

P O R T O F O L Y M P I A C O M M I S S I O N
M I N U T E S O F J O I N T M E E T I N G
W I T H T H E O L Y M P I A D O W N T O W N A S S O C I A T I O N

March 18, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

President McGregor called the meeting of March 18, 2009, to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Water Street Cafe. Commissioner Telford was also in attendance. This is a joint meeting of the Port Commission and the Olympia Downtown Association Board of Directors.

Olympia Downtown Association Board of Directors that were in attendance included: Ray LaForge, Jeanne Carras, Craig Holt, Daniel Furrer, Eddy Xu, Larry Gilliam, Chick Barcellona, Kerry McHugh, Jane Offutt, Jeffrey Trinin, Ray LaForge, Erica Cooper, and Tracy Knostman.

Port of Olympia and Olympia Downtown Association staff in attendance included: Ed Galligan, Kari Qvigstad, Jeff Lincoln, Jeri Sevier, Kathleen White, Connie Lorenz, Carleigh Lorenz, Vida Zvirzdys-Farler

Welcome and Introductions

President McGregor welcomed all and asked for self-introductions.

East Bay Redevelopment Initiative

Ms. Qvigstad reported that there is a desire for mixed-use development and public space in the East Bay Redevelopment. She noted that the key anchor is the public plaza and expansion of Hands On Children's Museum. The Port is working with the City and the LOTT Alliance. The focus is environment, education and water. She noted that the plan is for an educational facility, outdoor space and public gathering place. The goal is to work towards one infrastructure.

Ms. Qvigstad noted that the Port has received proposals from developers. There is a public involvement event tentatively scheduled for May 20th with a short list of developers. She reported that the timeline is six months. The key elements of the criteria for developers include: development concept, how will it support community interaction in 18 hour day usage, how will they use development sustainability in design, outline parking plan, how will they include the pedestrian element, understanding of the market, timeline, how much are they planning to invest, are they looking/seeking other public investment, preferred transaction, describe community benefit and a demonstration of previous work. Proposals will be in at the end of April.

Mr. Jeff Lincoln reported that the Port has a set of drawings and dimensions. The permit for the project is out for public comment for 30 days. The Port hopes to open bids April 22. The Port will add pavement, light, telephone, etc for an estimated \$6.5 million to \$7.5 million. The infrastructure for the project will be in place by December.

Commissioner Telford noted that there will be a trail that will go to the Hearthfire Grill. There will be 97 parking spots for boats/trailers and 50 other parking spots. Phase 3 is the final capping of the Cascade Pole site. He noted that the KGY tower will be moved to the Cascade Pole cap. They have 90 days to construct a new tower for the AM side. He noted that the berth dredge was finished a week ago and the Port had 141 rail cars of sludge that was taken to a site in Arlington. He also noted that the Port is expecting a wind vessel in the beginning of April.

Ms. Qvigstad reported on the parking at the Farmers Market. She noted that the Port created temporary parking and they are working on where the ideal spot for a parking structure would be. She reported that a decision has not been made on changes of boundaries for a parking structure. She noted that the Port has extended the short term parking agreement with Farmers Market to 2012.

Main Street – Jeanne Carras

Ms. Carras reported on the Main Street concept. She reported that concept makes the ODA a mission-based versus member-based organization. The Economic Restructuring Committee has taken off with growing partnerships, which is part of Main Street. They are working to draw in volunteers from all over the community. Volunteers can work on just one committee or one event

if they don't want to be involved in everything.

Ms. Carras also reported that the Design Committee is creating a great look of what is going on downtown and vitality. They are working on an alley project and working with the police. We are not just catering to people who pay dues, but to everyone. Beth Whitney did the Personal Services Brochure, which is a good example of that. She noted that she and Connie Lorenz went to a Main Street Conference, which showed them that there is a whole community of Main Street; we have resources from all over the country. She reported that they want the Port as a partner; the Port is now on the Economic Restructuring Committee. DOPERS is the acronym for our committees, it stands for Design, Organization, Promotions, Economic Restructuring and Safety.

Economic Restructuring – Daniel Furrer

Mr. Furrer reported that the Economic Restructuring Committee is all about how to make downtown more profitable. Larry Gilliam will put a list of available retail spaces on the ODA website. He noted that they want to put together a Resource Guide to help people with their businesses. The goal is to have it be web-based. Mr. Furrer indicated that he has put together the Downtown Academy, which is five free workshops to help businesses. The Downtown Clean Up is coming up on April 18th. It is two times a year. Mr. Furrer also indicated that he has put together an event called Sunday Sweep to supplement the Downtown Clean Up. He posted it on Facebook and has 170 invitations out right now. There has also been a blurb in The Olympian about it. The next Sunday Sweep is Sunday, March 22 from 10 am to noon. They will meet at the Sylvester Park gazebo, and bring gloves and garbage bags if you can. It is all about giving back to the community.

Announcements

Ms. Carras announced that the ODA is moving to a new office space on street level in the New Caldonia building. They will be moving in mid-April.

There was a consensus that the joint ODA/Port meeting should be an annual event.

Commissioner Telford complimented the ODA board on their work downtown and for hanging in there.

Ms. Lorenz thanked the Port for supporting Music in the Park with Music in the Port.

ADJOURNMENT

President McGregor adjourned the meeting of March 18, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

PORT OF OLYMPIA COMMISSION

President

Vice President

Secretary-Treasurer