



The Voice of the Flats!
 www.voiceoftheflats.org
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2/19/04 Commercial Real Estate Event & FOA's 2/26 Membership meeting.
 This presentation will be added to FOA's web site in the next week.

Oxbow Action 360 5 March, 2004

~ Happy St. Patrick's Day ~

Note: On 2/12 the City's Landmarks Commission designated all the Flats bridges as historical landmarks. Legislation to follow.

Annual Auction 3/26/04 @ Sammy's in the Flats

Flats Oxbow's major annual fundraising event is just around the corner – please refer to the enclosed invitation and make your reservations now. This event is sponsored by CABOR.

Updates on Major Investment Studies

- **Cleveland Innerbelt Study:** On 2/12/04 the CIS Scoping Committee approved the Recommended Conceptual Alternative including the West Bank Connector (aka Cuyahoga Valley Consolidated Intermodal Connector) & proposed interchange upgrades. Its very good news as the State will be going into the next level of design. The total budget available for implementation is still being worked out as its estimated to cost over \$1 billion to fully implement with about 1/2 of that amount committed to date. This is a high priority for the region to solve.
- **Lakefront Plan:** The City is going into the next round of public meetings focusing on specific areas along the Lakefront. The first meeting will be on the **Harborfront** (east of the Cuyahoga to the Inner Harbor) and is scheduled for Wed., **March 24, 2004 @** the Cleveland Convention Center, 6:30 – 8:30 PM (see enclosed notice).
- **Cuyahoga Valley Initiative:** On 2/11 the County Commissioner's and Planning Commission released its concepts for the future of the river valley – respect, rediscover, revitalize – see www.cuyahogavalley.net for more details on this effort. We'll be inviting the County's Planning Director Paul Alsenas to address Oxbow's membership on this subject in the near future.
- **Eagle Alternatives Analysis:** The City will be informing Oxbow and the public soon regarding its recommendations to address the future of this closed and very important Flats bridge, ramp and viaduct structure.

Industrial, Commercial & Maritime News

Yesterday afternoon the 2004 shipping season began with the *American Republic's* shuttling of iron ore from the new Pellet Unloader @ CBT to ISG. An employee group of **Oglebay Norton** (filed for Chapter 11) is investigating the purchase of the company. The Ohio EPA has issued a one year river **dredging permit** to the USACE. **Lafarge** just purchased the Kelly's Island limestone quarry from Kellstone Inc. and a dock on the river from River Dock Inc. *Industrial, commercial & maritime concerns please read the enclosed memo from FOA Chairman Bredt and Executive Director Pressler.*

Design Review Committee Actions

FOA Design Review met on several occasions since the last *Oxbow Action*:

- On **2/3/04** the Committee recommended approval to the City Planning Commission of the exterior renovation plans as submitted for **The Mirage Night Club** (2510 Elm St.): and also approved the request for the installation of two signs for **The Cleveland Rowing Association** (1948 Carter Rd.). Additional comments were given regarding any possible future sign locations.
- On **2/24/04** the Committee conceptually reviewed the following two projects for new establishments that will be opening in the Flats in the very near future: new awning & signage for **The Alchemy Club** (1575 Merwin St.), and a new sign for **McCarthy's Ale House** (1231 Elm St.).
- On **3/4/05** the Committee held a special meeting regarding the revised awning/signage submission for **The Alchemy Club**. Having taken into account the Committee's suggestions, the revised plans were approved as presented.

Concealed Weapon Law Recently Enacted by State

Please see the back of this *Oxbow Action* for details. A special thanks to Kathy Kellums for sharing this information with Oxbow.

Cleveland's Flats : Redevelopment of a Unique City Asset - Oxbow's Executive Director recently gave this PowerPoint presentation at CABOR's

Entertainment, Office & Residential News

The Fire Department is coming: With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, Oxbow has been notified that *occupancy & Fire Code inspections* of Flats entertainment establishments *will begin* the weekend prior to St. Patrick's Day.

New Flats Establishments to open: See Design Review.

The East Bank Mardi Gras Parade and Event was a great success – expecting the same for all the Flats on St. Pat's.

Office Space update: Stonebridge is rapidly filling up its office building @ the SE corner of Washington/Center. On 2/19/04 Doug Price announced that they will be proceeding with adding a new 100,000 SF Office Building with a public elevator to connect the Viaduct to Nautica as well as renovate the old Cantina del Rio building.

Flats Residents Meeting: On 2/4/04 Councilman Cimperman and several FOA Board members & representatives had a great meeting with Flats residents at Rock Bottom Brewery & Restaurant. We are anticipating another meeting in April.

Iron Oxbows presented to Ott & Spencer

On 1/21/04 FOA Board of Trustees presented the coveted Iron Oxbow Awards to Jack Ott (resident) and Tim Spencer (The Circus) for their years of devoted service to the Flats as Oxbow trustees. Thanks so much !

New Flats Oxbow Members & Our Web Site

Please welcome the following new members to the ranks of the Flats Oxbow Association: **CABOR** (Cleveland Area Board of Realtors), 5633 Brecksville Rd., Independence, OH, 44131, Ph: 901.0130, www.cabor.com ; **Parnell Companies, LTD.**, 1120 Chester Ave., Suite 420, Ph: 696.7700 x25, Contact: Matt Parnell; **Western Reserve Fire Museum** (located at the old Fire Station 28 & Fire Alarm Office/Dispatch Center @ east end of the Hope Memorial Bridge), PO Box 39251, Cleve., 44139, Ph: 664.6312, Contact: Dan Hayden, Executive Director; and the following **Flats residents: Joe Browne, Amy Grant, and Lynn Keller.** FOA thanks these businesses, non-profits and individuals for their support.

Please note that Oxbow's **web site** is now being updated on a monthly basis as current members renew their memberships and new members join FOA. As such, we will be providing links to your business web sites...contact Tom Newman @ Oxbow if you're interested in this service.

Flats Oxbow Meetings and Dates:

Flats Oxbow Annual Auction – 3/26/03

The Flats Oxbow Annual Auction is slated for Friday, March 26, 2004 @ 6:00 PM @ Sammy's in the Flats. Relive the heyday of Jazz Alive, raw bar and dinner divine while supporting your local development corporation. Details enclosed. FOA wants to thank The Cleveland Area Board of Realtors (CABOR) who have accepted to be a sponsor of this wonderful and important annual fundraising event.

Board of Trustees

FOA Board to meet Thurs., 3/18/04 @ 11:30 AM @ FOA's office.

FOA Design Review Advisory Committee

The committee will meet at 5:00 PM on **Tuesdays 3/16 & 4/6, 2004.** The Flats Oxbow Design Review Committee meets every first and third Tuesdays of the month when there are items for review. For the next two upcoming meetings, **complete plans must be submitted to City's Building Permits Desk by Noon on 3/10/04 & 3/31/04, respectively.**

This information is brought to you by The Flats Oxbow Association, "The Voice of the Flats", the non-profit membership driven Development Corporation for the Flats. Flats Oxbow offices are at 1283 Riverbed St., Cleveland, OH 44113. Phone (216) 566-1046, Fax (216) 566-0222, e-mail: flatsoxbow@ameritech.net