



WILDWOOD

May 28, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Wildwood Historic Preservation Commission Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: **Update on Completion of Final Wildwood Written History Book (Wards – All)**

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
The Honorable City Council of Wildwood
Sam Anselm, City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works

At the previous meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, its Members made important decisions regarding the publication of the final Wildwood History Book. This book, which is a culmination of five (5) years of work, will result in the fifth and final chapter being written and its completion. This final chapter will cover the time period from 1991 to 2020 and, more importantly, provide the history of the incorporation movement, from its start in response to a number of land use, roadway, and governance issues by St. Louis County that were negatively impacting the area, to its successful conclusion on September 1, 1995. To date, the first four (4) chapters, and the associated support components, are now over four hundred (400) pages in length and, certainly, will increase in number with the addition of these last two (2) identified items.

The work being completed this year is being written by two (2) separate entities. Jill Von Gruben, the Archivist with the Wildwood Historical Society, is authoring the history section outlining City and world events between 1991 and 2020. Department staff is writing the section on the City's incorporation history, along with certain other contributors. Ms. Von Gruben's first draft has already been reviewed by the Commission Members and a final draft will be provided in the next few days for any additional review comments and then final approval. Department staff is nearing completion on the incorporation section and will provide it to the Commissioners for review shortly.

The aforementioned decisions included direction on how to finalize this work and provide a published book that could be sold. In its unanimous decision that was made by the Commission, it included pursuing a self-published version of the book to include grammatical and content editing, without significant modification of content. The book will retain its current design, but be revised to a larger

format and layout, as a means to reduce the number of pages. The designer would be the same as the past several years, Mincoff Design. The publisher would be Graphic Connections Group, a Chesterfield-based company that has published many of the Wildwood Historical Society's books. The costs of this service would include the editing portion and printing. There are no additional fees charged by the publisher.

At this time, Mincoff Design is now under contract with the City to begin the redesign of the book to the larger format and layout and include the additional chapters currently being written. The publisher will be engaged, once the text of the book is finished, so the editing work can be completed in advance of the designer finalizing her work. Once the editing is complete, the designer will finish the book layout, and the document will go back to the publisher for printing. Both companies, the designer and publisher/printer, are ready to complete their work.

If any of the Commission Members should have comments or questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. This item is on the agenda for tonight's meeting and a presentation is planned upon it. Thank you for your consideration of this information.