

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN - BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SPECIAL MEETING – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009 4:00 PM

LARKIN HALL

Chairman Michele Couture convened the meeting at 4:00 PM noting the following Board of Selectmen attending: Michele Couture, Elaine Anderson, Mary-Jo Avellar, Austin Knight, and David Bedard

Other attendees: Town Manager Sharon Lynn, Assistant Town Manager David Gardner

Recorder: David Gardner

The following are meeting minutes, in brief:

1. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER PUBLIC FORUM

Michele Couture opened the meeting with initial comments and meeting ground rules.

Clay Scholfield, Cape Cod Commission, introduced the project and gave a history of how the proposed project came about.

David Miller of Transystems presented the conceptual plan for the local transportation center “gateway” project.

Public Comments

Steve Tait – PBG supports, in favor of preserving parking that serves the downtown business district.

Shelia Long – She lives adjacent to the parking structure and is concerned about noise, light, and air pollution.

Margie Perry – Against the proposal, and against two way traffic on Standish. Concerned with parking department jobs, long term maintenance.

Dennis Minsky – In favor of the public park at the MPL which will increase the water quality in the harbor.

Barbara Rushmore – Walkway from Conwell to Standish should be dug into the southside instead of the northside. Should not give up all the parking at the MPL, should have a minimum of 100 spaces. Waterfront park already exist. More bathrooms at the transportation center. Locate visitor along MacMillan Pier. Fed grants allow some maintenance money.

Colin Brown – What is the water table on the Duarte site, and can we lower the structure to reduce the overall height? Pedestrian walkway to the south.

Tom Thurston – In favor of more convention or meeting space in the transportation center. Want to utilize this project to extend business season. Transit center also serves the tour bus businesses and traffic.

Jackie Kelly – Concerned about ventilation in the parking structure, and how would sound be mitigated. Police Station noise should also be mitigated. Bus parking will be located offsite.

Ghee Patrick – Concerned about historic preservation, and a garage structure won’t fit. MPL has been a success. Waterfront park needs to be maintain.

Laura Darsh – Concerned about traffic flow on Conwell, and getting people in and out of town. This area could be in a flood plain. Should emphasize traffic. Locate excess parking at the ball field.

Maggie Gheri – Concerned about doing something for two months out of the year. Concerned about the adjacent businesses. Town doesn’t do a good job of taking care of its property now. Joe Duarte has not agreed to sell the property.

Rowan Wielblad - Opposed to the parking structure, will not feel safe with a parking garage. Concerned about noise and pollution.

Rob Tosner – Concerned about the project and the ability to cover the cost. Town has concerns about existing

infrastructure. Poor maintenance of existing facilities. “Too slick for our own good”.

Kiki Harold – Some elements of the project are positive, like a park, but has concerns about the overall impacts especially light. Police station is a good idea, but this is not the only place to relocate it. We should scale the project down. Maintain access to parking at the MPL for seniors and handicap.

Rachel White – Does not want the Selectmen to take the property by eminent domain.

Michael Peregon – Plans for an amphitheater should be explored, and the Town could obtain revenue from it.

George Bryant – Questions the CCC involvement, opposed to the parking.

Ron Morse – Concerned about the transportation center in that it will block view and remove residential parking.

Michael Rogovski – Supports the project. We need to have a vision of the town that includes a view of the waterfront, not a parking lot. Change the look of the harbor. We need to look at the vision of the town that will change the appearance of the waterfront. We need to change the orientation of the town. You can buffer the building and make it beautiful.

Mary-Elizabeth Lehane & Paula Lindsay - letter expressed concern.

Judy Ciscero – timeline.

Chris Snow – Thanked Clay Scholfield who is addressing the most pressing problem with traffic. Concerned about deadline and the lack of a P&S from Duarte.

Elaine Anderson – hoping that the conceptual project can be refined over the next week, and folks can be informed about the project. Concerned about the long term maintenance of the project.

Michele Couture – Maintenance of town owned buildings is poor. Need to address the concerns of the community. Have a rare opportunity to obtain funds to resolve issues and problems that have plagued the town for some time.

Mary-Jo Avellar – Plan presented is not final, and can be changed and enhanced to address the neighbors concerns. Police station is a bonus. Concerned about safety in the parking garage.

Austin Knight - Preservation of parking in the business district is essential. Concerned about the existing parking inventory, and the potential loss of that parking.

Motion to adjourn by Mary-Jo Avellar at 6:04 PM

Minutes transcribed by: Vernon Porter, Secretary to Board of Selectmen
September 16, 2009