

WATERFRONT CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
"WAC"
MEETING SUMMARY
JANUARY 10, 2007 - 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Port Representatives (Support)
Sheldon Tyler
Byron Hanke

Riverwalk LLC (Support)
Mark Benson
Rick Bowler
John McKibbin

Committee Members
Arnold Cogan, Facilitator
Larry Blaufus
Jennie Brown

Russ Chambers
Paul Fearn
Charmaine Harvey
Sandy Krahn
Casey O'Dell
Pat Sheaffer
Gary Simmons
Roberta Tidland
Barbe West

Absent
Ashley Eckman
John Svilarich

This meeting was held at the Washougal High School's Washburn Performing Arts Center. Arnold Cogan, Facilitator, opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Due to the stadium seating arrangements with the Committee members facing the stage, it was decided to have Riverwalk LLC make their PowerPoint presentation first, and then move the meeting to another room, use the normal seating arrangement with the members at tables, and then continue the meeting agenda.

RiverWalk

John McKibbin introduced Carol Lindstrom of Rocketshop, public relations firm. Carol explained that they had designed and launched the website for Riverwalk, LLC, which includes a web survey whose primary purpose is to provide information to WAC. She encouraged everyone to "join in the opportunity to give input on your waterfront." To date, they have received just 600 responses. She announced the website address: "riverwalkonthecolumbia.com" and urged everyone to take the survey.

John then introduced Ron Frederiksen, President and CEO of RSV Construction Services, who explained his role in the development process as providing the economic realities of a quality development. He pledged "a cost-effective execution."

Next, John introduced Kelly Puntaney, formerly of Vancouver Clark-Parks, who will act as a consultant, and bring the benefit of his experience and his vision to Riverwalk, LLC.

Mark Benson began Riverwalk's PowerPoint presentation with a diagram of the proposed site of the RiverWalk development. He explained that a few of the issues which need to be addressed are the location of gas lines, setbacks, and privately held property, among others. Representatives from both the Port of C/W and Riverwalk LLC attended a conference of The Waterfront Center held in September 2006 sponsored by the Northwest Marine Trade Association. Mark stated that it was very worthwhile, and presented some specifics taken from that seminar:

10 Principles for Sustainable Urban Waterfront Development

1. Secure the quality of water and the environment
2. Waterfronts are part of the existing urban fabric
3. The historic identity gives character.
4. Mixed use is a priority.
5. Public access is a prerequisite
6. Planning in public private partnerships speeds the process.
7. Public participation is an element of sustainability.
8. Waterfronts are long-term projects.
9. Re-vitalization is an ongoing process.
10. Waterfronts profit from international networking.

Successful local economies have:

- Diversified economic base with family wage jobs.
- Conveniently located *goods and services*.
- Good transportation.
- Companies interested in expanding or relocating to the area.
- Balanced tax base supporting good public services.
- Good public amenities: parks, open space, and entertainment.

Successful developments have:

- Sustainable, well-thought-out planning for future generations.
- Green buildings: LEEDS certification
- An economic return on investment for the developers
- Citizen participation in art selection

Kelly Puntenev added that waterways have "historical significance." Many communities are reinventing waterways to a "human scale." He said that in 2006 the Clark County Commissioners proposed 240 miles of regional trails to be built over the next 20 years in Clark County that would tie into the Camas and Washougal area.

Mark Benson then presented views of:

Established waterfront developments, including:

Tidewater Cove – local success story

Vancouver B.C.

Port of Bellingham's Hotel Bellwether – (“could be a model for the Port of C/W”)

Tacoma's Thea Foss Waterway– combined restaurants and retail, but not as successful: restaurants and retail should have been clustered, not spread out.

West Des Moines, Iowa – Jordan Creek Center featuring a man-made water feature.

And developments planned or underway at:

Bremerton's New Downtown Waterfront

Everett's Port Gardner Wharf – 65-acre site & Oliver McMillin on the

Snohomish River – 100-acre site

Port of Bellingham's New Whatcom

Spokane's Kendall Yards – a Brownsfield site

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho's BelleRive

Caldwell, Idaho's Rotary Park and Indian Creek

Troutdale, Oregon

Port of Ridgefield

Port of Skamania

Public Comment

Several audience members commented during the Riverwalk LLC presentation that they would rather hear about the development planned for *this* area. Mark Benson and John McKibbin responded that the information about other developments was being provided in response to the Advisory Committee's request.

Adjournment

At approximately 6:00 p.m., Arnold Cogan adjourned the meeting early, due to weather conditions. The agenda items that were not addressed at this meeting will be moved to a future agenda.