

CPC Minutes of April 16, 2012

A special meeting of the City Plan Commission (CPC) was held on Monday, April 16, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in the Department of the Planning and Development (DPD) 1st Floor Meeting Room, 444 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

Opening Session

Call to order: Chairman Durkee called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Stephen Durkee, Andrew Cortes, Ina Anderson, JoAnn Ryan and Harrison Bilodeau

Members Absent: Meredyth Church

Staff Present: Choyon Manjrekar and Christopher Ise

CITY COUNCIL REFERRAL

1. Referral 3345 – Petition to abandon portions of Harborside Boulevard, Shipyard Street and Read Street.

The applicant, Johnson and Wales University, is requesting the abandonment of portions of Harborside Boulevard, Shipyard Street and Read Street – for action (Washington Park)

Mr. Manjrekar introduced the project. Mr. John Garrahy represented the applicant and said the abandonments would improve safety along the abandonment area and benefit the City as it would not be responsible for maintaining the abandoned streets. Access would not be affected as CRMC regulations to permit access to the waterfront would be followed. An access easement would be provided to the Save the Bay property. The abandonment of Read Street would promote development.

Ms. Ryan asked how access to the Save the Bay parcel would be provided. Mr. Wayne Kezirian said the property was a tenant of Johnson and Wales University whose lease allowed for public access. Mr. Bilodeau said the CPC's recommendation should include a reference to the purchase price paid by the applicant for the abandoned area. A discussion on the abandonments ensued.

Mr. Durkee asked about the University's plans past the Cranston line. Mr. Kezirian said that the applicant was in talks with the City of Cranston to determine development around the area.

Mr. Manjrekar read out the DPD's findings of facts from the staff report, which found the proposed abandonments to be in conformance with the CPC's criteria for street abandonments provided waterfront access was not impeded.

Ms. Ryan made a motion seconded by Mr. Bilodeau to approve the proposed abandonments subject to the findings of fact in the DPD's staff report. Mr. Cortes proposed an amendment to state that the abandonments should occur subject to the memorandum of agreement entered into between the City and the applicant. Ms. Ryan and Mr. Bilodeau accepted the change.

All voted in favor.

Adjournment

Mr. Cortes made a motion seconded by Ms. Anderson to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 4:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Manjrekar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Choyon Manjrekar,
Recording Secretary