

**New Smyrna Beach City Commission Meeting**  
**March 26, 2019**

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All five Commissioners were present.

**Public Participation.**

Several citizens spoke against a proposal for a public parking lot on Jefferson St. (item 8E below), citing residential character of the area. Issues such as security and whether the area really requires a designated parking lot were raised.

Citizens from the Magnolia St. Neighborhood want more city protection from automobiles speeding through their neighborhood. Up to ten speed cushions, stop signs and roundabouts were suggested. Eighty-one residents have signed a safety petition.

Citizens for Smart Growth opposed the city seeking a FIND grant (item 7C) to fund development of the site known as the "AOB site", located on the North Causeway. They further suggested that it remain owned by the City and possibly renovated into a public Park.

**Administrative Items/New Business**

7A. Magnolia St. traffic calming. City staff recommended two speed cushions and a stop sign. Several Commissioners expressed the need for prompt action, lower speed limits, a combination of calming devices, and more cushions. The commission voted 3-2, with Owens and Sachs dissenting (believing the staff plan was insufficient), to accept the staff plan of two speed cushions and a non-lighted stop sign. Included in the action was continuation of an ongoing study of the issue to ascertain effectiveness and impacts upon adjoining streets. Discussion by the commissioners revolved around cost and the potential for expanding street safety actions to help increase safety and retain community character.

7B. FIND grant for city mooring field, phase II. The project is projected to cost \$450,000 with half of that the grant. The grant would be accepted or rejected on November 2019 with project completion in 2020. The commissioners voted 5-0 to continue with the application process.

7C. Staff request for policy direction on submission of a Find grant for the AOB land on Coronado Island. Commissioners Kolody and Sachs oppose any development except a park with water views. The commission voted 5-0 to not seek a grant. Mayor Owen noted that the area is currently an unappealing vacant lot and needs renovation to become an attractive feature for New Smyrna Beach.

7D. Parking at special events. Staff wants temporary replacement parking for parking lost during special events. Commissioners Kolody and Sachs expressed concern about parking in residential neighborhoods. Owen emphasized cooperation between residents and business. The commission voted 5-0 to ask staff to do more study and return with a formal proposal.

## **Ordinances Second Reading and Public Hearings**

8A. Ordinance No. 09-19 to amend city land development regulations and strengthen criteria for historic trees. The commission voted 5-0 to continue this question until April 2.

8D. Quasi-judicial hearing on Application CCSL-1-19, to replace a deck and dune walk located at 4081 Hill Street. Staff said the project is consistent with the city plan and replaces a deck and walk built about 1985. The new proposed deck would be 3 feet east of the setback line, whereas the old deck is 9 feet east of the line. Staff recommends approval with some minor environmental safeguards. Commissioners approved the project as presented 4-1, with Sachs dissenting.

8E. Public hearing on special exception approval for a parking lot at 611 Jefferson St. The city bought the land (two vacant lots) with a closing in March 2019. Staff recommends 21 parking spaces near Pettis Park and the Black Heritage Museum, neither of which now has dedicated parking. Commissioners voted 3-2 to approve the application (with Sachs and Kolody dissenting) if the city brings the matter back to the Commission for site plan approval. Mayor Owen expressed his concern that community engagement had been inadequate on this project.

## **Boards and Commissions**

10A. The commission accepted the resignation of Ulrike Rehn and appointed David Score (4-1, in a runoff ballot, McGuirk dissenting) to the Economic Development Advisory Board .

10B. The commission unanimously appointed Mary Jacobs and Pamela Ison to the Leisure Activities Advisory Board.

10C. The commission unanimously appointed Lisa Martin to the Neighborhood Council.

## **Commission Reports.**

- Commissioner Sachs is concerned about a rumor that the Utilities Commission may sell 800 acres of watershed land.
- Commissioner Kolody will hold a public forum in zone 1 on April 5.
- Mayor Owen stressed the need to keep the public informed if any parking changes are made and the importance of strategic priorities and a strategic long-range plan for the Commission.