



# Baylines

*Newsletter of the City Council-appointed*

## **Bayfront Advisory Commission**

### Members

- Kal Kassir, Chairman
- Scott Ayers, vice chairman
- Joseph Bovee
- Faith Christie
- Wally Damon
- Charles G. Faison, Jr.
- Louis R. Jones, Councilman
- Charles R. Malbon, Jr.
- Joseph A. Miller
- David Redmond, Planning Commissioner
- Capt. Daniel J. Senesky
- Stacey W. Shiflet
- Martin A. Thomas
- Robert Thornton, Planning Commissioner
- James L. Wood, Councilman

**Bayfront Advisory Commission meets**

**Thursday, February 16, 2017**

**3:30-5:30 pm**

**Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center**

2800 Shore Drive

**Workshop meeting, 2:30 p.m.**

### **Agenda**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Welcome and Introductions - Kal Kassir, Chair

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Comments from Kal Kassir, Chair  
Review and Approval of Minutes

#### **STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES -- Mark Shea, Tobias Eisenlohr**

Public Works storm water update

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES**

Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access- Charles Malbon  
Design Review – Joseph Bovee  
Communications – Scott Ayers

#### **COMMUNITY REPORTS & UPDATES**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC**

Public Comment Period

#### **ADJOURN**



## *Seashore Art Festival planned for April 8*

Developers of the Dismal Swamp Arts Festival in Chesapeake are bringing a similar event to First Landing/Seashore State Park. The one-day Seashore Art Festival will be held on the bay side of the park April 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., said Katharine C. Pollard. The event will feature fine artists, vendors and local musician Lewis McGehee. Proceeds benefit the JCA Foundation, a Chesapeake-based charity founded by James C. Archbell. "This is a way for people on Great Neck Road and Shore Drive to enjoy the park," Pollard said. For more information on booths and sponsorships, contact her at [pollardkc@gmail.com](mailto:pollardkc@gmail.com) or at 757-403-4435.

## *Lesner Bridge update – February*

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Demolition of the old Lesner Bridge is expected to continue through February, probably into April 2017, Christopher J. Wojtowicz, project director, told *Baylines*.

The new 16-inch water line is expected to be tied into the existing main on Shore Drive at Vista Circle and East Stratford Road by Friday, February 10, he said.

Construction will start soon on a new retaining wall for the eastbound bridge approach on the west side of Lynnhaven Inlet and will continue into March. Construction will also start on the new bridge abutment foundation in this same area, he said. "At this point, we have pre-cast approximately 50 percent of the new eastbound bridge and we expect to have 70 percent of the new bridge superstructure cast by the first week of March," Wojtowicz said.

Also, as the barge anchored off of Cape Henry Towers is filled with old bridge materials, it is being towed out to Cabbage Patch Reef, about 5.5 nautical miles South-Southwest of the entrance to Cape Charles Harbor.

## BAC schedules citizen outreach

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To support the Bayfront Advisory Commission's role of providing regular, two-way communications opportunities with residents and businesses in the area, the commission plans to schedule one or more workshops this spring to solicit opinions on priorities for the coming year.

The workshop(s) will be held in the spring ahead of the BAC's annual goal-setting retreat this summer. Dubbed "Outreach '17," the gathering will involve civic league, condominium association and neighborhood presidents, or their designees. They will be asked to bring to the meeting their single most important issue.

Plans call for an outside facilitator to elicit these issues and provide focus. From Outreach '17, the Bayfront Advisory Commission plans to compile and prioritize a list of goals on which to concentrate efforts.

To participate in this effort, a spokesperson from each Bayfront organization should send an email with contact name and information to Scott Ayers, communications committee chairman, at [bayfrontadvisorycommission@gmail.com](mailto:bayfrontadvisorycommission@gmail.com) no later than March 1.

## *Bayfront-Oceanfront shuttle pilot program planned*

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A pilot project to run a regular daily shuttle between the Bayfront and Oceanfront this summer is progressing, city transportation planner Mark E. Shea told the Bayfront Advisory Commission last month. The City Council has been briefed on the proposal, which has been in the works between the city and Hampton Roads Transit for several years. Several alternatives have been considered and either tabled or shelved to come up with a workable program that would allow residents and visitors to ride shuttles between the Bayfront and Oceanfront without having to get caught up in heavy traffic or search for scarce parking in the summer months, Shea said.

Two options for running such a shuttle between Vista Circle and 19<sup>th</sup> Street from 8 a.m. to midnight are being studied. One would run routes every 45 minutes and would require two shuttles, he said. The other would run every 30 minutes and would require three shuttles and cost about \$70,000 more. "Right now, it's all about the budget," Shea told the commission.

Comment from the council and results of a survey of First Landing/Seashore State Park patrons last summer have been positive. "I would be encouraged by that," Shea said. Extending the shuttle west of the Lesner Bridge to Pleasure House Road has been studied and has advantages and potential for future growth, depending on the outcome of the pilot project this year.

Charles Malbon, chairman of the BAC committee that studies transportation, parking and other issues, said the shuttles would need to attract 150 riders a day to support the program, which would cost about \$215,000 for the 45-minute loop or \$283,000 for the 30-minute route. Commissioner Stacey W. Shiflet said she knew of employees at her Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center who would commute to work using the shuttle. Meanwhile, the state park campground hosted 77,000 guests from Memorial Day to Labor Day in 2016, Bruce Widener, park manager, told *Baylines* Sunday. "We are very excited about the new...route," Widener said. "It will be a win-win for our guests and the Shore Drive community."

At one time, suggestions were made to extend the service to Fort Story, but security requirements scuttled that idea. Another proposal would have wound the shuttle through Hilltop, but officials determined that would be unworkable, at least until the pilot proves itself and demand rises.

## *Bits and pieces...*

- Two former journalists are proposing to open a micro-brewery in the Seashore Shoppes on Shore Drive, occupying the space formerly held by a bicycle shop. The **Deadline Brewing Project** is seeking a conditional use permit from the city and briefed the Bayfront Advisory Commission Jan. 19. Darrell Cuenca, one of the partners, told the BAC the project would be a two-barrel brewery and is seeking permission to allow food trucks. Commissioners did not vote on the proposal, but expressed support as long as parking requirements were met. Last meeting, the BAC gave similar support to the **Vibrant Brewing Company** micro-brewery proposal for a long-vacant restaurant building on Shore Drive. That proposal won Planning Commission approval in January and now goes to the City Council.
- The Bayfront Advisory Commission will hold a **workshop meeting** before its regular monthly meeting Feb. 16 at 2:30 p.m. at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center. The workshop, open to the public, is to review progress on 2016-17 goals set last summer.
- The Bayfront Advisory Commission re-elected **Kal Kassir** as chairman and **Scott Ayers** as vice chairman, in keeping with the commission's bylaws.
- The city has developed a new online property-search tool with user-friendly features that allow information about a Virginia Beach property to be accessed with a mouse click or through a mobile application. Access on the web is found at [www.vbgov.com/peroperty-search](http://www.vbgov.com/peroperty-search). The mobile application, available for both Apple and Android systems, is called **VB Property**.
- For more information on the Bayfront Advisory Commission, please visit: <http://www.vbgov.com/bayfront>.