

TRAVERSE CITY PIER STUDY GROUP

July 18, 2014

Meeting Summary

Pier Study Group Members Present:

- Michael Estes, City of Traverse City Mayor
- Cathie Ballard, City Resident
- Ross Richardson, City Commissioner
- Todd Kalish, Michigan DNR Fisheries Division
- Steve Largent, Grand Traverse Co. Conservation District
- Ryan Matuzak, Grand Traverse Sport Fishing Association

Pier Study Group Members Absent:

- Jack Knol, Architect
- Erik Olsen, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and Member, Scientific Advisory Team to the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust Board of Trustees

City Staff Present:

- Russ Soyring, Planning Director
- Missy Luick, Planning and Engineering Assistant
- Tim Lodge, City Engineer
- Lauren Vaughn, Parks and Recreation Superintendent

Meeting Summary

On July 18, 2014, the meeting of the Traverse City Pier Study Group was held in the Committee Room in the Governmental Center, 2nd Floor, 400 Boardman Ave, Traverse City MI 49684. Following is a summary of that meeting. If there are any corrections or omissions in the meeting summary, Study Group members are asked to contact Missy Luick immediately with the corrections or omissions.

Review of June 24, 2014 and July 9, 2014 Meeting Summaries

The Study Group had no changes to the meeting summaries of June 24, 2014 and July 9, 2014.

Discussion regarding Additional Information Response from Fleis and Vandenbrink and SmithGroupJJR

Mrs. Luick summarized the review of references for both firms. During the reference conversations, Mrs. Luick asked about the professionalism of the firm (did they meet deadlines,

did they stay on budget, would you hire them again?) and if there were any red flags to be concerned about. All references were extremely positive and no red flags were raised.

Mr. Soyering asked the Group if they had any questions regarding the Additional Information Responses and noted that representatives from both firms were present at the meeting.

Candidate interview discussion and possible recommendation

The Study Group discussed how they individually evaluated the firms and which firm they would support as their top pick. Qualities such as team working relationship, placemaking/imagination reputation of the firm, technical coastal/marine experience, public engagement skills, access to the pier ideas/concepts, fisheries expertise, etc. were discussed.

Representatives from both firms were given five minutes to present to the group regarding the top three reasons that they were most qualified for the Traverse City Pier Project.

Pat Doher and Bob Doyle from SmithGroupJJR responded.
Harry Wierenga from Fleis and Vandenbrink responded.

City staff were asked their thoughts on the two candidate firms. Mr. Lodge, Mr. Soyering and Mrs. Luick responded.

Additional Study Group discussion.

After additional discussion, the group sensed they were going to have a split vote. They discussed if they should bring both firms to the City Commission for them to decide or if the group should make a motion and send a recommendation from the Study Group to the Commission. The consensus was that the Study Group would hold a vote and send a recommendation to the Commission.

Motion by Commissioner Richardson, second by Mr. Largent, to recommend SmithGroupJJR as the consultant for the Traverse City Public Pier project to the City Commission.

Motion carried 4-2. (Mayor Estes, Commissioner Richardson, Mr. Largent and Mr. Matuzak in support; Mrs. Ballard and Mr. Kalish opposed; Mr. Knol and Mr. Olsen absent)

SmithGroupJJR will be asked to make a brief presentation at the City Commission meeting. Staff will prepare the recommendation from the Study Group for the meeting.

Public comments

There no public comments.

Meeting evaluation and adjournment

The meeting concluded at 10:19 a.m.