

BUILDING, LAND USE & HOUSING

DRAFT--Minutes - October 17, 2016

The meeting was convened at 6:10 p.m. by Jerry Dustrud.

Members Present: Jerry Dustrud, Sue Jagodzinski, Millie Schafer, Emanuel Tekle; Becca Thomas; Howard Young.

Others Present: Mike Mramor-Sunshare; Rita Goodrich- Armory HPC Application; Steve Hay, City Public Works; Max Holdhusen, Metro Transit; Lynn Regnier, EPNI.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The August 2016 meeting minutes were approved as presented. M. Jagodzinski/Young.

Sunshare

Mike Mramor presented information about Sunshare, a solar energy business in Elliot Park. Renters and homeowners are eligible to sign on and participate, without incurring sign up fees or installation of equipment on their property. Solar gardens are located on under-utilized properties in Hennepin County.

Samatar Crossing

Steve Hay presented the preferred concept for the reformatting of the now-closed I-94 5th Street ramp. Connecting to the Cedar Riverside neighborhood the crossing will feature wide pedestrian and bicycle paths. Emergency vehicles will have access to the crossing but it will not be open to other vehicles. A public open house is scheduled November 3rd, 5-7 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church for further review and community comment.

Armory HPC Application

The Armory is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is also under consideration for listing as a City landmark. The building is being repurposed as a mid-sized event center, similar in size to the Roy Wilkins Auditorium in St. Paul. The interior parking spaces will remain. Rita Goodrich, MacDonald & Mack Architects, Ltd., presented the armory application and the four items that will be reviewed by the HPC:

- Elevator Shaft: The addition of an elevator to the north facing rooftop deck requires a bump out extending through the rooftop.
- New Egress Doors and Garage Doors: The two garages are considered non-contributing additions to the building. The event center requires more exits to accommodate current codes. The addition of two doorways (on the east façade, south of the garage) will be built into the existing window spaces and any stone panels that are removed will be saved and stored.
- New Loading Dock: A free standing cement loading dock will be built on the west face of the building to the south of the existing garage.
- New Addition: An one-story structure will be added to the south side of the east facing garage with multiple glass windows/doors. It is anticipated that this will become a

commercial food/entertainment space. The east-facing rooftop on this addition can only be accessed from the larger armory space and likely used as an outdoor smoking area.

Metro Transit Upcoming Projects

Max Holdhusen, Metro Transit, introduced projects that impact Elliot Park:

- Better Bus Stops is an ongoing project that will provide new and replacement shelters at designated stops adding pedestrian improvements, heat/light, improved transit information and increased maintenance. Additional information at: metrotransit.org/better-bus-stops
- Transit Assistance Program (TAP) offers \$1 bus/train rides to eligible riders who enroll at Metro Transit Service Centers.
- D Line: Planning is underway for a faster transit line along the Route 5 corridor. Design begins next year and construction will be completed in 2020, pending project funding.

Elliot Park Environmental Task Force

Emanuel Tekle announced plans to convene a task force that will focus on neighborhood clean-up and other activities addressing environmental issues. More information forthcoming as plans progress. Volunteers welcome.

BLUH Chairperson

Tanya Schmitt has resigned due to work and school responsibilities and members interested in serving as chair were encouraged to contact EPNI.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minneapolis 2040 Planning: October 25, 5-7:30 p.m. at Midtown Global Market and October 27, 5-7:30 at North Commons Park

Halloween Trunk or Treat: October 31st, 6:30-8 p.m.; 14th St & Chicago Ave parking lot, sponsored by NCU

EPNI Finance & Executive Committees: November 1, 5:15 pm, EPNI Office

Islamophobia Town Hall: November 2, 6:30-8 p.m., Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2315 Chicago Avenue.

Samatar Crossing Public Forum: November 3, 5-7 p.m., Bethlehem Baptist Church, 720 13th Avenue South

EPNI Livability Task Force: November 7, 6-7 p.m. Segue on 11th Avenue

EPNI Board meeting; November 14, 6-7:30 p.m., EPNI office

BLUH Committee: November 17, 6 p.m., Elliot Park Recreation Center

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Regnier: October 24, 2016.