

PLAN COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

Present: Cindy Wermuth (Chairman), Bill Fitzsimmons (Vice Chairman), John Wetzel, Brandy Howe, Butch Trevor, Dan McConaghy

Absent: Matt Puck, Mike Crotty, Jeff Nelson, Dennis Kelly, Pete McDermott,

Staff: Ray Forsythe, Jeff Anderson, Shawn Christ, Anamaria Vera

Others: Lori Turner, David Parker, Dick Potter, Craig Mack, Barbara Sandberg, Suzanne Chevalier, Anissa Wanat, Mike Wendt, Teresa Fourcher, Christine Carlyle, others

1. Call to Order

Chairman Wermuth called the meeting to order in Riverfront Hall at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Campus.

2. Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2016

Motion made by Commissioner Fitzsimmons; seconded by Commissioner Wetzel, to approve the minutes for January 13, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Presentation of the Riverfront Transportation Plan (Jeff Anderson, City Planner)

Jeff Anderson, City Planner, provided a timeline summary of the Riverfront Transportation Plan (“Plan”) and stated the team has been working on the Plan for 2-3 years. Mr. Anderson also gave an overview of the various phases of the Plan. Christine Carlyle with Solomon Cordwell Buenz provided a detailed presentation with regards to connectivity between core assets (the Q to the west and I-74 to the east of Moline Centre), integrating all transportation, including best routes for trucks, pedestrian and bike accommodations, existing building stock, the evolution of new assets, plans to create more redevelopment plans, and the suggestion that the Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”) adopt the concept of “complete streets.” Ms. Carlyle also noted the Plan is a 10 year plan.

Ms. Carlyle also explained the importance of way-finding and traffic calming throughout Floreciente, Moline Centre, and Edge Water. Ms. Carlyle demonstrated the recommendation to convert the two one-way streets within Floreciente into two-way streets and briefly discussed Rock Island’s plans for its adjacent streets. Emphasis was also given to connectivity to the river from Moline Centre, improvements to 41st Street over the railroad and river access, in addition to the development of townhouses along 6th Avenue; Ms. Carlyle indicated townhomes would be ideal given that a market exists for rental properties, while no market currently exists for condominiums.

Teresa Fourcher with Solomon Cordwell Buenz also discussed access to I-74 from Moline Centre, highlighting there is no pedestrian connection between 6th Avenue and River Drive. Ms. Fourcher noted that because there are no on/off ramps on 4th Avenue from I-74, 4th Avenue would be ideal for bike and pedestrian access and further discussed the plan to utilize 4th Avenue into multi-use paths. Ms. Fourcher also briefly discussed the need to simplify parking throughout Moline Centre, noting there currently is an abundance of different rules. Ms. Fourcher indicated that designating larger areas into 2hr, 4hr, or 24hr parking would facilitate parking throughout Moline Centre. Ms. Carlyle concluded their

presentation by noting the Plan contains a “cheat sheet” which lists 19 strategies to achieve the goals stated at the back of the Plan.

Ray Forsythe, Planning & Development Director noted the Plan will serve as a tool to enable staff with the ability to demonstrate future plans to potential developers throughout Moline’s riverfront in the midst of construction of the new I-74 bridge. Mr. Forsythe also noted staff has secured agreements with IDOT for property around the on/off ramps of the new I-74 bridge and are currently working to obtain a developer for the property. Brief discussion ensued among those present with regards to the presentation.

Commissioner Wetzel requested clarification to the map on page 34, as well as the redirection of truck traffic. Ms. Carlyle demonstrated the map and explained that in addition to re-routing truck traffic, the plan is to implement traffic calming strategies as well as signage to slow traffic down. Discussion followed with regard to re-routing truck traffic along Moline’s riverfront. Vice Chairman Fitzsimmons commented that he believed a strong plan needed to be in place to get trucks to move onto 4th Avenue.

Vice Chairman Fitzsimmons also inquired about noise levels during the construction of the new I-74 bridge. Mr. Anderson noted that ambient noise level review is required as part of the Environmental Review process due to the use of federal funds and, as a result, certain guidelines must be followed to ensure the sound and vibration levels are met based on the required standards. Additional discussion regarding various portions of the Plan followed. Ms. Carlyle and Ms. Fourcher took note of the concerns of those present and stated they would consult their team to address the concerns noted.

4. Other

Shawn Christ, Land Development Manager discussed the changes to the By-Laws, noting that all recommendations had been taken into consideration with the exception of the gender neutral reference. Discussion ensued among the Commissioners with regard to the proposed By-Laws.

Motion made by Commissioner Wetzel, seconded by Commissioner Trevor to approve the amendments to the By-Laws as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anamaria M. Vera, Administrative Secretary