



City Council Chamber
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

**Design Charette -- Sandpiper Street Entry Feature
Monday, May 14, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Barnett called the meeting to order and presided.

ROLL CALL (7:01 p.m.).....ITEM 1

Present:

Bill Barnett, Mayor
Johnny Nocera, Vice Mayor

Council Members:

Gary Price, II
John Sorey, III (In at 7:32 p.m.)
Penny Taylor
William Willkomm, III (In at 7:06 p.m.)

Absent:

William MacIlvaine

Also Present:

Robert Lee, City Manager
Vicki Smith, Technical Writing Specialist
Tara Norman, City Clerk
Steve Weeks, Director of Tech. Services
George Archibald, Traffic Engineer
Robin Singer, Community Development Director
Adam Benigni, Planner II

Charles Thomas
Matt Kragh
Falconer Jones
Judith Chirgwin

Media:

Denise Zoldan, Naples Daily News
Other interested citizens and visitors.

SET THE AGENDAITEM 2

No Changes.

.....ITEM 3

**PRESENTATION OF OPTIONS FOR SIGNAGE FOR PARK LOCATED AT
SANDPIPER STREET AND US 41, EAST**

Mayor Barnett introduced Charles Thomas (representing Antaramian Development). Mr. Thomas stated that the purpose of the charette was to achieve consensus from the community for features at the two park areas located at the intersection of Sandpiper Street and US 41.

It is noted for the record that Council Member Willkomm arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Mayor Barnett noted that Aqualane Shores, Royal Harbor, Oyster Bay, and Golden Shores were well represented at that time, and Mr. Thomas presented the proposed original design as well as smaller and revised versions of the entrance signs at Sandpiper Street (Attachment 1). However, an additional alternative design was submitted by the Royal Harbor Property Owners Association (Attachment 2); it was noted that this latter submittal is essentially the same concept in overall dimensions as the second sign mentioned above but contains a different pallet of materials and

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reflects a different change in proportions. Additionally, Mr. Thomas presented photographs of the existing City of Naples signage posted at various locations to illustrate thematic similarities. (Printed copies of photographs are included in the packet for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office).

It is noted for the record that Council Member Sorey arrived at 7:32 p.m.

**.....ITEM 4
DESIGN CHARETTE TO DETERMINE FINAL PROPOSAL FOR SIGNAGE AS
ENTRY FEATURE AT SANDPIPER STREET AND US 41**

In response to Council Member Taylor, Community Development Director Robin Singer stated that there is no language in the Code that addresses commercial or private property signage on public property; therefore there are no limitations specifically to signage. Planned Development (PD) requirements would be followed and would depend on the measurement of linear frontage of the property. However, Ms. Singer confirmed that prior to this proposal, there had been no commercial signs placed in City parks.

In response to Council Member Nocera, Mr. Thomas stated that he viewed the Naples Bay Resort to be an additional neighborhood on Sandpiper Street due to its residential element, adding that there were 108 residential units on the Sandpiper portion and 30 on the marina site, as well as 85 hotel units on the marina site. He stated that, in addition to entry signage, typical commercial signage will be included on the private property portion of the site for purposes of identification and direction.

In response to Mayor Barnett, Council Member Price stated that he favored a revised, smaller design for the sign adding that the sign elements nevertheless provided privacy and noise abatement from the thoroughfare and also illustrated a positive example of a private/public partnership.

In response to Council Member Willkomm, Mr. Thomas acknowledged that the original sign design approved in 2004 was smaller in scale. However, he explained that the program was originally intended to include a series of meetings or processes with City staff and neighborhoods to generate actual plans and the larger sign had in fact resulted from increased specificity.

City resident Falconer Jones offered an alternate design submitted by the Royal Harbor Property Owners Association. This proposal, he indicated, follows the Trent Green (Gateway to Naples) Master Plan and stressed that the central concerns remained that there be buffering from the thoroughfare in the form of a wall, a water feature for white (unobtrusive background) noise, and a soil berm. However, Mr. Thomas stated that the signage would indicate the area was a neighborhood as opposed to a commercial property. He pointed out that although Port Royal also was originally marketed as a sub-division, it is now perceived as a neighborhood.

Traffic Engineer George Archibald explained that a large portion of right-of-way on Sandpiper Street is made up of State property that is in the process of being transferred to the City as a result of the state's redevelopment of the intersection.

In response to Council Member Price, Mr. Thomas clarified that a recorded instrument provides for permitted access on the eastern portion of Sandpiper Street but that the underlying title is

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transferred. Another objective was to provide public access to the waterfront, he said. Mayor Barnett established that the signage would be the maintenance responsibility of the City of Naples. Mayor Barnett also commended the proposed design by the Royal Harbor residents as a compromise that would address many concerns and confirmed that the preferred sign designs would however not include illustrations of the Naples Bay medallion (logo).

