



Baylines

Newsletter of the City Council-appointed

Bayfront Advisory Commission

Members

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

Thursday, May 16, 2019

3:30 p.m.

Virginia Beach Tennis and Country Club

1950 Thomas Bishop Lane

Tentative Agenda

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, Victoria Rice

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES

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

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

ADJOURN

**Katie Hecht photo*

Route 35 shuttle resumes; Light reopens

The Bayfront Shuttle, Hampton Roads Transit's Route 35, resumes service May 20, running every 30 minutes between Shore Drive and Pleasure House Road and Rudee Inlet. This will be the third year for the bus route that connects the Bayfront with the Oceanfront. Passengers will be able to buy tickets on their mobile device this year by downloading the GOHRT application



One new tweak to Route 35 will have the shuttles jog north to the Fort Story gate for those passengers who want to visit the Cape Henry Lighthouse and other public attractions on the base, eliminating the need to hike from Shore Drive to the 89th Street gate.

The base runs shuttles from that gate to the lighthouse, which reopened last weekend after a renovation and dune restoration project.



Ballyhoos makes permit presentation

A proposal to allow outdoor events and recreation on land between its building and Long Creek received backing from the Bayfront Advisory Commission after owners of Ballyhoos gave a presentation to allay concerns.

The proposal has received Planning Commission endorsement and goes to the City Council May 21 for final action.

The permit request involves about 10,000 square feet of vacant land between the restaurant in the Marina Shores shopping center at 2865 Lynnhaven Drive and Long Creek. Craig Davis, proprietor of the business, told the BAC that his company “saw a need for event places” in the area with the Marina Shores redevelopment project eliminating one venue for weddings and other gatherings, and the two-year renovation of the former Virginia Beach Resort Hotel making another unavailable.

Davis said the business hoped to allay concerns about parking, traffic and noise. The site has adequate parking for ordinary uses, he said, and Ballyhoos has shared-parking agreements with two nearby businesses for larger gatherings.

Acknowledging that neighbors have existing concerns about the intersection of Lynnhaven Drive and North Great Neck Road, Davis said decisions about a traffic light there would be driven by the city’s ongoing monitoring of traffic counts and accident data.

Other neighborhood concerns were raised after a Halloween party spawned complaints about outdoor music and crowd noise, Davis said. “That was not the plan,” he said, and steps have been taken to address those fears. Ballyhoos will limit the hours of outdoor entertainment and music until 10 p.m., rather than the 11 p.m. cutoff normally allowed under the use permit.

Bike trail at State Park studied

The state's Department of Conservation and Recreation is in the midst of studying a proposal to install a mountain bike trail at First Landing State Park, the park's manager told the Bayfront Advisory Commission.

The proposal is for a trail of about three miles in the park's northeast section between Shore Drive and the main trail, said Bruce Widener, park manager. The \$50,000 study, spearheaded by Del. William DeSteph, is to identify any rare plant and animal species that may be impacted by such a trail. Depending on those results, funding for design and construction would still have to be approved by the DCR and General Assembly, Widener said.

Commissioner Charles G. Faison Jr. expressed reservations about building a bike trail in such a sensitive environment. Widener said the proposal is early in the process and any action would come only after public hearings.

Moving date!

To provide more timely, detailed information about upcoming events and meetings, The Bayfront Advisory Commission's e-newsletter, **Baylines**, will begin publishing on the **second Monday**, of each month starting with the June 2019 issue.

When the second Monday falls on a legal holiday, the newsletter will publish the next business day.



The new publication schedule is designed to provide more up-to-date meeting and agenda information on the various city entities that deal with Bayfront issues than the current first-Monday schedule allowed. Deadline for each issue will be the close of business on the Thursday before publication.

Baylines continues to accept reader-submitted items, including photographs. They will be published as space and time permit at the discretion of the Commission, which is appointed by the City Council to advise on Bayfront matters.

Briefly

Lynnhaven River Now is seeking groups to oppose -- or reaffirm their opposition to -- **offshore oil drilling** in the face of the Trump Administration's proposal to open waters to this activity, said Karen Forget, its executive director. The BAC requested that her organization provide sample resolutions for the commission to consider this month New Commissioner Phillip A. Davenport was tasked with discussing a scaled-back **Waterman's Walk** with Public Works Director Mark Johnson. The BAC had long hoped to provide a walkway connection between the Bayfront and Lynnhaven Inlet as part of the Lesner Bridge replacement. The City Manager, however, has directed that left-over construction money be earmarked for flood projects About four acres of land have been put into a **conservation easement** along Long Creek on the east side of the Marina Shores redevelopment project.