

1 Richmond Planning Commission

2 Regular Meeting

3 Wednesday, December 16, 2015

4 Unapproved Minutes

5 **Members Present:** Brian Tellstone, Sean Foley, Bruce LaBounty (Chair), Lauck Parke, Marc
6 Hughes

7 **Absent:** Mark Fausel (Vice Chair), Joy Reap

8 **Others Present:** Clare Rock (Town Planner/Staff to the DRB), see attached sign in sheet

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10 **7:07 PM LaBounty opened the meeting**

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12 **Public Comment**

13 No public comment

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15 **Town Plan**

16 **Topic Sessions** – Rock gave an update on how plans for hosting the topic session are shaping up.

17 LaBounty wanted to make sure we still ensure the general public are aware of the sessions and that
18 we not limiting the audience to personal invites to those people who are passionate. PC asked if
19 we'd received any negative comments so far, as these should also be considered also. Rock reported
20 the one negative comment received was in response to the survey results announcement, the survey
21 announcement included some survey responses, one which was the wish that Richmond not be like
22 (new) Jersey. The received email comment was that this was derogatory and that there are nice parts
23 of Jersey.

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25 Rock went over the process and what the next steps are and referred to the upside down pyramid
26 diagram on the wall. The upside down pyramid diagram represented the steps in the process, with
27 the vision at the top and funneling down to goals, strategies, action and implementation. Rock
28 added that while we'd initially spoken about having the Waterbury Recreation Director come to one
29 of the sessions this was jumping ahead and making assumptions on what our goals and strategies
30 would be for the recreation topic. The purpose of the upcoming sessions will be to confirm the goals
31 and identify strategies.

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33 The PC further discussed the need to ensure people who don't always participate come and voice
34 their input. Parke was willing to reach out to some of the residents at River View Commons Mobile
35 Home Park. Rock added the Steering Committee has spoken about this a few times also and
36 reviewed some of the efforts to date. Much of the outreach does take human power and the work of
37 volunteers to help spread the word. We will be putting up posters to advertise the sessions, as well
38 as posters in public places to help solicit input. We will also use the chalkboard and the provide
39 directions on how to give input online.

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41 LaBounty asked about the legality of an official planning commission meeting and the ability of the
42 PC to gather for a meeting, even if there is not a quorum. This was in regard to the upcoming topic
43 sessions. Rock will research this and ensure they are appropriately warned and meet the public
44 meeting laws.

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46 **What our vision means** – the PC reviewed the documents titled “what our vision means”, Rock
47 recommended these items are used as draft goals for the respective topics. This will help guide the
48 topic session discussions, where the main purpose will be start talking about what strategies we can
49 start identifying.

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51 The PC discussed the wordsmithing of some of the verbs, as some are too strong or may infer
52 something the Town will do, when that might not be the case. The PC went through the
53 Affordability and the Community for All Ages sections, with no major or significant revisions.

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Format of the plan – The PC briefly talked about the format of the plan, Rock had distributed a first draft of the intro with a working draft of the affordability session. PC members liked the idea of keep the data in the appendix, such as including the Data Presentation/Info graphic documents as one of the appendices. Foley would like to include the reference of the statutory of the requirements within the intro of the plan and also suggests making reference within each chapter to which statutory requirements the chapter will address. And potentially include the statutory requirements within the appendix.

LaBounty had a concern about the inclusion of renewable energy in the economic opportunity section, as he has heard from some people they do not feel this appropriate.

Adjourn

Tellstone made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Foley, all in favor. So voted.

The meeting ending at 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clare Rock, Town Planner/Staff to the DRB