

APPROVED



WILDWOOD

**AD-HOC WILDWOOD PRESERVATION COMMISSION
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF WILDWOOD
COMMUNITY ROOM
16860 MAIN ST., WILDWOOD, MO 63040**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Attendance:

Present	Absent
Patrick McGinnis, Ward 1	
Paul Bernache, Ward 2	
Dave Jenkins, Ward 3	
Jack Clark, Ward 4	
Andy Hough, Ward 5	
Molly Rundquist, Ward 6	
William Munroe, Ward 7	
Dennis Hrubes, Ward 8	
Ray Manton, Council Liaison	
Steve Taylor, Council Liaison	

Also present: James Bowlin, Mayor
John Young, City Attorney
Steve Cross, Co-Interim City Administrator
Bree Kelchen, Accounting Clerk

I. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS BY MAYOR JAMES BOWLIN

Mayor Bowlin briefly spoke of the 'Better Together Plan' and the ramifications it may have on the City of Wildwood. The Mayor explained to the Commission that their purpose is to take a proactive approach through the following actions:

1. Identify key Wildwood assets and prioritize those assets (i.e. infrastructure, watersheds, roadway system, town center, beautiful hills, physical environment, etc.).
2. Work with City Attorney, outside Council, and outside experts on actions the Commission can do today to preserve the City's assets.

II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND BRIEF STATEMENTS REGARDING BACKGROUNDS

All members present provided an introduction and brief background about themselves.

III. DISTRIBUTION OF MEETING MATERIALS

The following materials were provided to the Commission Members:

1. Commission Goals & Initiatives as Proposed by the Admin/Public Works Committee
 - A. To be used as the Wildwood Preservation Commission's guiding document.
 - B. Can be altered if the Commission chooses to do so.
2. Draft of the Executive Summary of Better Together Report to the Community as prepared by the City's Marketing Firm
3. A copy of Resolution 2017-38 (Urging the St. Louis County Council and the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis to oppose any and all legislation authorizing a statewide vote regarding or mandating a change in the government structure of St. Louis City and St. Louis County and the municipalities therein.)
4. A copy of Resolution 2019-15 (City Council opposing the proposed 'Better Together Plan')
5. Updates on 'Better Together' Effort
6. City of Wildwood's Charter
7. City of Wildwood's Master Plan
8. Plan of Intent (Dated: December 1992)

IV. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS ON DISTRIBUTED MATERIALS

No specific questions were asked regarding the materials provided.

V. UPDATES ON 'BETTER TOGETHER' EFFORT (MERGER PLAN)

Given the interest in the merger plan that is being proposed by the not-for-profit entity called 'Better Together', the Economic Development Manager, the City Attorney, and the Co-Interim City Administrators thought it would be appropriate to provide a bi-monthly update to the Council, of information or other items collected in the two(2) week timeframe separating City Council Meetings. A copy of these updates (Dated February 8th, February 25th, March 11th, and March 28th) were provided to the Commission.

Co-Interim City Administrator Cross highly encouraged the Commission to read the report dated February 25th specifically the last few pages, which is an analysis of the Better Together Plan written by Terry Jones. The analysis is intended to help understand fully what is being proposed in the Better Together Plan.

VI. OVERVIEW/EXPLANATION OF ROLES, DUTIES, AND OUTCOMES OF PLANNED MEETING PROCESSES

As this meeting is the inaugural meeting, Mr. Cross emphasized this meeting's goals, which are:

1. Identify a Chair
2. Decide on meeting dates/times

3. Initial discussions of the 'Better Together Plan'.

There was much discussion and questions regarding the expectations and legal abilities of the Commission. Commission members were heavily interested in the marketing aspect and how to best get the word out to residents.

VII. DISCUSSION OF LEGAL ISSUES

City Attorney John Young further introduced himself, his background, and spoke of his role with the Commission. His role is to provide assistance, guidance, and answer questions the Commission may have.

Mr. Young provided a status of the 'Better Together Plan' and at this time there is no proposition (nothing to vote on), it is currently in the stage of receiving approval to obtain petition signatures to put the proposition on the November 2020 ballot. He continued to explain the uniqueness of the area and legal aspects of the proposition.

Legal topics discussed were the MO Sunshine Law, meeting notices, e-mail communications (cc City Clerk and City Administrator on email communications within the Commission), quorums, and most importantly the Missouri law regarding the use of City funds. As marketing is of high interest to the Commission, Mr. Young went on to explain the Missouri Law regarding the use of City Funds and provided the commission with a handout from the Missouri Ethics Commission. The handout provided brief examples of cases involving Use of Public Funds (§115.646, RSMo).

As legal issues go, the key takeaway would be that the City can provide informational material, however, material should be reviewed prior to going out and information should be unbiased. A big emphasis was on being cautious as to not using City Funds and City Resources for opposition or in favor of.

VIII. DISCUSSION ON SELECTION OF A RESIDENT CHAIR FOR MEETING MANAGEMENT

Mr. Cross explained the role of the Commission Chair and asked if anyone would be interested in the position. Commission Member Munroe expressed interest in the position.

A motion was made by Commission Member Clark, seconded by Commission Member Rundquist to select Commission Member Munroe as the Wildwood Preservation Commission Chair. A voice vote was taken, with all in favor, and the motion was declared passed.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Sheeley – Inquired on the legality of communications with other municipalities and counties (i.e. St. Charles County).

Jean Vedvig – Briefly addressed comments regarding why some may think 'Better Together' is a good plan (i.e. bigger is better, some may not be aware of what the City was like pre-incorporation).

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

The Commission would like to meet again within the next two weeks. The preferred start time for future meetings is 6:30pm. The Commission Chair, William Munroe, will send out a few dates via email and coordinate a firm date with the Commission Members.

Next meeting date to be determined.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commission Member Hough, seconded by Commission Member Bernache, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken, with all in favor, and the motion was declared passed. There being nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.