

Riverfront Board minutes

January 10, 2007

Members present: Wall, Green, Stacey, Martin, St.Clair, Seagler, Klein

Staff: Herrigel

Guests: Councilors Stone and Loomis

The full Board took a tour of the North Main apartment building.

New Board member: Greg Seagler was introduced to the Board as a new member.

Minutes:

Wall motioned to approve the minutes as written and St Clair seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Riverfront Design Update:

Herrigel reported that Gill Williams of DEA would not be at the meeting. She said he had reported that the drawing and details for the January 17th open house were in progress and that Gill felt no new design info was available for the Board this evening. The group expressed concern that they may not see the designs before the January 17 open house. They encouraged Herrigel to have DEA forward drawings to them before the January 17th open house.

Other comments:

- Wall: At the open house there should be some announcement or written statement regarding the progress we've made in the design and comparing the previous drawings with the current ones.
- Klein: Can we invite the Oregon Solutions team to the open House? Or, at least the local representatives? Green responded that it might be better to convene the full Oregon Solutions group after the open house but agreed that Brian Newman should be asked to attend.
- It was suggested that Gill (or someone) make an announcement at the open house regarding the status of the deigns and conveying to the attendees what type of input would be most helpful.

Expansion of Riverfront Board Focus

Herrigel recalled that at the December meeting the group had discussed expanding the focus of their "guidance" to include the Kellogg Lake project. She noted that Wall had asked what the original charge of the Riverfront Board had been. She noted that she'd included the code section creating the Board and pointed out that there was not much room for expansion there. However, she then noted that the mission statement that the group had begun last year did, in fact, include Kellogg Creek and Johnson Creek.

Comments:

- St. Clair: I see this as an extension of the “Riverfront.”
- Green – I think our interest in the Kellogg project is as it relates to downtown and the riverfront.
- St Clair – the underpass proposed in the Kellogg project is directly related to the Riverfront. Access is really important.
- In response to Herrigel’s inquiry as to the nature of the Board’s “work” on this project, Green suggested that he could see a Riverfront Board representative being on the project’s advisory board, the board would get regular updates and would have some say in how the Kellogg project connects to the Riverfront.
- St Clair – If there’s a void in who’s leading, we’re a natural.
- Green – Gill Williams should weigh in on the how the Kellogg project and the Riverfront interconnect (pathways, car access etc)
- Green – maybe we don’t really need to make any more formal change in our “focus” than stating our interest in the mission statement.
- St Clair asked that the draft mission statement be brought back to the next meeting for finalizing (Herrigel said she’d get it out before the meeting so the Board could review it)

St Clair made a motion that ***the Riverfront Board be involved in all designs and solutions related to the area currently bounded by Kellogg Lake (including Kellogg Creek’s confluence with the Willamette) such as removal of the dam and bridge at McLoughlin Blvd., replacement of the bridge, creation of additional connections between downtown and the Riverfront and restoration of Kellogg Creek.***

The motion was not completed or seconded at the meeting and no vote occurred. Herrigel said she would work on the verbiage and bring it back to the next meeting.

Bus Layover

Herrigel reported that Council had met with Tri Met representatives at their last work session to review options for relocating the bus layover function of the downtown transit center. She said that during that work session, Councilor Barnes had suggested looking for sites on the west side of McLoughlin. The log dump area had been discussed as an option to be reviewed.

The Riverfront Board members discussed this option and the concensus was that this option was not appropriate, Green noted that this seemed to be counter to everything we’ve tried to do. He added that he felt strongly that the bus loading area and the layover site seemed to belong together and that they should be sited downtown, rather than outside the central downtown area. He noted that it would be good for commerce. He suggested that if it was dangerous – then we should add cops.

St Clair agreed, stating that it seemed better to have them where you can more easily police them.

St Clair made a motion *that the Riverfront Board strenuously recommend to Council that the bus layover not be located on the west side of McLoughlin Blvd. on the City's Riverfront or log dump properties or on the County's sewage treatment plant site.*

The motion was seconded by Stacey and passed 7-0.

St Clair then motioned to adjourn, Stacey seconded and the motion passed 7-0.