



EAST PROVIDENCE WATERFRONT DISTRICT COMMISSION

Waterfront Commission Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 28, 2022 – 6:30 PM

Commissioners present:

William Fazioli, Chair
Tim Conley, Vice Chair
Steve Hardcastle, Treasurer
Peter Willey
Rick Lawson
Dominic Pontarelli
Jennifer Griffith
David O'Connell
Mike Walker, Commerce RI

Voting Members Absent:

Luis Torrado, DRC Chair
David Sluter
Manny Barrows

Staff present:

Raymond Lavey, Executive Director
Amy Goins, UTR Legal Counsel

Glen Fontechio, Architectural Consultant

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS: The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Mr. Fazioli provided an update on the permitting process of the South Quay Marine Terminal noting that CRMC approved the project recently

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. Crook Point Park Proposal –Discuss

Mr. Fazioli provided an overview of the potential to develop Crook Point as a public park. Crook Point the location of a former railroad track that would connect East Providence to Providence. The development of this public space would benefit the budding redevelopment of Valley Street. The proposed uses of this area would include walking trails and access to the Seekonk River. Crook Point is currently owned by the city of Providence and Rhode Island Department of Transportation. Any effort to upgrade this area would require the collaboration of East Providence and these other parties.

Mr. Conley and Mr. O'Connell noted that they would be receptive to this proposal in a conceptual phase but would recommend that the city gain site control of the parcel before committing any future resources. Mr. Fazioli would report back to the Commission before proceeding on this project.

B. Overview of Design Guidelines - Discuss

Mr. Fontechio led a discussion on the design guidelines that the Waterfront Commission adopted in 2003 and 2004. He noted has these guidelines have helped shape development within the District to fit the community. Mr. Fontechio provided an explanation of how the design guidelines can address the massing and scale of buildings as well as the transition of low density to high density uses.



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Mr. O'Connell noted that as a member of the Design Review Committee that he believes the guidelines provide a good framework for the District.

Mr. Fontechio indicated that he intends to review and update the guidelines to incorporate environmental elements and green energy alternatives. Mr. Willey expressed support for this emphasis on the design guidelines.

C. Executive Director Appointment – Discuss and Act

A discussion of appointing a new Executive Director for the Waterfront Commission. Mr. Fazioli described the hiring process for this position. Mr. Fazioli introduced Mr. Ray Lavey to the Commission. Mr. Fazioli noted Mr. Lavey's experience in commercial real estate development, permitting projects and maintain budgets. Mr. Lavey provided the Commission with an overview of his background and interest in the position. Mr. Lavey also discussed his work with the Bristol July 4th committee as an example of his civic involvement.

Motion to appoint Mr. Lavey as Executive Director made by Mr. Pontarelli and seconded by D. O'Connell. Passes unanimously

3. VOTE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by D. Pontarelli and seconded by P. Willey. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND LAVEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