It is noted for the record that various members of the public made comments and interacted with Council Members. During this portion of the meeting various suggestions were made, including that the Golden Shores neighborhood be included on the sign. There was also a suggestion that the area be restored to a park appearance, and Council Member Price pointed out that an extensive landscape had been approved that will address such concerns. Another member of the public noted that Sandpiper Street is in fact not the entrance to the City and therefore the proposed signage may result in confusion for those unfamiliar with the area. In addition, concerns regarding cohesiveness in appearance were cited should other entry signage designating the entrance to the City be included on US 41. Naples Bay Resort being a mixed-use site with commercial elements, other concerns pertained to Naples Bay Resort appearing on signage located on City-owned property. There was criticism voiced to the effect that those desiring specific community names on the signs may in actuality be seeking to improve property values.

Members of the public then indicated by a show of hands their choices among the three signage designs.

1. Royal Harbor Homeowner's Association choice with only freestanding center (Attachment 2) 24 votes.
2. Scaled-down original design without medallions but including Golden Shores (See Attachment 1) 16 votes.
3. Full-scaled proposed sign without medallions and no neighborhood signs (See Attachment 1) 32 votes.

In response to Council Member Taylor, City Manager Robert Lee agreed to investigate the possibility that a City of Naples sign be placed on the north side of US 41 and report on this matter at the May 16 regular meeting.

ADJOURN
8:43 p.m.

7

Bill Barnett, Mayor

Tara A. Norman, City Clerk

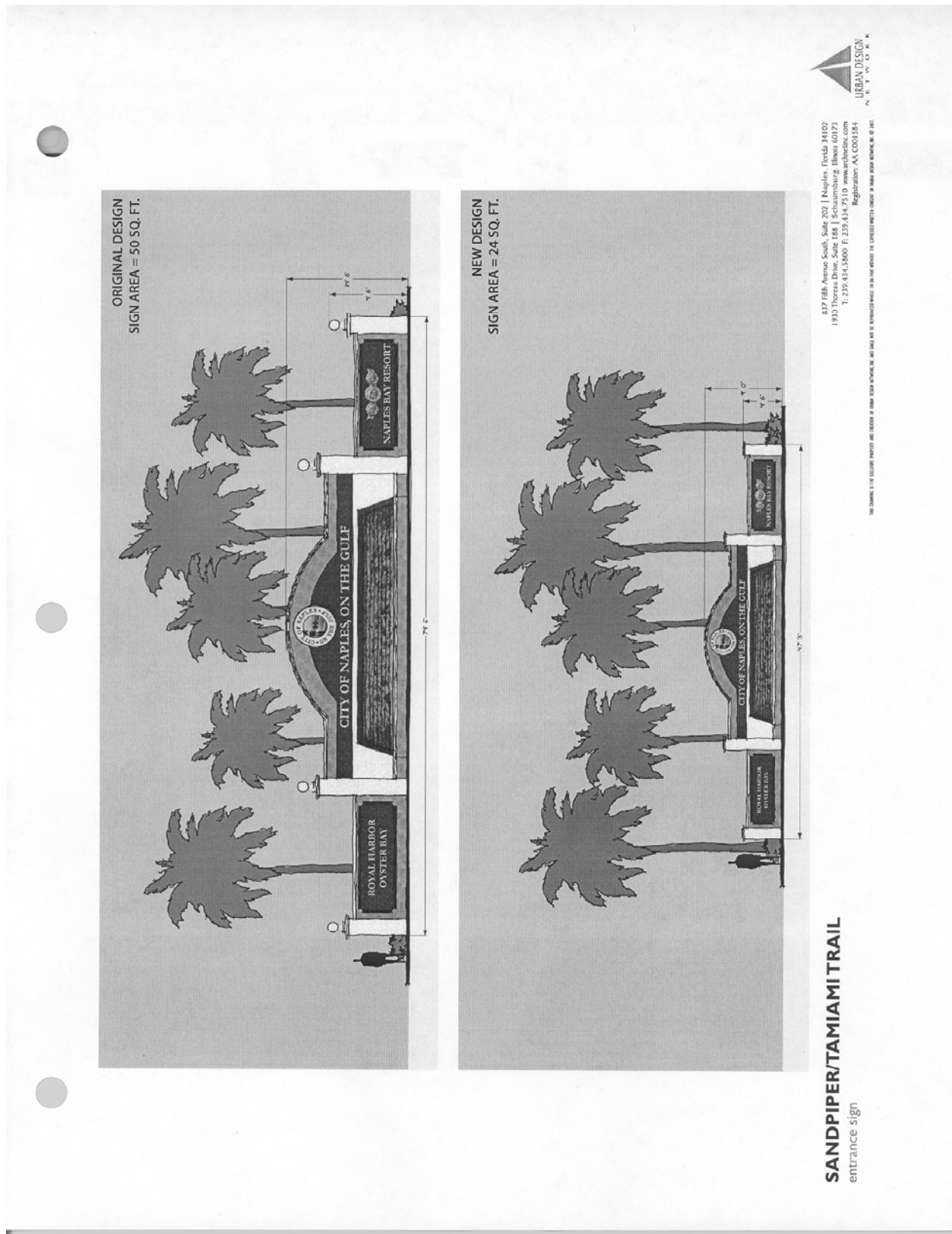
Minutes prepared by:

Susan Cairns, Technical Writing Specialist

Minutes Approved: 6/6/07

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Attachment 1
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Attachment 2
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