

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Hannon, Acting Chair
Jennifer Molnar, Fire Marshal
Robert Ruth, Utilities Project Manager
John Smith, Building Official
Norman Nahra, Police Lieutenant
Dave Meyers, Public Works

OTHERS PRESENT: Joan LeBeau, Urban Design Manager
Terri Nichols, Code Compliance
Jimmy Paquette, Richard Polk, Monica Luna,
Jeff Cleffi, Margaret Bogardis, Anthony Dubbaneh,
Jennifer French, Sandy Moon, Cathy Getz,
Timothy Buck, Jamie Browning, Liz Nason

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Hannon called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. December 4, 2020

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. November 6, 2020
- Ms. Molnar MOVED, Mr. Meyers SECONDED approval of the November 6, 2020, minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. OD-05-2020 – Harbor Social LLC – 212 West Marion Avenue
- Ms. Hannon briefly reviewed the request, noting a forty-eight-inch pedestrian walkway must remain unobstructed and all Americans with Disability Act requirements must be maintained. She concluded any changes to the approved site plan would require a new site plan to be submitted.
- Mr. Jimmy Paquette, applicant, verified he had no comments regarding the request.
- Mr. Smith MOVED, Ms. Molnar SECONDED to approve OD-05-2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- B. America in Bloom Phase III
- Ms. Joan LeBeau, Urban Design Manager, briefly reviewed the proposed plans for Phase III of the America in Bloom project, as delineated in the agenda material, noting the

Utilities Department recommended installation of a backflow prevention device on the irrigation system.

- Mr. Ruth advised the applicant was required to install a reduced pressure device. He noted the device would project upward from the right-of-way, expressing uncertainty as to whether same would cause issues with pedestrians. He then inquired as to who would purchase the water meters.
- Ms. LeBeau replied she would clarify same.
- Mr. Meyers confirmed the height of the device could range from 12 to 30 inches and could constitute a trip hazard, recommending installation of a bollard.
- Ms. LeBeau indicated staff would work with the applicant to use the planters to conceal the device from the public.
- Mr. Ruth clarified the Utilities Department was not responsible for installation and maintenance of the backflow prevention device, questioning who was responsible for the costs, installation and maintenance associated with same.
- Mr. Richard Polk, applicant, replied Rainscape, Inc. would be performing the installations, acknowledging two meters and backflow prevention devices were needed.
- Ms. LeBeau verified she would provide additional clarification to the Utilities Department within the following week.
- Ms. Molnar MOVED, Mr. Smith SECONDED to move forward with Phase III of the American In Bloom project contingent upon the applicant providing clarification to the Utilities Department and Public Works Department regarding the water back flow installations.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. 20-160990 - Boys & Girls Club Spring Dinner Fundraiser, February 27, 2021, Laishley Park

- Ms. Hannon requested a Certificate of Insurance naming the City as additional insured and as the certificate holder as well as a copy of the alcoholic beverage license when available.
- Ms. Molnar stated an application for a tent permit was required two weeks in advance of the event date.
- Mr. Nahra verified a one-officer detail was required.
- Ms. Molnar MOVED, Mr. Smith SECONDED approval of Event Permit #20-160990.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. 20-161060 - Harbor Social Superbowl Entertainment, 212 West Marion Avenue, February 7, 2021.

- Ms. Hannon explained the request was to close that portion of Sullivan Street from West Marion Avenue to the alley beside the Women's Club on February 7, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

until February 8, 2021 at noon, noting the event included live entertainment, food and alcohol. She stated the applicant was required to notify every affected business or property owner and obtain an approval letter from same. She stated due to the timeframe of the closure, City Council review was necessary. She stated other requirements included submission of a Certificate of Insurance, a copy of the extension of premise for the alcoholic beverage license area and an approved maintenance of traffic plan (MOT) from the Public Works Department.

