

Staff Meeting Notes: April 11, 2011 CDAC Meeting

Committee members present:

Kurt Schmoke, chair	Catharine Incaprera
Gene Godley, vice-chair	Ann Jensen
Adriana Apolito-Bevis	Gary Jobson
Karen Theimer Brown	Orlando Ridout
Joe Budge	Joseph Rubino
Dick D'Amato	Chris Schein
Catherine Durkan	Gary Schwerzler
Debbie Gosselin	Robert Waldman
Matt Grubbs	Chance Walgran
John Guild	Carol Nethen West
Kitty Higgins	

City Staff present:

Jon Arason	Flip Walters
Virginia Burke	Lisa Craig
Sally Nash	Lyn Farrow

24 members of the public were in attendance.

The meeting began at 7:00.

- I. Presentation: "Memorial Circle" by Michael Parker
 - The speaker described the history of Memorial Circle, which can be traced back to citizen efforts in 1884 to clean up the dock area. In 1908, a statue to religious tolerance was planned for the area, however, only the basin of the statue was ever completed. From the 1930s to the late 1960s, this area was a gas station with public restrooms. In 1976 the circle as we know it was built.

- II. Chief of Historic Preservation Division, Department of Planning and Zoning
 - Lisa Craig described Historic Preservation Commission procedures and the types of projects the HPC reviews. She also discussed review criteria for projects and standards that new developments must meet.

- III. Stakeholders
 - Jon Arason introduced two speakers who have visions for the building formerly used as the City's recreation center. The City has not decided at this point what the future use of the building will be.
 - The Center for Environmental Science at the University of Maryland would like to use the building as a think tank
 - Ashbourne Developments LLC would like to use the building for workforce housing.
 - The Committee also heard speakers from the community.

- Sean O’Neill, President of the Annapolis Business Association, spoke about certain parts of City Dock that are very important to local businesses. He emphasized the importance of access for delivery trucks and the importance for businesses to have parking for their customers and their employees nearby. He also discussed the operational needs of businesses; a desired for improved “flow” between City Dock and Main Street; and he commented that class A office space would help enliven the City Dock area.
- Randolph Bruns discussed the importance of connecting to the water, as well as the importance of having many different activities at City Dock. He also recommended incorporating view points from “up high.”
- Doug Smith discussed the many amenities the City Dock offers. He discussed the importance of clear signage, especially in terms of parking. He also recommended defining the City Dock experience for different “segments” of the population, e.g., for young children, for day visitors, for night visitors.

IV. Discussion: The Committee was given the following homework assignment to help start off the conversation at the next meeting: *What I would like to change about City Dock and why I would make this change.*

Over the next 3 committee meetings (May 16, June 6 and June 20), the Committee will discuss its recommendation of what ANY improvements to the Dock area should accomplish. The Committee is being asked to put their thoughts in writing via this assignment to help the conversation move productively at the meetings.

The next CDAC meeting will be May 16, 2011. The Committee will discuss the homework assignment. Additionally, the first 15 minutes of this meeting will be dedicated to a last technical presentation: a study of flooding scenarios and possible engineering solutions.

The Committee’s initial report to City Council on goals and principles is tentatively scheduled for July 21 at 2:30.

The meeting ended at 8:45.