



**WATERFRONT COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

City Council Chambers  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008 – 8:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Parker at 8 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Members Present:      Brian Parker                      Kathy Diehl                      Eddy So  
                                    Bill Dann                              Clay Larson  
                                    Steve Granholm                  Francesco Papalia

Staff Present:              Ann Chaney

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3-1. Approve minutes from February 7, 2008 meeting**

Minutes approved, motioned by Diehl, seconded by Granholm. So abstained.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**5. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, WHICH COULD INCLUDE REPORTS AND/OR PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS IF ANY:**

**5-1. Follow up to consultant interviews regarding the Waterfront Visioning process**

The Committee agreed to hear public comment prior to Committee discussion.

Public Comment:

Mara Duncan: believes Fern Tiger could reach out to diverse community, and feels it is good to have someone the City has not worked with before.

Michael Halderman: Believes DC&E is the best fit, Fern Tiger is the weakest of the three, and RRM is good but seems expensive.

Trevor Grayling: Believes Fern Tiger's experience in Maui was relevant to Albany. RRM could be helpful in bringing landowner to the table. Feels both Fern Tiger and RRM are both qualified.

Catherine Stern: Believes \$500,000 is a lot of money to spend on land that is not owned by the City.

Edward Moore: Believes scope of work should be decided before the consultant is selected.

Ed Fields: Believes Fern Tiger is best to bring community together.

Norman LaForce: Fern Tiger seems best suited to the project.

Katherine Stern: Firm selected must have experience with mixed use developments.

Dann stated this planning process is a visioning, conceptual process. Fern Tiger seems most suited for this planning process.

Diehl stated Fern Tiger is her first choice, DC&E second choice and RRM third choice. Fern Tiger has sensitivity and skills to work with community.

Granholm stated Fern Tiger's Maui experience is relevant for Albany, and can help a divisive community come to some level of consensus. Believes Fern Tiger would be best for this planning process because it is a visioning process. Suggests a sub-consultant if technical assistance is needed. DC&E was also good.

Larson stated he scored DC&E and RRM the same above Fern Tiger. DC&E and RRM are Larson's top choices as they both have strong land use planning experience. Fern Tiger does not have as much land use planning experience. Ultimately this is a land use planning project, and experience with land use planning is important.

Papalia finds RRM Principal to have passion for waterfront and good experience. RRM seems to have an ability to go into a divided community and build consensus, plus the principal seems like an expert in waterfront planning. Fern Tiger has the weakest credentials, and less ability to bring in the land owner. Prefers a firm that is able to all of the planning phases. Believes the best firm is DC&E and they have local experience. Rates DC&E first, RRM second, and Fern Tiger third.

So found DC&E and RRM very skilled but Fern Tiger's Maui experience impressed him because it mobilized and motivated a lot of people. So rates Fern Tiger first, DC&E second, and RRM third.

Parker appreciates Fern Tiger's experience with complex planning projects such as Berkeley's Bayer project and the recycling center. Parker believes Fern Tiger has the experience to involve the community, and is the most affordable.

Dann motioned the Committee select Fern Tiger to work with the Committee to prepare a scope of work to be sent to the City Council for approval. Seconded by Diehl.

**Public Comment:**

Ed Fields: appears there is a division of the Committee that reflects the division of the community. Suggests the Committee work cooperatively.

Michael Halderman: Fern Tiger's Maui experience not necessarily similar to Albany. Suggests DC&E as the best firm for the project, and that RRM would have the ability to involve the land owner.

Mara Duncan: encourages Committee to find ways to develop an energized process that engages the community.

Norman LaForce: Believes there is a strong consensus among the Committee. This is not a land use planning process but a visioning process.

**Vote:** In Favor – Dann, Diehl, Granholm, So, Parker. Opposed – Larson, Papalia.

Parker suggested staff work with Fern Tiger to prepare for the next Committee meeting.

Granholm suggested the subcommittee and staff meet with the consultant to develop a scope of work that can then be refined by the entire committee, then a budget can be drafted once the scope is developed. Granholm suggests a phased approach to the project.

Parker noted there are four phases with work projects for each phase, and the budget can be broken down by phase, or include a provision in the contract that the scope have flexibility. So suggested Fern Tiger attend the next Committee meeting to discuss the scope of work, and then follow up with the subcommittee.

Larson motioned to change the composition of the subcommittee. The motion was not seconded. Parker suggested any Committee member interested in giving input to Fern Tiger is welcome to contact them directly.

Papalia suggested the subcommittee remain intact until a contract is signed, then if other items come up during the planning process another subcommittee can be formed.

**Public Comment:**

Mara Duncan: suggests sharing the tape of this meeting with Fern Tiger.

Ed Fields: suggests the consultant selection subcommittee be reconstituted and that Granholm and Larson be included.

Parker stated the consultant selection is still in process until the City Council has approved a consultant and therefore the existing subcommittee remains in place.

Fern Tiger will be invited to attend the Committee's next meeting.

**5-2. Recommend to City Council on projects regarding Post-Oil Spill Restoration**

Chaney summarized five potential projects: dune restoration, lagoon restoration, salt marsh restoration, removal of safety hazards on the bulb, trail extension and suggested the Committee's recommendation would be taken to the City Council. Chaney suggests the Committee take the item up within the next month. Chaney distributed an application EBRPD put together for dune restoration.

Diehl stated she would like cost estimates and timelines for projects. Granholm agreed.

Public Comment:

Norman LaForce: Suggests coordinating with EBRPD. Federal agencies have final say on where money goes. City should lobby to make sure the money stays in the Bay Area.

Mara Duncan: Suggests exploring liability issues and how to train volunteers.

The Committee agreed to continue this item to the April meeting.

**5-3. Discuss possible change in future Committee meeting schedule due to pending move to Community Center**

Chaney noted that the Committee will be meeting at the Community Center, and will bring meeting dates to the next meeting.

**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

Parker noted Magna's financial losses.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**7-1. Next meeting March 18, 2008 (if deemed necessary), otherwise April 3**

Fern Tiger will be invited to the March 18 meeting. April 3 meeting will include a discussion with City Attorney and Oil Spill Restoration Projects.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45p.m.