- Mr. Smith stated the Building Division had no comments.
- Ms. Molnar advised any tents larger than 10' x 10' would require a tent permit, requesting the fire hydrants at the corner of Marion Avenue and Sullivan Street remain clear and outside of the event fencing.
- Mr. Nahra verified one officer was requested to be in attendance.
- Mr. Meyers clarified the MOT plan must be submitted in advance of the event.
- Mr. Jerry Cleffi, Harbor Social representative, explained the sidewalk would not be closed on the opposite side of Sullivan Street, adding he was unsure as to any impact to surrounding businesses as they would have access to their parking lot and to their entrance.
- Ms. Margaret Bogardis, Punta Gorda Historical Society (PGHS), protested the closing of Sullivan Street for activities which included drinking, dancing and loud music in the street, voicing concern regarding large crowds, social distancing, mask wearing and public safety. She stated USA Dance was held Sunday nights at the Women's Club from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., opining their recorded music would be drowned out by the live entertainment. She stated the Women's Club was also booked every Monday through Friday beginning at 7:30 a.m. for various events, asserting there were numerous negative impacts from major outdoor events, including debris being left around their building.
- Mr. Smith confirmed an event was scheduled at the Women's Club on February 7, 2020, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- Mr. Anthony Dubbaneh, property owner of 252 West Marion Avenue, spoke against the street closure for a private event, stating same would negatively affect the businesses.
- Ms. Jennifer French, property owner of 112 Sullivan Street, stated she was in favor of bringing more people to the downtown; however, she did not support the road closure as it negatively affected the clients' ability to access the Yoga Studio. She stated their business had been negatively affected by the pandemic as well as the rebricking of Sullivan Street, adding this closure would add to the impact. She stated it did not feel right that there would be many people outside in the street while the studio could have

less than one third of capacity, concluding it was not supportive of all of the businesses in Punta Gorda.

- Ms. Sandy Moon, PGHS, stated the construction of the Harbor Social Club had shut down the alley, adding Women's Club events in September and October were cancelled due to a lack of parking which resulted in a loss of revenue. She stated closure of the street created parking challenges for their older clients who could not walk long distances, adding it was also a safety issue. She stated their non-profit business could not withstand additional event cancellations.
- Ms. Hannon pointed out Leroy's had received approvals to close Sullivan Street for events, clarifying this meeting was for staff's technical review rather than to make a final decision, which was City Council's responsibility. She noted there was access from West Retta Esplanade on Sullivan to the alley, noting the intent was for the alley to remain open during construction. She stated staff was never notified of a blockage.
- Mr. Smith inquired if the purpose for closing the street was for overflow.
- Mr. Cleffi responded a jumbo-tron television would be placed in the street for the Superbowl event, noting a stage would be located in the street for the weekend events with amplification facing Harbor Social.
- Mr. Smith clarified the purpose of the street closure was to allow larger crowds.
- Mr. Nahra reiterated other events had been approved on the street. He then opined the serving of alcohol would not be an issue.
- Ms. Hannon pointed out the event organizer was responsible for cleaning debris from the street and the area near the street.
- Mr. Ruth stated the Utilities Department had no objections at this time.
- Mr. Meyers stated Public Works had no issues provided the street was properly blocked off.
- Mr. Cleffi stated Harbor Social would ensure the right-of-way was cleaned of debris every night, advising there would be no live entertainment until later in the evening except for the grand opening event. He stated the Sunday morning closure was for removal of equipment, adding it was possible the street could be re-opened earlier in the morning on Monday.
- Ms. Hannon concluded City Council would review the request at the December 2, 2020, meeting.
- Ms. Molnar MOVED, Mr. Meyers SECONDED recommended moving Event Permit #20-161060 forward for City Council review.
- Voting Aye: Hannon, Meyers, Molnar, Nahra, Ruth.
- Voting Nay: Smith.

