

BUILDING, LAND USE & HOUSING
Minutes - April 17, 2014

Members Present: Carina Aleckson, John Campobasso, Dan Collison, Jerry Dustrud, Jeni Hager, Mike Korsh, Amy Maldonado, Brian Nasi; Katya Pilling, Becca Staley, Tanya Schmitt, Anita Tabb, Jim Watson, Patti Wettlin, Bert Winkel, Howard Young;

Others Present: Lynn Regnier, EPNI

The meeting was convened at 7:00 PM by Chair, Jerry Dustrud
The agenda was approved as presented.
The March 20, 2014 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Elliot Park Soccer Field

Anita Tabb, Park Commissioner, reported that bids are just now going out for both the large and small soccer field designs. Responses to the bids go to the park board for review in about 3-4 weeks. (On May 30, 2013 at a special meeting of the BLUH Committee the following motion was approved: *Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. approves the proposed installation of a regulation size soccer field at Elliot Park through a collaboration of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and North Central University.*) The field is expected to be a multi-purpose field to accommodate a variety of sports. In response to questions Anita noted that this is a well-used park and that there are no plans to sell the land and that new trees will be planted after the project work is completed.

Salvation Army Winter Shelter at First Covenant Church

Carina Aleckson, Contracts & Grants Manager at the Salvation Army Harbor Light Center, reported that the 2013-14 winter shelter was relatively quiet with only a few internal issues. The committee was not aware of any problems in the neighborhood related to the shelter. They partnered with St. Barnabas this year and had many volunteers from multiple organizations as well as from the church congregation. The shelter provides 50 beds for single males and females and most of the season 40-50 beds were being used nightly. (The BLUH Committee approved *...an Interim Use Permit to be granted for five years to the Salvation Army Harbor Light Center...* at its meeting on September 12, 2011.)

I 94 7th Street Ramp

Jeni Hager, Project Manager with the City of Minneapolis, presented the 7th Street Ramp project to the community and the two options under consideration. Currently 7th Street from 13th to 11th Avenue has parking on both sides of the street with two-lanes of westbound traffic. The favored project option by the City and project developers calls for a two-lane entrance design from I 94 and a two-lane entrance from Hiawatha. Traffic would be controlled by stop lights at 13th Avenue and alternate back and forth between the westbound entrance ramps. There would be a cross-walk control at that site also. The second option allows for two-lanes of traffic from I 94 and one-lane from Hiawatha with no stoplight at 13th Avenue but a pedestrian cross-walk in mid block. Discussion from the community expressed concern that it is hard to see traffic coming onto 7th Street from Hiawatha and that it is already difficult to enter onto 7th on Sunday

mornings/game days. Hager noted that there will be warning notices and cautionary signage on the incoming ramps. An analysis is in process to determine what kind of traffic backups might be anticipated on the ramps with stoplights at 13th Avenue and how that would affect traffic flow. The current bridge on the 5th Street ramp will remain in place and will be designed for use as a connection to the Cedar Riverside neighborhood after the 7th Street ramp is completed (2015)

Kraus Anderson Corporate Headquarters

John Campobasso, Mike Korsh, Amy Maldonado and Katya Pilling jointly presented plans for the new Kraus Anderson Corporate “World” Headquarters in Elliot Park. They intend to build a four-story 77,000 square foot building on the northwest corner of their property at 8th Street and 5th Avenue. They house 133 employees in their current building on the northeast corner and the new one will hold an additional 113 employees. The project, which utilizes a lot of glass with stone and brick materials, will be LEED Certified and will have a drive-up courtyard on the east side of the building. An underground lot will have room for 50 cars and an additional 200 spaces for employee parking (temporary until further block development) will be located on the remaining lot (and landscaped), which includes a green community space on the southwest corner. There will be no contract parking on their property and they will encourage employees to utilize alternative modes of public transportation. They have studied the EPNI neighborhood plans and they have made efforts to incorporate community vision into their development designs. They intend to develop the entire square block, as soon as feasible, to include housing (southeast corner) and a possible medical building (northeast corner). An EPNI task force will work with Kraus Anderson as the project moves forward (Howard Young & Becca Staley volunteered). KA would like to start building in the fall of 2014 and complete construction in the fall of 2015. *Motion to approve the conceptual plans as presented in the spirit of the Elliot Park Master Plan. M. Nasi/Schmitt. Passed*

HCMC Task Force

Following the request for volunteers to serve on the Kraus Anderson project task force, a similar request was made for an HCMC task force and Brian Nasi and Howard Young volunteered. HCMC announced plans this week to develop their new clinic in Elliot Park neighborhood and they will be presenting their plans to the community at the Annual Meeting on May 12th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- May 5:** **Livability Task Force**
4 p.m., The Alliance, 719 E. 14th Street, Community Room
- May 12:** **1st Precinct Open House** 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
19 N. 4th Street
- May 12:** **EPNI Annual Meeting**
5:30 p.m., Elliot Park Recreation Center, 1000 E. 14th Street
5:30 Picnic Social & Entertainment
6:00 Business Meeting/Board Election/Elected Officials
6:45 HCMC Downtown Plan
- May 13:** **Ryan/Wells Fargo Ground Breaking** 8:45 a.m.

May 15: **NOTE! The May BLUH meeting is rescheduled as a Joint Meeting: EPNI & East Downtown Council & Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association**

6:30 p.m., Open Book, 1011 Washington Avenue South.

May 21: **Lunch with Lisa** noon, U of St. Thomas, Opus Hall

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Regnier April 22, 2014.