



Baylines

Newsletter of the City Council-appointed

Bayfront Advisory Commission

Members

- Kal Kassir, Chairman
- Scott Ayers, vice chairman
- Joseph Bovee
- Faith Christie
- Wally Damon
- Charles G. Faison, Jr.
- Capt. Joey L. Frantzen
- Louis R. Jones, Mayor
- Charles R. Malbon, Jr.
- Joseph A. Miller
- David Redmond, Planning Commissioner
- Stacey W. Shiflet
- Martin A. Thomas
- Robert Thornton, Planning Commissioner
- James L. Wood, Vice Mayor

**Bayfront Advisory Commission meets
Thursday, August 16, 2018**

1:30 -3:30 pm

**Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center
2800 Shore Drive**

Strategic Planning Meeting II

This annual meeting is open to the public but is a workshop meeting for the commission to compile priorities to be addressed by the BAC in the coming year. The public is welcome to observe.

Regular meeting- Tentative Agenda 3:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and Introductions - Kal Kassir, Chair

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Comments from Kal Kassir, Chair
Review and Approval of Minutes

STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES -- Mark Shea

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES

Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access- Charles Malbon
Design Review – Joseph Bovee
Communications – Scott Ayers

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Public Comment Period



Canoes,” the sculpture commissioned by the Public Art Virginia Beach Foundation, is installed on the Lesner Bridge and illuminated following a dedication ceremony July 28. The sculpture, by artist Donald Lipski, was funded by community donations to the foundation that, to date, have totaled more than \$300,000 and are still being accepted.

(Photo credit: Todd Solomon)

Short-term rental issue returns to Council

The knotty short-term rental issue is scheduled to be back before the City Council at its meeting tomorrow (Tuesday., Aug. 7). Members have been reviewing a proposed ordinance to determine if, and what kind of regulations should apply when homes in neighborhoods are rented for short-term events.

The issue pits competing interests in some cases.

Some single-family residents object to using neighborhood homes for large commercial-type events like weddings, reunions, graduation parties and corporate retreats. They cite parking, noise and trash among the problems they have. Some fear such high-intensity uses will degrade their quality of life and impact real estate values.

Others support the use, arguing that regulations will infringe on their rights as property owners and deprive them of income that allows them to buy and maintain these homes.

A Council briefing on May 22 by Deputy City Attorney B. Kay Wilson outlined the issues and proposals in greater detail. To access that briefing, click here: <https://www.vbgov.com/media/Pages/default.aspx>.

The General Assembly has mandated that short-term rentals be allowed in Sandbridge. "Overlay" districts also would allow, with regulations, such rentals in Cape Henry and Ocean Park on the Bayfront and the Oceanfront and North End on the Atlantic. City officials have said about 1,800 properties registered for short-term rentals exist throughout the city. An original draft of the city ordinance would cover 73 percent of them, they say.

BAC strategy meeting carries over to August

The Bayfront Advisory Commission's 2018-19 strategic planning session has been carried over to the commission's Aug. 16 meeting, following two-hour brainstorming session last month. The plan will focus on "big picture" strategies for managing the Bayfront's future and will be sent to the City Council.

As a walkup to the strategic planning meeting, suggestions, concerns and complaints were solicited during and after its Outreach 18 meeting in June. Some of these addressed broader issues than in one neighborhood – enforcement of existing laws and regulations, for example – and will be incorporated in the broader plan.

The BAC members generally agreed that a commission structure for funneling these concerns to the appropriate city or state agency year-round should be developed outside the annual "listening tour" gathering. In addition a regular "helpline" type feature will be added to the commission's communications outlets giving residents and businesses a contact point for lodging concerns.

Funneling these through the BAC will assist the commission and city in spotting patterns and solutions across the Bayfront with an eye toward quicker, smarter resolution.

Shuttle Bus Route 35 ridership up 113%

Ridership in the Hampton Roads Transit shuttle Route 35 more than doubled – 113% --percent in June over the same month in its debut a year ago, Charles Malbon, BAC commissioner, said.

June ridership, the latest for which figures were available, showed 6,350 in the 2018 month versus 2,985 the previous year. Officials have attributed the increase to more frequent runs between the Bayfront and Oceanfront, along with route adjustments that made for better connections to other HRT routes. This included extending the Shore Drive segment from ending to the Lesner Bridge to ending at Pleasure House Road. For schedules, fares and ticket locations, click here <https://gohrt.com/routes/route-35.pdf>

Renovation by new Resort Hotel owner to start

Duane Gauthier, managing director for Commonwealth Lodging, new owner of the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center, said some of the \$25-\$27 million in renovations will begin soon and the hotel will not be accepting guest and meeting room reservations for dates beyond Nov. 1.

“As we are still in the early stages of design, we have not determined the exact scope and impact and our goal is to limit impact to guests as much as possible,” he said.

The Richmond-based company has 12 hotels in six states generating \$100 million in annual revenue. It had acquired the Norfolk Waterside Marriot; the resort hotel, after renovations, it will be rebranded Delta by Marriott but continue as an all-suite product, he said.

Ocean Park CL opposers permanent wharf

The Ocean Park Civic League has officially notified the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers of its opposition to making the Lynnhaven Municipal Wharf permanent and is seeking a public hearing on the matter. The wharf, next to the city boat ramp, has been used as a staging area for the massive Lesner Bridge replacement project.

As that is winding down, the city requested that the bulkheaded wharf become permanent. In an Aug. 2 letter to the Army Corps, the civic league said, “We do not believe the dredging offload operations at this location are a compatible or safe use for a recreational area where boaters, paddle boards, kayaks, and other personal watercraft are sharing the narrow channel. There is also the unanswered question of how much truck traffic through the boat ramp and the neighborhood will be added that might further disrupt a heavily travelled area.”

Bayfront fireworks help from city sought



BAC commissioners encouraged a study of how the city could be more helpful in putting on the Bayfront Fourth of July fireworks, especially with administrative efforts. "That's what's killing us: the paperwork," said Emphy Munden from the Cape-Story-by-the-Sea civic league.

For decades, Bayfront July 4 fireworks have been funded by donations to the civic organization that run the, CSBTS and the Ocean Park and Baylake Pines. The fund-raising has been less onerous than such administrative tasks as securing permits, coordinating with the fire marshal, the state park and Fort Story, Munden said.

Several commissioners said that city efforts to put on Oceanfront fireworks several times a year would make it relatively easy to bring the Bayfront July 4 events into the administrative fold.

[Bayfront Advisory Commission volunteers needed](#)

Citizens and businesses interest in volunteering on BAC committees, tasks forces and special subcommittees should communicate their interest to Scott Ayers, BAC vice chairman, via the commission's email address, bayfrontadvisorycommissionvb@gmail.com. Please indicate any special skills that you would bring to the commission's efforts as well as your contact information.

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Virginia Beach Public School students will return to for the 2018-19 school year on Tuesday, Sept. 4 ...When is a bicyclist a vehicle and when a pedestrian? According to B. Kay Wilson, Deputy City Attorney, a good rule of thumb is a bicycle on the street is a vehicle – and is entitled to all the rights and must assume all the responsibilities, including obeying street signs and lights signaling turns. A bicycle on a sidewalk is a pedestrian and must be treated as such, she said.