- MOTION CARRIED.
- E. 20-161061 / Harbor Social Live Entertainment Weekends at 212 West Marion Avenue: January 22 - 25, 2021; February 26 - 29, 2021; March 19 - 22, 2021; April 16 - 19, 2021; May 7 - 10, 2021
- Ms. Hannon explained this request contained the same street closures, setup and staff comments as those from Event Permit 20-161060 (see above), including the requirements of a Certificate of Insurance naming the City as additional insured, an extension of premises alcoholic beverage license area and MOT from the Public Works Department.
 - Mr. Dubbaneh reiterated his opposition to the request, adding same would set a precedence for future events as well as cause safety concerns.
 - Ms. Jennifer French expressed concern patrons of her business would have issues with parking if streets were to be closed.
 - Ms. Cathy Getz acknowledged the City was “business friendly” and supported events; however, she agreed that business owners would be affected by the street closures, particularly on Mondays and Fridays.
 - Ms. Molnar MOVED, Mr. Meyers SECONDED move Event Permit #20-161061 forward to City Council.
 - VOTING AYE: Hannon, Meyers, Molnar, Nahra, Ruth.
 - VOTING NAY: Smith.
 - MOTION CARRIED.
 - Ms. Hannon concluded this request would move forward to the December 2, 2020, City Council meeting.
- F. 20-160941; First United Methodist Church Live Nativity & Service, Gilchrist Park, December 24, 2020
- Ms. Hannon stated the proposed live animals required City Manager approval; additionally, animal waste was prohibited from being placed in the City’s trash receptacles and was required to be removed and disposed of properly immediately following the event. She concluded a copy of the Certificate of Insurance was received.
 - Mr. Nahra verified a one-officer detail was requested by the applicant.
 - Mr. Timothy Buck, applicant, confirmed the schedule for the event was 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., requesting the officer between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
 - Ms. Molnar MOVED, Mr. Smith SECONDED approval of Event Permit #20-160941. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- G. 20-160994; YMCA Harbor Nights, Gilchrist Park; March 6, 2021
 - Ms. Hannon requested a Certificate of Insurance naming the City as additional insured and as the certificate holder as well as a copy of the alcoholic beverage license when available. She pointed out revised site plans, which included preparations for social distancing, had been submitted by the applicant.
 - Ms. Molnar stated the site plan indicated there was more than one tent proposed for the event, advising an application for a tent permit would be required two weeks in advance if more than a single 10' x 10' tent was used.
 - Mr. Nahra noted a one-officer detail was required.
 - Ms. Getz expressed concern regarding parking in the Historic District during the event.
 - Ms. Jamie Browning, applicant, verified the First United Methodist Church agreed to allow parking on their property.
 - Mr. Smith MOVED, Ms. Molnar SECONDED approval of Event Permit #20-160994 contingent upon comments made this date. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- H. 20-160998; YMCA Healthy Kids Day 5K; May 9, 2021; Laishley Park
 - Ms. Hannon requested a Certificate of Insurance naming the City as additional insured and as the certificate holder.
 - Ms. Molnar stated any tents larger than 10' x 10' would require a tent permit.
 - Mr. Nahra questioned whether the applicant desired a one-officer detail for the event, noting same was not required.
 - Ms. Liz Nason replied in the negative.
 - Mr. Smith MOVED, Ms. Molnar SECONDED approval of Event Permit #20-160998. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- I. 20-161006; YMCA Haunted Hustle 5K; October 31, 2021, Laishley Park
 - Ms. Hannon requested a Certificate of Insurance.
 - Ms. Molnar stated any tents larger than 10' x 10' would require a tent permit.
 - Mr. Nahra confirmed the applicant no longer desired a one-officer detail for the event.
 - Mr. Smith MOVED, Ms. Molnar SECONDED approval of Event Permit #20-161006. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- No Items.

STAFF COMMENTS

- None.

COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS

- None.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- None.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 9:49 a.m.

Lisa Hannon, Acting Chair

Leah Pues, Recording Secretary