:** Once we start to develop the design concepts, it would be good if we had a landscape person to develop concepts that we could then take to the public.

**Herrigel:** As part of the Oregon Solutions process, Steve Greenwood has met with a landscape designer who has offered to donate his services to help us draw up some concepts.

**Green:** Atlas Landscape Architects, our current consultant, has offered to do the same.

**Darling:** We should continue to monitor Oregon Solutions but start to pursue concepts and do a public input process as soon as possible.

**Wall:** This discussion seems to be on an action plan, not a mission statement.

**Darling:** We do need to commit to fund raising

**St Clair:** How about this for a mission statement:

*The mission of the Riverfront Board is to deliver a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ Riverfront Park for citizens of Milwaukie.*

**Green:** Are we here to deliver or advise?

**Wall:** First and foremost we are here to advise.

**Stacey :** Concurred with Wall

**St Clair:** If so, let's advise and get out of here!

**Green:** We've been advising Council on important issues and there's never been a shortage of need for advice.

**Wall:** We're not delivering we're advocating

**St Clair:** Okay then – let's say:

*The mission of the Riverfront Board is to advocate for a vibrant, peaceful, useful Riverfront for the citizens of Milwaukie.*

**Darling:** The mission of the Board eventually is to build the park so citizens can use it. I want to see work parties and picnic tables. While we do the design I want the park to be usable and practical.

**Green:** That's what the Phase I project (north end of the park) was intended to do. That is, show the public how the park could look and be used in the future.

**Martin:** I think working on the design is a good idea and I like "advocacy".

**Green:** I'm not so willing to get rid of the old mission statement. Parts of it should be maintained. Maybe we use the mission we just wrote and then add: "We will accomplish this by...and then inserting the old mission statement:

*" advising and making recommendations to the City council and providing long-term continuity and short term problem solving in successful completion of the Riverfront. (Add list of projects we monitor.)*

Each member of the Board then stated what they wanted to see at the Riverfront (the focus of most of these comments was on the area north of Kellogg Creek.)

Stacey:

- A park north of the ramp
- A boating facility that's the same size as it is now
- Want to put my boat in the water and park my truck and trailer

Wall:

- Open space
- Less asphalt and more green
- Want to picnic without fumes

St Clair:

- Want to walk (on a riverside path?)
- Want to dock my boat and be able to drop off and pickup people with my boat
- Want to think, reflect and play

Darling:

- Want a dock where boats can be parked
- I want boats that families can be use (non-motorized too) like paddle boats and dragon boats
- I want to bring in money with a stage and some community events
- I want to establish a connection with Elk Rock Island
- I want to picnic, enjoy the scenery in privacy and among trees

Martin:

- Multi-use – more than one thing going on
- Boat dock
- Trails
- We need a ramp but not between the creeks
- We should have a turn around but no parking
- Events – maybe a farmers market space
- Restoration of landscape
- Green
- Environmentally friendly boat show maybe

Green:

- Gathering place
- Inviting
- More open green space
- Limited asphalt
- Should be boat access for motor and non-motorized boats but focus on human powered activities
- Point of connectivity to Elk Rock Island, the creeks and trails
- This should be a destination on the Trolley Trail and point of departure for river and trail activities
- This should be a hub for walkers, bikers and boaters

- More festivals with crafts and continued activities like the Solstice event
- Want salmon in Johnson and Kellogg Creeks
- Restoration work at mouths of both creeks

Klein:

- Want sewage treatment plant removal
- Gathering space – more like Portland Riverplace with a hotel, mooring and a park too
- Boat launch fits in to *THAT* scenario
- Maintain creeks – in between creeks should be a natural area
- Want the boat ramp further south

St Clair: Maybe we should each play designer and come to a meeting where we bring our own concepts and share them with others

Green: Maybe that's something we could take up at our next meeting in January

Wall: I would remind folks of the time. I would like to out of here by 8

Darling: Maybe staff could develop the mission statement further and send it to us and we can edit.

Wall: Staff should look at the North Clackamas Chamber's mission statement as a good example

Motion by Wall to adjourn, seconded by Stacey. Motion passed 7-0.

The Board confirmed that the second Tuesday of the month was the best time to continue to meet. Next meeting was set for January 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Johnson creek Watershed Council.

Motions regarding the boat ramp:

The Riverfront Board recommends that City Council consider the boat launch, in some form, as part of the Riverfront Plan, without acknowledging any obligation that it remain, and that the Riverfront Board be charged with developing criteria for a boat launch in the Riverfront Plan.

The Riverfront Board supports the existence of a boat ramp to be located in the City of Milwaukie on the Willamette River.

### **History**

1998 (Nov 5)	Board appointed
1999	Developed plan, held Town Halls and Board meetings
2000 (May)	Atlas Landscape Architecture begins Phase I design
2000 (Sept 1)	Bartlett Leaves
2000 (Sept 19)	Plan adopted by Council
2000	Dave Obern of OMB visits City Council
2000 (Dec)	Richards leaves
2001 (March)	Herrigel starts
2001 (Oct)	Riverfront Plan delivered to Board
2003 (Jan 27)	Ron Rhodhammel of OMB visits Riverfront Board
2004	Mcloughlin project monitoring