



Council Committee Notes – Streets, Sidewalks and Playgrounds

Date: February 4, 2010 **Time:** 3:30 PM **Location:** Town Hall **Chair:** Councilmember Barbara Robertson **Attendees:** Councilmembers Barbara Robertson and Randy Moubray, Town Manager Tom Saunders, Community Development Strategist Susan Cockrell, Public Works Superintendent Franklin Carter

Visitors: Clay and Lisa Holcomb, Chesapeake Boat Basin

Notes on Discussions:

1. Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb asked the Committee to once again consider removing the sign at the corner of Main and Waverly that says “Kilmarnock Wharf”. They told the committee that the current sign makes people think there is a public pier or landing at the end of Waverly when there isn’t. When lots of grain trucks are on that street it can be difficult for visitors to turn around. They would like to have a sign on that corner advertising their business but all of their attempts to obtain one have been unsuccessful. If they can’t have a sign that says Chesapeake Boat Basin they asked that a sign that says “Marina” replace the Kilmarnock Wharf sign. The Committee instructed TM Saunders to discuss the request with VDOT and if it is possible to put the matter on the agenda for the upcoming Council meeting.
2. While they were before the Committee the Holcombs raised the issue of the Town providing trolley service to the end of Waverly Avenue this season. They described the steps they have taken in the last year to increase their transient business and discussed the very favorable article that recently appeared in Chesapeake Bay Magazine that has generated a lot of interest and many reservations. Susan Cockrell described for the Committee the history of the trolley service and the details of what Bay Transit provides and what the Town is responsible for. Bay Transit provides roughly 2/3’s of the funding and Kilmarnock 1/3. Additionally, the Town’s of Irvington and White Stone have provided financial support. The driver, fuel and trolley maintenance are provided by Bay Transit and the Town receives a fixed amount of hours annually based on funding. The Town uses the revenue from advertising sales to offset the cost to the Town. Susan and Lisa are having ongoing conversations regarding the 2010 schedule and the Boat Basin’s participation.
3. Susan discussed the need to add rubber mulch to the playground but snow cover has prevented the measurements that are needed to determine how much to buy.
4. Citizens are using the playground as a short cut between Waverly Avenue and E. Church Street and are trespassing through yards adjoining the playground. Staff will investigate perimeter fencing of the playground.
5. TM Saunders reported that there had been some complaints about VDOT’s slowness in plowing side streets in Town. He said they didn’t do anything but arterial highways until

Sunday afternoon. He also reported that it took several days but almost all of the sidewalks in Steptoe's had been cleared by Friday morning. He is sending another letter to merchants in the district about when and how they should clear sidewalks in front of their businesses.

6. Susan Cockrell passed out a proposal from Landmark Design to perform design and engineering work for a proposed park on the Town Centre lot. TM Saunders said that with the Committee's permission he plans to solicit at least two more proposals of this type before making a recommendation.
7. TM Saunders reported that the island repair project at Main and Irvington Road is on hold until the piles of snow in the area melt or are removed, at VDOT's request.

Recommendations to Council:

Action item: Approve sign change at Main and Waverly to read "Marina".

Recommended for further study:

- Solicit proposals for Town Centre park design work.
- Investigate perimeter fencing of the playground.