

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE LAND USE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Committee Members Present:

Gerald Bruner, Jennifer Geisler, Kathi Hemken, Phillip Klein, Trista MatasCastillo, Steve Morris, Kathi Mocol, Dan Roe, Jonathan Bottema, Noah Keller, Bill Droste, Karl Drotning, Chair Wendy Wulff

Committee Members Absent:

Suado Abdi, April Graves, Mark Nelson, Mitra Jalali

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wulff called the WebEx meeting of the Council's Land Use Advisory Committee to order at 4:01 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Wulff asked for a consensus to approve the January 20, 2022, agenda. The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Wulff asked for a motion to approve the November 18, 2021, minutes. It was motioned by Klein and seconded by Bottema to approve the minutes.

Secretary Dingle performed a roll call vote:

Ayes: 12 (Bottema, Bruner, Geisler, Hemken, Klein, Keller, MatasCastillo, Mocol, Morris, Droste, Roe, Wulff)

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

The minutes were approved.

BUSINESS

Appointment of Vice Chair – Wendy Wulff, Chair

Wulff stated, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Metropolitan Land Use Advisory Committee (Article II - Membership, B. Officers, 2. Committee Vice Chair), the Committee Chair shall name a Vice Chair from among the Committee members. The Land Use Advisory Committee must approve the Vice Chair.

Chair Wulff stated she would like to appoint Phillip Klein as the Vice Chair for 2022.

It was motioned by Bruner and seconded by MatasCastillo to recommend that the Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC) approve the appointment of Phillip Klein as the Committee's Vice Chair for 2022.

Secretary Dingle performed a roll call vote:

Ayes: 13 (Bottema, Bruner, Drotning, Geisler, Hemken, Klein, Keller, MatasCastillo, Mocol, Morris, Droste, Roe, Wulff)

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

The motion was approved.

Approve 2022 Land Use Advisory Committee Work Plan – Wendy Wulff

Wulff noted that there have been no changes since the last meeting where this work plan was discussed and asked for a motion to approve the workplan.

It was motioned by Morris and seconded by Klein to recommend that the Land Use Advisory Committee approve the Committee's 2022 work plan.

Secretary Dingle performed a roll call vote:

Ayes: 13 (Bottema, Bruner, Drotning, Geisler, Hemken, Klein, Keller, MatasCastillo, Mocol, Morris, Droste, Roe, Wulff)

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

The motion was approved.

INFORMATION

2040 Debrief Update – Patrick Boylan, Local Planning Assistance

Boylan gave an update on this project. He discussed the purpose and outcomes as outlined in the materials provided. He also discussed project components as well as what worked well and what did not.

Morris stated the biggest pieces of feedback was a non-relationship with Council staff.

Roe asked, is there a sense if the community used preliminary review, did they have fewer incomplete portions to their plan? Boylan stated that they haven't got specific data, however, if they did the preliminary review, the process went better. Where there was not a preliminary review, there was often a multiple-page letter of incomplete items sent. Torres added that she felt the preliminary reviews helped relationships and getting to completeness easier. Roe commented on promoting that.

Boylan noted the preliminary reviews were a 'higher level' review.

Bruner stated the information requested is redundant and costs cities money to resend information that hasn't changed. He asked if there are ways for the Met Council to streamline the process. Boylan agreed but noted our Regional Plans change, i.e., Blueprint, Framework, Thrive, etc.

Torres discussed programs they are discussing to address these types of issues.

Wulff noted that Council Members have discussed 'lighter' comprehensive plan updates for smaller communities, although that has not been implemented.

Drotning stated they are fortunate to pay someone to do it. He recognized, however, that smaller communities may not have that luxury.

Droste emphasized the 'why' area, beginning with System Statements and reconnecting after elections with turnover. He noted many City Council Members aren't involved in the process and don't understand the 'why.' Boylan agreed.

Hemken asked, does the Met Council work with the League of Minnesota Cities for smaller cities and how to do their comprehensive plans? Torres stated they work with Metro Cities and offer the PlanIt program to help attendees understand the basics of how to do their comprehensive plan update.

Bottema stated their percent of growth was half of what it was projected to be. He appreciates the efforts here. He noted most of us will not be a part of the next update, so he cautioned that the 'process' has these lessons in them.

Boylan stated that institutionalizing this is going to be important.

Wulff felt the completeness portion of housing felt like it was trying to turn it into a system. Boylan stated comp plans are meant to be dynamic.

Bruner felt that comp plans have to be flexible as politics will always play a part.

Roe stated he would not like to have to do 'text amendments' every time they make a change.

Community Designations for 2050 Regional Development Guide – Raya Esmaeili, Angela Torres, Local Planning Assistance

Esmaeili discussed community designations and gave background as outlined in the presentation provided. She discussed the purpose, including engagement and analysis, as well as the preliminary timeline and deliverables.

Bruner commented, as he represents Carver County, he feels the Met Council spends their time and efforts on inner cities rather than rural areas.

Roe feels like designations are good as status quo. He discussed downtown designations (urban core) going away.

Esmaeili responded regarding rural areas, they discussed expectations for rural areas as what matters for them is much different. She discussed subgroups to be formed to discuss these rural areas. Bruner stated he'd be happy to serve.

Esmaeili discussed that community designations could be the same or could be different and discussed some new criteria that could make a difference, such as a new equity tool. She discussed the urban core designation going away and now being called urban centers.

Wulff noted the MUSA may grow.

Bruner complimented staff on their presentations.

Detrick stated she was a part of this in the last round and sees it as being very consequential. She noted there will be lots of opportunity for discussion going forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle
Recording Secretary