



MINUTES
WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Board of Directors Meeting
August 23, 2017

Members Present

Ollie Barber
Scott Brinkman
Rip Hatfield
Chris Jones
Carmen Miller
Susan Moss
Matt Thornton – by phone
Carter Vance
David Yates

Members Absent

Robert Banks
Greg Fischer
Jon Meyer
Cathy Shannon
Nicole Walton

Others Present

Deborah Bilitski
John Ford
Paul Ford
Bill Hollander
Aaron Horner
William Joy
Christina Mora
Greg Schapker
Joel Schepper
Barbara Sexton Smith
Joshua Watkins
Mary Ellen Wiederwohl

Staff Present

John Boyle
Marlene Grissom
David Karem
Michael Kimmel
Konrad Kraft
Alex Laughlin
Cordell Lawrence
Kelley Lewis
Richard Marion
Bryan McKiernan
Catherine Nelson
Keefe O'Brien
Gary Pepper
Ashley Smith
Margaret Walker

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matt Thornton at 4:00 p.m. on August 23, 2017 at the Waterfront Development Corporation at 129 River Road, Louisville, Kentucky.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the June 28, 2017 Board meeting were approved.

Communications and Correspondence:

Items in Board Packet:

Mr. Karem reviewed the board packet:

- Note from Mose Putney
- Charter boat operation map
- Financials
- Future WRO: Fetzer building
- Letters from Mayor Fischer re: parking issue
- Revenue projections from proposed parking fees

Mr. Karem also introduced Keefe O'Brien, the newest maintenance employee.

Executive Director's Report:

Parking

Chairman Thornton led a discussion on Waterfront Park parking charges, beginning with a history of funding problems. He acknowledged that the charges are widely unpopular but necessary to make the park financially viable. He also mentioned that comparable cities charge for parking in similar situations. The City's front door must be maintained at a high level.

Mr. Karem discussed the letters from Mayor Fischer regarding parking charges. The \$210,000 appropriation approved by Metro Council was intended to shore up the FYE2017 and was not a sustainable funding solution going forward. He also explained that a method was explored to only charge for parking during events, but it was not reasonable to implement.

Ollie Barber gave a history of funding issues and listed ways staff has attempted to raise revenue. He said he does not like the idea of parking fees but it is needed unless a government agency fills the shortfall.

Ollie Barber made a motion to charge \$3 for 3 hours of parking in Waterfront Park parking lots, with Mondays and Tuesday remaining free. He added that it does not have to be permanent; it can be reversed if funding is restored to WDC. Rip Hatfield seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7-2 vote.

Yay votes: Matt Thornton, Scott Brinkman, Rip Hatfield, Ollie Barber, Susan Moss, Chris Jones, Carmen Miller

Nay votes: Carter Vance, David Yates (the Mayor's Office also supports the nay note)

Financials

Cordell Lawrence reviewed the FYE17 financials and mentioned that the FYE18 budget includes a shortfall of \$300,000 – \$400,000. David Karem reminded the Board that WDC and the Belle of Louisville do not co-mingle funds. Funds used to purchase the Mary M. Miller were raised as a result of the Centennial Festival of Riverboats for the Belle of Louisville Riverboats.

Future WRO: Fetzer Building

Mike Kimmel made the Board aware of an upcoming WRO request for the Fetzer building. No action is needed today, but they will come forward for design approval at a later date.

WRO Ordinance

Deborah Bilitski discussed a proposed amendment to the WRO ordinance to include an area around Phase IV. The idea is to develop visual and physical connectivity to the park, as well as ensuring design in the area keeps with the existing historical character, while transitioning from industrial uses to mixed residential, commercial, and office space. The proposal is subject to Metro Council approval.

Horse Patrol

David Karem mentioned that WDC was approached by the LMPD Horse Patrol to find a site to create a new horse stable facility. Under consideration is the site just west of Sea Ray of Louisville.

Phase IV

David Karem mentioned that Mary Ellen Wiederwohl and WDC staff continue to interact regarding MSD issues at the Phase IV site.

Friends of the Waterfront

Joshua Watkins presented about the upcoming Silver Anchor Awards and encouraged Board members to attend.

Belle of Louisville

John Boyle discussed the success of special events on the Belle of Louisville and Mary M. Miller. The American Bus Association named the Belle of Louisville "Best of the Best,"

and the Belle has been featured in Travelhost magazine. He is still looking for a buyer for the Spirit of Jefferson.

Events

Ashley Smith summarized a busy summer event season. New events include the Big Four® Arts Festival and the Food Truck Festival, both on the Big Four® Lawn.

Maintenance

Gary Pepper gave an update on maintenance. The area around the Purple parking lot should be complete this week, but will be kept fenced off and closed to allow the grass to establish.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm.