



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE
NEW YORK

**SOUTHERN WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT
TASK FORCE MEETING**

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:30 p.m.

City Hall / Zoom

The Southern Waterfront Redevelopment Task Force Meeting was conducted using videoconferencing, as permitted by the NYS Open Meetings Law.

Effective immediately and based upon notices and health advisories issued by Federal, State, and Local officials related to the Coronavirus, the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council will not hold in-person meetings. Until further notice, all future City Council meetings (including public hearings and committee meetings) will be held via videoconferencing, as permitted by the NYS Open Meetings Law.

Due to public health and safety concerns, the public will not be permitted to attend at the remote locations where the City Council members will be situated. The public, however, will be able to fully observe the video conference meeting by using the registration link that was posted with our meeting notice and the meeting will be available for viewing at a later date and available on our website.

Task Force Members Present: Kafui Attoh, Barbara Best, Councilmember Brannen, Cornelia Harris, Legislator Johnson (late arrival), Joan Mandle, John Mylod, Felicia Watson (late arrival), Mike Young, City Administrator Nelson

Absent: Nick Deluccia & Councilmember Menist

I. Public comment

1. Naomi Brooks

My comments tonight are in support of the short-term recommendations. The task force's subgroup was faced with quite a challenge: recommend specific, actionable, cost-effective ways to open a large property that is basically a mid-project construction site, and do it in ways that satisfy environmental, physical safety, and property security concerns. The solutions needed to be open-ended enough to allow for various public activities, temporary enough that altering them will not come at too great an additional cost once long-term use is established, and sturdy enough to be in place for an unspecified period of time until that long-

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term use is implemented. Add to that the strong interest in making the recommendations be as attractive as possible so that the site will be a desired destination for a variety of people and activities. I think the recommendations that have been created more than met this challenge. Some recommendations were obvious and necessary, like removing the debris that has accumulated over the years, and including the site in police patrol and park maintenance schedules. Some recommendations dealt with hazards in creative ways, like erecting interpretive signs around unfinished utility locations or stabilizing some loose rock areas to make them easier to walk on. Some recommendations addressed the need for a new, separate identity for the lower parking area - which is part of this property - and for its connection to the unimproved area beyond. The new vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian entrances proposed should provide a welcoming threshold for the various ways of entering the property. Some recommendations balanced the need for safety with the wish to have an open and inviting feeling to the site. Much time was spent on determining if there was a need for fencing off part of the property and where that fence should be. Close scrutiny of the bulkhead wall tried to imagine ways of keeping unobstructed views while protecting the safety of visitors from the river's edge. Railing specifications and placement of walks, landscape shrubs, and benches were all considered with this balance in mind. And finally, recommendations included a look ahead – in a nudge for a fast-track implementation timeline, and in the beginning of the exploration for available funding and manpower. The last recommendation, that there be an ongoing task force presence during that implementation phase, is of critical importance. I keep thinking of two phrases, that God is in the details, and the devil is in the details. The short-term recommendations can be implemented with thoughtful, beautiful and artistic detailing, or they can be shortchanged by lack of time, effort, overall vision, money, and manpower. To continue to champion for best practices and best solutions will be in the city's long-term interest, and I am grateful that this recommendation was created. I can't wait to take a walk in this newest Poughkeepsie waterfront space, and watch the birds, the boats, and the sunset from its shore.

2. Nicholas Kalogris
3. Louis Viglotti
4. Laurie Sandow

II. Adoption of minutes

A motion was made by Legislator R. Johnson Sr. and seconded by Co-Chair Attoh to accept the minutes.

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SWTF Minutes 4-21-21; 5-6-21; 5-12-21;5-26-21						
			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Taskforce Co-Chair Attoh	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Best	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Deluccia	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Harris	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Legislator R. Johnson Sr.	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Mandle	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Mylod	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Watson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Taskforce Member Young	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III. Report back on activity since last meeting

IV. Adoption of short-term recommendations

Three amendments were made to the short-term recommendations

1. Remove all references to external exhibits.
2. On page 3, item 2d, replace “if stop signs can be installed” with “if traffic control devices are warranted.”
3. On page 7, at the end of the second paragraph, insert: “Fishing is permitted along the water’s edge.”

SWTF Short Term Recommendations & Aforementioned Recommendations						
			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Taskforce Co-Chair Attoh	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Best	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Deluccia	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Harris	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Legislator R. Johnson Sr.	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Mandle	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Mylod	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taskforce Member Watson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taskforce Member Young	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

V. Overview of public survey results

VI. Discussion of developing long-term recommendations

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A motion was made by Task Force co-chair Attoh to adjourn the meeting at 9:55pm.

Dated: June 15, 2021

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Southern Waterfront Redevelopment Task Force Meeting held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmin Nicole Davis
City Chamberlain

