

**Urban Waterfront Action Group (UWAG) Meeting
Tuesday, November 19, 2019**

Participants:

Markus Brandt, Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild (PSPG); Randy Brown, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection / Coastal Zone Management Program (PA DEP / CZM); Jim Boyer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE); Mike Carvile, PSPG; Patrick Flynn, PSPG; Ray Heinzelmann, Gahagand Bryant Associates; David Kovach, Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC), Josh Lippert, City of Philadelphia Department of Licenses and Inspections; John Mondlak, City of Philadelphia; Melissa Simmons, PSPG; Matt Waldron, PA DEP / CZM

Meeting Summary:

A brief project description, conceptual drawings, and parcel map of the project area were provided to the committee in advance of the meeting.

1. Philadelphia Preservation Shipyard

Patrick Flynn, PSPG, gave an organizational overview and Markus Brandt, PSPG, described the project idea to the committee.

Jim Boyer, USACOE, clarified that the conceptual drawings proposed 1.5 acres of fill on the river side of the bulkhead line. Jim indicated that this amount of fill would increase the permitting requirements. Jim noted that in order to minimize permitting requirements projects should avoid fill where possible, if fill is required for a project, it should be minimized and as much of the project as possible should be put on pilings. If permits are awarded, compensation is then determined and habitat compensation should be located as close to the project as possible.

Randy Brown, PA DEP / CZM, informed the PSPG that the USACOE and the PA DEP are the permitting agencies and noted that obtaining permits for filling 1.5 acres of tidal mudflats is difficult. Randy explained that the project would need to show water dependence and move as much of the project to uplands as possible and also to use high deck structures where possible in order to minimize habitat impacts.

Mr. Boyer explained that these mudflats were important habitat and the National Marine Fishery Service and the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission would also be asked to comment on the permit applications.

John Mondlak, City of Philadelphia, explained that the permitting process for waterfront development is very complicated and recommended that PSPG obtain the services of an engineer or attorney with experience in these matters to help steer the project through the process. Mr. Mondlak also recommended that PSPG contact the Delaware River Port Authority

(DRPA) to determine DRPA's intentions for this parcel and to get a commitment for donating the land. As the land owner, this project cannot proceed without DRPA's participation.

Matt Waldron PA DEP / CZM informed PSPG that the CZM program provides funding for waterfront education and improvements. He recommended that they visit the PA DEP / CZM website for details.

Markus Brandt, PSPG, indicated that the project would require dredging to accommodate a 20' draft ship.

David Kovach, DRBC, indicated that sampling protocol 1668A would be required to determine the PCB content of the dredged material and that the receiving site for the spoils would determine the suitability of the dredge spoils for land application. Mr. Kovach noted the importance not to move contaminants from one site to another. Sampling should be conducted by qualified engineers.

Mr. Boyer provided information regarding permitting processes and applications and he and Mr. Brown offered to be resources for permitting questions. Sean Greene offered to provide a contact for the proper department at DRPA. The sign-in sheet with emails is submitted with these notes.

The project portion of the meeting adjourned at 11:00am. Attendees continued with a discussion on future steps for UWAG and concluded at 12:00 pm.