

BUILDING, LAND USE & HOUSING Minutes – February 19, 2015

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. by Chair, Jerry Dustrud.

Members Present: Jerry Dustrud, Sue Jagodinski, Laura Kramka, Larry Ligocki, Millie Schafer, Becca Staley, Howard Young.

Others Present: Tim Drew, City of Mpls; Michael Noonan, Dave Wisnewski, Tom Hayes & Nick Balagarchik, HCMC; Lynn Regnier and Kim Vohs, EPNI

The agenda was approved as presented.

The January, 2015 meeting minutes were approved as presented. **M. Young/Schafer. Passed**

5th Street Closing

Tim Drew reported on numerous street projects scheduled for 2015:

- **5th Street Closes Permanently** on April 1st between 11th Avenue and Park Avenue. Later this year, after the cement barricade wall is removed, a westbound lane on 6th Street will open between 11th Avenue and Park Avenue.
- **9th Street Resurfacing** is scheduled for a weekend in May, beginning on a Friday morning and ending late Saturday evening. TBA.
- **11th Avenue at 4th Avenue Closes for 6 weeks** later this summer for bridge work.
- **7th Street Ramp Construction** begins this year, date to be announced, and ends in 2016.

HCMC Clinic

Michael Noonan and Dave Wisnewski presented preliminary ideas for the new clinic building. At this time the 320 thousand-square-foot building, located between 8th and 9th Streets and Chicago and Park Avenues, is six stories tall topped with a mechanical penthouse. The 8th Street side features: a main entrance that mirrors the curved façade of the Emergency entrance across the street; a large glass expanse facing north with a second story skyway connected to the hospital campus; and a main floor conference center. Overall the community liked the general ideas noting: a desire for more commercial uses on the main floor that open to the community—i.e. US Bank branch and hospital gift shop; appreciation for the building set back on Chicago to reduce the ‘tunnel’ affect; support for materials that are sensitive to the South 9th Street Historic District and a desire for additional details that reflect the nearby residential buildings; the large glass expanse was attractive and might be enhanced with the introduction of another material; the curving of the glass was very attractive but then the design seemed to stop and flatten out, especially on the Park Avenue facade; the Park Avenue windows appeared to be horizontal in contrast to the Chicago Avenue and 9th Street windows that appeared to be vertical; appreciation for the conference center space that would be available for community use; concern for the 9th Street façade/use and future expansion plans; support expressed for the café and pharmacy spaces to open directly onto Chicago Avenue to increase community vitality; caution regarding the busy bus stop on Chicago at 8th Street and the need for space design that adequately accommodates pedestrian and wheelchair access. HCMC is committed to attending subsequent BLUH meetings as plans and designs are increasingly defined and the community welcomes the opportunity to participate in the ongoing discussion and planning for this important development in Elliot Park.

Announcements

February 24: Downtown East Commons Public Meeting, 6-7:30 p.m., Mill City Museum

March 2: Livability Task Force-4 p.m., The Alliance, 719 E. 14th Street, Community Room

March 19: BLUH Meeting-7 p.m. Recreation Center, 1000 E. 14th Street –Winter Hours**~!**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30. Respectfully submitted by Lynn Regnier: February 26, 2015.