

Weirs TIF Advisory Board

Minutes of meeting of Thursday, August 15th, 2019

In attendance were Chairperson Robert Ames, members Russ Poirier, Ryan Cardella, Ava Doyle and Joe Driscoll. Also present was City Finance Director Glenn Smith.

Chairperson Ames called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of May 7, 2019 meeting. All agreed the minutes to be accurate, and voted to approve unanimously.

Weirs Beach Restoration

Discussion of mitigation issue. One solution thus far is to create an "Emergent Treatment" wetlands area along the shore behind the docks. This scenario is felt by many to be a less than optimal solution, as it would impede future development of the docks, and possible expansion of the boardwalk. It was recognized that the area in question is the railroad right of way, and is not a natural and unspoiled area.

Other methods of mitigation are under review. City Manager is to discuss with NH-DES mitigation scenarios. As yet no report has been forthcoming.

Member Doyle asked if the Hilliard Rd property owned by the City might be an appropriate conservation swap.

All agreed that the site in question, given its location in our commercial core, would be much better utilized for commercial purposes than as a wetlands area, and are excited at the possibility that a better solution will be found.

TIF Finances

The Board reviewed the finance report as submitted by Finance Director Smith. The Weirs TIF Fund is performing well and ahead of schedule. Currently 100% of TIF funds are going to service debt. This will continue until income exceeds bond principle and interest payments.

The Board expressed interest in seeing further detail concerning parking revenues, patterns and trends. Finance Director Smith offered to forward information to Board members prior to the next meeting. Member Cardella indicated that an examination of this information could lead to the adjustment of parking meter hours.

New Business

Chairperson Ames updated the Board on recent Weirs Action Committee (WAC) initiatives. Many positive comments were made about the historic plaques on the boardwalk. More will be installed in the future on the section toward the beach.

Chairperson Ames described the history of the WAC–City partnership on the trash containers on Lakeside Ave., the boardwalk and the beach. Due to changes in recycling policy, it was recently decided to replace the double units with stainless steel single units.

WAC is working with Public Works and Parks & Rec to resolve the issue of the appropriate deployment of all of the units. This may necessitate the changing of doors and labeling on the double units at a cost of approximately \$2500. This would present the opportunity to upgrade all of the trash containers not only on the boardwalk and Lakeside Ave., but also on the beach as well. Currently at issue is who will pay for the \$2500 upgrade. Chairperson Ames will discuss this at the next WAC meeting.

The Board discussed the City liaison to the Weirs TIF Board. With the departure of Parks & Rec Director Kevin Dunleavey, no one has yet been assigned this duty permanently. Finance Director Smith stated that he had not been asked to be the liaison permanently, but rather was in attendance to disseminate financial information. However, he added that he is happy to provide the Board with any needed additional information. Chairperson Ames noted that his presence and participation was helpful and much appreciated. The Board expressed their desire to have a new permanent appointed City liaison, and will request this of the City Manager.

Member Poirier commented on the value of signage to generate traffic to Weirs Beach. There is currently no signage to direct people to Weirs Beach on Route 106 (Parade Rd) at its intersection with Rollercoaster Road.

Public Comments

No members of the public were present for comment.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 3rd, 2019 at 2pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:05pm.