

A Workshop Meeting of the Apalachicola City Commission was held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 5:00 PM at the Former Apalachicola Municipal Library, 74 6th Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Brenda Ash, Commissioner Anita Grove, Commissioner Adriane Elliott, Commissioner Despina George, City Manager Travis Wade, City Clerk Sheneidra Cummings, City Planner Bree Robinson

Absent: Commissioner Duncan

Meeting called to order by Mayor Ash followed by prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENTATION

Brett Hammond, with the Hammond Design Group provided a brief recap of the previous workshop and presented the Commission with some design proposals. Brett Hammond mentioned that the building can be rebuilt for about six million. Hammond asked the Commissioners for direction on the proposed plan an

Discussion held.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John Fitzhugh comment Mr. Fitzhugh suggested involving the private sector.

Mr. Scott Housman commented.

Mr. George Watkins commented. Suggested putting an open viewing platform with no restrooms.

Lind Buchanan commented.

Donna Ingle commented suggested having a kayak access point and a simple pavilion.

City Planner Bree Robinson addressed the various questions and concerns presented during public comments.

Discussion held.

Brett Hammond spoke about the permitting of the structure and demolition of the structure in effort to protect the grandfather rights to the land.

Dave Snyder with HALFF Engineering Group discussed the plans and provided clarification on the various public comments and Riverfront Revitalization Project.

In an effort to provide direction for Dave Snyder and his team to complete their first sets of plan, the Commission decided to go with the size of the existing footprint, and to include docks with railings, and bathrooms.

Mayor Ash commented on the material(s) that will be used to secure the Popham building. Brett Hammond provided options for securing the site and informed the Commission that the site would be fenced in with a lockable edge extending to the water. Brett also suggested that some kiosk that can be used as an educational component could be installed on-site until the final demolition/ reconstruction project is completed.

Commissioner George commented and expressed not being in favor of having a structure replace the Popham building, including not having restrooms at that location. She suggested having bathrooms more accessible to Battery Park and recommends the City should focus on access to the water. Commissioner George favors, concept 5.6 if the Commission decides on a structure and agree with the salvaging of some of the existing material.

Commissioner Grove restated her support of salvaging the existing material and is not in support of having restrooms at that location. If a building is built, Commissioner Grove agrees with Commissioner George with the 5.6 concept design like Commissioner George.

Commissioner Duncan concurred with Commissioner and would like the design to be as simple as possible and do not think bathrooms are necessary for that location. Commissioner Duncan leans more toward design 5.6 like Commissioners George and Grove.

Commissioner Elliott agrees with concept design 5.6 as well. Commissioner Elliott would like to see more dock space and Chater Captain row and transient activity be considered in the design. Suggested having a full projection and cost analysis of the project to ensure that the City would be equipped to facilitate events, retain staff, and maintain the structure.

The consensus of the Commission is to look more into concept 5.6, the open-air concept without restrooms; and include space for educational material.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Elliott seconded by Commissioner Grove. None opposed.
Motion carried, 5-0.

Workshop Meeting adjourned.

BRENDA ASH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

SHENEIDRA CUMMINGS, CITY CLERK