



BUILDING, LAND USE & HOUSING

Minutes of Committee Meeting

February 16, 2012

Members Present: Paul Ireland, Nancy Nasi, Brian Nasi, Rebecca Reed, Adrienne Hannert, Terri Stromberg

Others Present: Tom Borrup, Steve Horsfield, Corina Aleckson, Lynn Regnier, Susan Braun, David Fields

The meeting was convened at 6:05 PM by Chair, Paul Ireland.

The agenda was approved, as were the minutes for the January meeting.

Plan-It Hennepin

Tom Borrup gave the committee information about “Plan-It Hennepin,” an initiative to refashion Hennepin Avenue as a kind of “cultural corridor” from the River to the Walker Art Center. The plan is to create connections between memorable sites and destinations along Hennepin Avenue that help define the street as an avenue of the arts. Tom invited Elliot Park residents and workers to participate in upcoming “Talk-It Hennepin” forums featuring a series of public conversations and workshops over the next few months that will work on this vision for Hennepin Avenue.

First Covenant Church Winter Homeless Shelter

Steve Horsfield and Carina Aleckson of the Salvation Army Harbor Light, and Terri Stromberg of the First Covenant Church gave a report to the committee on the activities of the winter season homeless shelter being hosted by the church. The “overflow” shelter is available by reference and is accommodating about 40 persons a night. Members of the First Covenant congregation are assisting in serving meals and other services for the homeless persons at the church shelter. The committee asked questions about the security and turnover at the shelter. The impression was that the shelter is operating well and having no real impact on livability issues in the neighborhood.

Announcements

David Fields, committee staff person, announced that North Central University has put on hold its plans for remodeling the so-called “Fortress” building at 15th and Chicago while a study is conducted about a possible alternative use of the site as an athletic/recreational facility. Fields also reported that the Hinkle Murphy mansion had just been sold to an attorney, Michael Fay, who apparently will be displacing the Finnegan’s offices on the first floor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Fields

EPNI BLUH Committee Staff