

February 19, 2021

Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Committee on Prescott Park Master Plan Implementation

9-9:30am

Online / Zoom Meeting

Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES

- Nancy Colbert Puff, Deputy City Manager (NCP)
- Beth Margeson (BM)
- Councilor Petra Huda (PH)
- Robin Lurie-Meyerkopf (RLM)
- Genevieve Aichele (GA)
- Tom Watson (TW)
- Cheri Ruane, RLA, Weston & Sampson (CR)
- Cassie Bethoney, RLA, Weston & Sampson (CB)

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS

Following the regulations of the COVID-19 emergency response the requirement has been waived that a quorum be physically present. Remote attendees will introduce themselves and identify their location; votes will be counted by roll call.

February 16, 2021 City Council Meeting Review:

TW:

- Provided a summary of what took place at Tuesday night's City Council meeting.
- Asked that the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee consider amending our proposal to take the recommendation that the maintenance shed be constructed on Peirce Island off as an item for consideration.

GA

- Clarify that there was no issue removing the Lean-To and Garage.

TW:

- Correct. The master plan calls for the maintenance facility to be located on park property in the triangular piece of land at the corner of Mechanic Road and Peirce Island Road.

BM:

- Did not realize that the maintenance facility was considered for Peirce Island; rather instead that it was proposed to be located at the entrance to Four Tree Island.
- For Peter, is there an alternate location under consideration?

PR

- We are exploring the modification of the 'Snappy LaCava' building on the LaCava Wharf. Maintenance operations would need to utilize the grass area and the building, with some modifications. Additional structures would not be added. Rebuilding of the seawall is taking place in the spring.
- For use as a temporary facility, the building will require structural modifications to cut in a front door that is in keeping with the neighborhood aesthetic.
- This is a step-wise approach and allows us the opportunity to see a temporary maintenance facility in action. This approach allows City Council to understand how it serves the park and what adjustments might be needed when the bridge project begins. Is it ideal? No, but it is workable. Before this option is made public, we will want to do our due diligence to fully understand the modifications that will be needed and associated costs.

PH:

- Where does this building sit?

PR

- Clarified the property's location via a screen share of the City's tax maps.

RM

- Commended the City for looking at repurposing an existing building.

BM

- Asked PR to confirm that the master plan had not determined sizing requirements for the maintenance facility.

PR:

- No, and the master plan intended for the Shaw to become a public space used for civic purposes, rather than for operations.

TW

- The requirements to make the Shaw accessible would alter the building too much, which was not endorsed through the master plan.

PH

- Endorsed the idea of a temporary maintenance facility in a modified 'Snappy LaCava' building.

PR

- Credits Joe Almeida with the idea.

TW

- Are there were any additional questions?
- This idea is too new to put before City Council right now and more time is needed to develop the details on how modifications might work. We do not want those details to hold up the approval on the rest of the proposed changes to the master plan.

CR

- Fully supports this direction and thinks it is a great idea.

TW

- Called for a motion to allow for the Committee to return to City Council on February 22, 2021 with a modified proposal, removing the maintenance facility item from the list of updates.

PH so moved. BM and RM seconded.

Unanimous vote yes

TW asked if there were any other thoughts or questions before we adjourn. There were none.

Motion to Adjourn, seconded

All Approved

End of Notes: CB