

Planning & Development Standing Committee
Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.
Harbormaster’s Conference Room, 19 Harbor Loop
And via Zoom
-Minutes-

Present (in person): Chair, Councilor Jason Grow; Vice Chair, Councilor Val Gilman; Councilor Tracy O’Neil

Also Present (in person): Clerk of Committees, Sherry White

Applicants: Ted Costa and Emily Siegel for the Gloucester Education Foundation; Alana Horne for the Magnolia Community Farmers Market

This meeting was conducted in person and remotely through ZOOM

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Councilor Grow announced: “If you are calling in on a phone, you can press Star 9 to request to speak. If you are watching on a computer or a device, there is a raised hand button that you can tap or press to request to speak. Please use either of these options to be recognized to speak.”

Councilor Grow announced the names of the P&D Committee members in attendance (Councilor Gilman, Councilor O’Neil and himself), and City staff who were attending both in-person and remotely.

Matters were taken out of order. Minutes reflect the order in which matters were taken.

- 1. SCP2023-003: Biskie Head Point #15, Map 233, Lot 5, GZO Sec. 5.5.2 “Lowland Requirements” for the reconstruction of a timber-pile supported pier and timber bulkhead in the EB district**

Summary of Discussion: **Councilor Grow** stated that at the request of the applicant this matter is being withdrawn without prejudice. **Councilor Gilman** read the communication she received from Mr. David Smith of GZA requesting the withdrawal.



MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Grow, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the Planning & Development voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to withdraw the application for SCP2023-003: Biskie Head Point #15 without prejudice.

2. Special Event Application: Request for Street Closures re: Gloucester Education Foundation Arts Festival on May 13, 2023

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Grow disclosed that his wife has been a Board Member of the Gloucester Education Foundation (GEF) since its inception and just recently stepped down.

Mr. Ted Costa stated that the Gloucester Education Foundation is excited to bring back the Arts Festival which has been dormant due to COVID. He stated that the City’s students are excited to showcase their talents in all aspects of art and that **Emily Siegel** has organized a festival that is going to be in three locations, including at City Hall in the Kyrouz Auditorium, the MAGMA location at Brown’s Mall and at the Cape Ann Museum, with different aspects of visual and performing arts.

Mr. Costa explained that the request is to close Warren Street from the municipal parking lot to the intersection with Dale Avenue to place food trucks. **Mr. Costa** also explained that he inadvertently did not include a rain date for the event and is requesting a rain date of May 20, 2023. **Ms. Emily Siegel** stated that the GEF has been working since March of 2022 on re-envisioning and relaunching the festival. She explained that one of the biggest changes is that this event will now include the food trucks (six in total) as well as eight art-making stations both in the Cape Ann Museum and outdoors. **Mr. Costa** also stated that porta-potties will be provided.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Grow, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve the road closure of Warren Street from the municipal parking lot to Dale Avenue on Saturday, May 13, 2023, with a rain date of May 20, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. with the following conditions:

1. 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 April 28, 2023;
2. Applicant is to notify all abutters of the closed area of Warren Street in advance of the event;

3. Applicant is responsible for providing adequate trash receptacles and for removal of same;
 4. Approval is based on the status of the current situation and is subject to change based on any stay at home orders, public park or beach closures etc. as made by the state or the city.
3. **Special Event Application: Request for Street Closures re: Magnolia Community Farmers Market on June 4, 2023 – June 25, 2023, July 9, 2023 – August 27, 2023, September 10, 2023 – October 1, 2023**

Summary of Discussion: Ms. Alana Horne, Director of the Magnolia Community Farmers Market, explained that the market is entering its fifth season and is requesting the closure of Lexington Avenue on Sunday mornings (starting June 4, 2023 through October 1, 2023, with the exception of July 2nd and September 3rd) from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Councilor Grow stated that the event has already been approved by the Special Events Advisory Committee.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Grow, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to permit the Magnolia Community Farmers Market to be held on Sundays, from June 4, 2023 through June 25, 2023; July 9, 2023 through August 27, 2023; and September 10, 2023 through October 1, 2023 during the hours of 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. with the following conditions:

1. Lexington Avenue is to be closed from Norman Avenue to Flume Road beginning at 8:30 a.m. for event setup and reopening at 2:00 p.m. with appropriate signage posted at either end of Lexington Avenue advising motorists of alternative routes;
2. 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 May 19, 2023;
3. Applicant is to notify all abutters of the closed area of Lexington Avenue in advance of the events;
4. Applicant is responsible for providing adequate trash receptacles and for removal of same;
5. Due to the current situation, all vendors, except those excluded by state law, are to obtain city vending permits from the Office of the City Clerk 10 days prior to the start of the event;
6. That the Magnolia Farmer's Market must have two or more farmers primarily selling products grown, produced, or raised by farmers present in order to constitute a "Farmer's Market" in keeping with the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Policy for Massachusetts Farmers' Markets and with the definition in the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 11;
7. Approval is based on the status of the current situation and is subject to change based on any stay at home orders, public park or beach closures etc. as made by the state or the city.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O'Neil, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

Submitted by: Sherry White, Clerk of Committees

Documents submitted at the meeting: None.

Meeting Recording: <http://gloucester-ma.gov/1097/Past-Remote-Public-Meetings>