

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL
Special Planning & Development Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 8, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.
1st Fl. Council Committee Room – City Hall
-Minutes-

Present: Chair, Councilor Greg Verga; Vice Chair, Councilor Paul Lundberg; Councilor Paul McGeary (Alternate)

Absent: Councilor LeBlanc

Also Present: Linda T. Lowe; Suzanne Egan; Harbormaster Jim Caulkett; Patti Page

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. *Special Events Application: request to hold Mass. Bay U.S. Sailing Junior Olympic Sailing Festival on August 11, 12 & 13, 2014*

Councilor McGeary reviewed that the Eastern Point Yacht Club (EPYC) had gone before the Special Events Advisory Committee, and at that meeting an issue arose that under GCO Sec. 10-86(c) boats can't be launched on a city beach that is open and lifeguarded which was a legal obstacle that needed to be overcome in order for the EPYC sponsored event to use a small portion of Niles Beach.

Suzanne Egan, General Counsel, said that the Mayor has the authority to effectuate the Code of Ordinances and has the authority to partially close the beach for this event which she is willing to do. She said she discussed with the Assistant Public Works Director, Mark Cole, who also expressed his concern, and that she assured that the legal obstacle can be overcome by the Mayor issuing an Executive Order.

Rennie Worsfold, member of the Eastern Point Yacht Club (EPYC) Board of Governors, briefly reviewed the plans for the U.S. Sailing Mass. Bay Junior Olympics Sailing Festival on Gloucester Harbor and using a small area of Niles Beach to launch sailboats and remove them from the water during their 3-day event. He submitted updated documentation to the Committee (placed on file) and described the approximately 25 foot area of Niles beach from which sailboats would be launched and removed, with boat storage on adjacent private property. He said the EPYC would barricade off the appropriate portion of the public beach as requested by the city. The boats would be hand dollied back and forth to and from the water, and either the boats or children will be exposed to street traffic, he said. He also noted there will be volunteers and traffic cones delineating the launching area on the beach. He assured that when landing the boats each evening that they would be removed on the private property, and then launched on the small area of public property.

Councilor Verga said if there are no road closures and in light of this being handled by an Executive Order of the Mayor, would there be any action necessary by the Committee and the Council. **Ms. Egan** confirmed there was no action that needed to be taken.

Mr. Worsfold thanked the Council for supporting the event which he said was a great event for the city.

Jim Caulkett, Harbormaster, offered that he was in full support of this program.

Councilor Lundberg discussed with **Mr. Worsfold** about the launching from Dun Fudgin Landing on the Annisquam River of committee boats, coach boats and chase boats, with approximately 30 boats are anticipated associated with the event, trailer and vehicle parking and waiving of the launch fee for boats associated with the event. **Mr. Worsfold** said a request has not yet been sent to the Waterways Board about the launch fee waiver. **Mr. Caulkett** pointed out that there is an agreement with the state in place (since 1993) for overflow parking in the front of the High School parking lot. **Councilor Verga** suggested Mr. Worsfold contact with the Superintendent of Schools to allow the school to plan ahead.

The Committee will forward its draft motion to the Mayor for her use.

2. *Special Events Application: request to hold Magnolia Historical Society's Lexington Avenue Street Fair on July 19, 2014*

Linda T. Lowe, City Clerk confirmed that all arrangements for this event are the same as the previous year and that only Lexington Avenue is closed for the duration of this one-day event.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Lundberg, seconded by Councilor McGeary, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council permit the Magnolia Historical Society to hold their Lexington Avenue Street Fair on Saturday, July 19, 2014 from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Lexington Avenue is to be closed from Norman Avenue to Flume Road from 6 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with appropriate signage posted at either end of Lexington Avenue advising motorists of alternative routes. A Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Gloucester as Certificate Holder is to be on file with the City Clerk's office no later than July 18, 2014.

The following conditions are to apply:

- 1. Applicant is to notify all abutters of the closed area of Lexington Avenue in advance of the event.**
- 2. Applicant is responsible for providing adequate trash receptacles and for removal of same.**
- 3. Applicant has agreed to make Magnolia Library bathrooms available to the public.**
- 4. All vendors are to obtain city vending permits prior to July 18, 2014.**

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Dana C. Jorgensson
Clerk of Committees**

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING:

Updated presentation from EPYC for US Sailing Mass. Bay Junior Olympics Festival by Rennie Worsfold