

## Minutes of the

### MEETING OF THE LAND USE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 18, 2017

#### Committee Members Present:

James Saefke, Kristina Smitten, Bill Neuendorf, Chip Halbach, Jennifer Geisler, Kathi Hemken, Phillip Klein, Marvin Johnson, and Jamil Ford

#### Committee Members Absent:

Karl Drotning, Jon Commers, Kathi Mocol, James McClean, Pamela Harris, Elizabeth Wefel, and Bill Droste

#### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Smitten called the regular meeting of the Council's Land Use Advisory Committee to order at 4:03 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2017.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Smitten asked that the agenda be approved by consensus as there was not a quorum present. All in attendance agreed to approve the Agenda as presented.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Vice Chair Smitten noted that the March 16, 2017, minutes of the meeting of the Land Use Advisory Committee would have to be approved later in the meeting if a quorum becomes present or they will need to be tabled until the July meeting.

#### INFORMATION

##### **Bylaws of the Land Use Advisory Committee, Amended April 26, 2017 – Jon Commers**

Vice Chair Smitten noted that the amended bylaws, provided with the meeting materials, were approved by the Metropolitan Council on April 26, 2017.

##### **Water Supply Now and for the Future - Dean Lotter, City Manager, City of New Brighton**

Lotter noted that he is a committee member on the Metro Water Supply Advisory Committee and gave a presentation regarding water supply now and for the future and discussed steps towards sustainable water supplies as outlined in the materials provided.

Hemken asked if there are underground storage tanks for rainwater on the TCAAP property. Lotter was not sure.

Halbach asked how building codes have changed to require water conservation. Lotter stated that he is not an expert in this area but discussed new construction using water-conserving toilets, faucets, etc.

Saefke stated that he thought the plumbing codes now require water saving fixtures for new construction. He discussed his work on the Mississippi Watershed Management District and groundbreaking efforts to conserve water.

Vice Chair Smitten asked what is the average usage per day. Lotter stated that they would like to see 90 gallons, however, it's currently 120-160 gallons per day.

Vice Chair Smitten asked if they have had sustained positive results on conservation management education. Lotter confirmed and shared some of their success.

Saefke discussed what they've seen in Fridley: as people conserve the fixed costs have risen. Lotter agreed and discussed the difficulty of dealing with this and explaining it to residents.

**Plant Training for Water Workshop** – Angela Torres, Local Planning Assistance, and Karen Jensen, Environmental Quality Assurance

Torres gave a brief update on workshops completed and planned. She noted that staff are looking for input on a Water Workshop to be held in September.

Ross discussed the planned water workshop and asked what can the Council provide in regard to tools, information, etc. to help communities in their comprehensive planning process. She stated they are thinking of holding the workshop at the Water Management Organization in order to look at best management practices on-site. She discussed the projected content of the workshop including shared expertise, etc. She asked what are questions and issues that communities are facing and for topics to focus on. What tools would be useful?

Neuendorf discussed problems that they see and feels it would be helpful to see best practices.

Hemken discussed reuse of water by industries in New Hope and noted how helpful the Met Council was to them. She felt this should be 'advertised.'

Saefke discussed good speakers from the Watershed Districts. He suggested education on rain gardens and their usefulness.

Geisler encouraged a couple of different facets. Take a risk management approach to help sell the message. She also offered taking a balanced approach to education. Case studies help to get the masses to do what's already been proven.

Klein stated that public 'buy-in' is important. He suggested talking about advantages and cost savings. He also suggested talking about how do we inter-connect with other communities. He suggested looking at the overall usage and where the water is going. Involve the Met Council, watersheds and even home owners' associations.

Saefke discussed leak detection systems used in Fridley that save the city money in the long run.

Klein recommended getting legislators there to discuss changing plumbing laws and conservation efforts.

Saefke suggested filming water intake and giving some history of Minneapolis Water Works and how it has greatly improved over the years.

Halbach asked how the housing workshop went. Torres stated it went very well. It was geared towards implementing affordable housing, and there was positive feedback. She briefly summarized that it was about financing, grants and programming.

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Guide Update** – Deb Detrick and Michael Larson, Local Planning Assistance

Larson gave an update to the TOD Guide as outlined in the materials provided and reviewed the Vandalia Tower as an example.

Halbach asked if the Met Council assesses how many people are using light rail with this TOD development. Larson noted that it is being discussed. The interest is in the development's effect on transit use.

Klein noted that it would be nice to know how many people still live in the area after redevelopment. Larson stated this area was industrial (no residential) and discussed other areas of gentrification.

Neuendorf referred to LCDA funding and asked if there is follow up. Larson stated he is not familiar with this area but could follow up.

### **Planning Assistance Fund Update** – Lisa Barajas, Local Planning Assistance

Barajas gave an update on planning assistance fund as outlined in the materials provided.

Halbach asked how many are expected to come in early, and what is early? Barajas stated they expect some later this year and some early next year and predicted they will received around six in 2017.

Klein asked how many will be late. Barajas stated there is no way to know, however, Barajas noted that about 25 percent asked for an extension in the last round.

Neuendorf asked about the distribution of grants and what was spent by communities. Barajas discussed the range in the amounts of actual costs and stated it is too early to tell.

### **Climate Vulnerability Assessment, Human Vulnerability** – Eric Wojchik, Local Planning Assistance, and Vincent Ferguson, Sadie Gannett, and Sarah Strain, University of Minnesota students

Wojchik introduced students from the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs and gave a brief overview of their project which included flooding – floodways and localized flooding and also extreme heat – urban heat island.

Strain began the presentation outlined in the materials provided.

Gannett discussed index development shown in the materials provided.

Ferguson discussed their mapping methodology.

Klein asked if this will be a part of the comp plans. Wojchik stated that it is not a requirement but the Met Council is trying to provide tools if communities want to do this work.

Ford asked if communities are seeking to implement some of these recommendations. He discussed an actual push for communities seeking funding.

Barajas discussed environmental sustainability components within comp plans. She noted that we may bring this into potential scoring for Livable Communities grants.

Halbach asked what vulnerability means here and how is standard deviation measured. Ferguson stated it is effective to compare to the region as a whole.

Gannett discussed smaller levels of analysis and the three phases of vulnerability per event including 'before', 'during', and 'next.'

Ferguson noted that this could be looked at in further detail.

Ford discussed north Minneapolis and their loss of trees. He asked how to you reach out to people to give them a tool to reach out to policy makers?

Wojchik noted the intended audience is policy makers. He discussed the creation of a story map with GIS that tells the story to help communicate with policy makers.

Barajas discussed conversation to find solutions to help communicate how this affects us every day.

Wojchik stated this is a regional issue – water/heat knows no boundaries.

Gannett discussed the creation of vulnerabilities so not a lot of overlap when creating their maps.

Wojchik discussed the continued work in this area.

Halbach discussed regional fair housing plan which is why he's interested in "what is the harm."

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting** – July 20, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle  
Recording Secretary