

Portsmouth Citizen's Response Task Force

Bridge Street Subcommittee Meeting

July 22, 2020

Present:

Russ Grazier, subcommittee chair and task force member
James Petersen, task force co-chair
Deb Anthony, Task Force member
Anne Birner, task force member
Ben Van Camp, Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth
Peter Rice, City of Portsmouth Director of Public Works
Joseph Almeida, City of Portsmouth Facilities Manager
Patrick Howe, City of Portsmouth Deputy Fire Chief
Robert Marsilia, City of Portsmouth Chief Building Inspector
Kim McNamara, City of Portsmouth Health Officer
Stephanie Seacord, City of Portsmouth Public Information Officer
Josh Denton, Chair of Pop Up Portsmouth
Joanna Kelly, Treasurer of Pop Up Portsmouth
Andrew Bagley, Secretary of Pop Up Portsmouth
North Sturtevant, JSA, Pop Up Portsmouth Board member
Kathleen Cavalaro, Advisory Committee of Pop Up Portsmouth

These notes are general in nature and are intended to document topics discussed and are not minutes.

Notes:

Bridge Street Site

Health Issues:

Flow of Crowds: Concerns about mixing of the theater going people with those eating in the food area. How will the coming and going of these two groups be managed? Health Department noted that many restaurants are facing difficulties with crowd flow...not for lack of planning but due to people who are dining and drinking in their spaces. Several questions were raised about crowd management. Kathleen stated that the Pop-Up committee would bring in volunteers and staff to manage flow.

North noted that there is a 25 foot separation between the theater area and the food court. There are porta potties in this area.

Russ noted that the Theater area is contained. The Zone between the two venues are contained. Neither side exceeds capacity and there is a separation zone.

Needed: A proposal by the Pop-Up group that defines the crowd management within the Bridge Street area.

- Including flow of attendees between the food court and the theater.
- How many volunteers and staff will be needed to manage up to 200 visitors.
- Training that will occur for volunteers and staff on site.

- Staffing patterns including volunteers each night.
- Consideration of the Porta Potties (how to manage that shared space).
- Could theater goers have “runners” who will order their food and deliver to keep number of people in the food court at acceptable levels

Sheds: There are still a few questions about the restaurant sheds.

- Including the builder needing to get permitting resolved. Design resolved
- All city of Portsmouth personnel offered to meet quickly and expedite the process while ensuring all issues of electric, water sources and cooking areas are safe.
- Jeff believes he can construct the sheds within the timeline, may need to hire people as time is short and likely many in the trades already are busy. Pop Up group noted that there is money to pay for sheds to be built.
- Jeff will work with Kathleen and City inspectors to get sheds built on time.
- North noted that if the griddle top cookers cannot be used without a hood system they will not be added. He mentioned that they are working on a contained grilling area. He will work with Evan on this situation.
- North will work with Jeff on issues of plans, fire code requirements, electric etc.

FINAL PLAN is needed that will:

- **Finalize table count and placement with appropriate distancing**
- **Entrance and exit for each area?**
- **Health Department needs flow of people in and out and while at theater or food court to ensure that the levels do not exceed the agreed upon numbers in any one area**
- **Porta potty area needs to also have line management and crowd control**
- **All in agreement that masks must be worn unless you are in your seating eating. How to manage will be critical**

Start Date for the Pop-Up Venue: Josh assured the committee that they feel confident that start date for the event space will be JULY 30th.