



PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM Minutes

Wednesday, April 9, 2014
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Renew Moline
Moline, IL

Members Present: Scott Raes, Mayor
Lori Turner, Alderman
Jerry Butts, City of Moline Appointee
John Knaack, Alderman
Dave Parker, Alderman
Stephanie Acri, Alderman-at-Large

Members Absent: Dr. Joe Rives, WIU, Renew Appointee, PMT Chairman
Greg Derrick, City of Moline Appointee
Steve Nelson, WIU Board of Trustees Appointee

Staff: Jeff Anderson, City of Moline
Ray Forsthye, City of Moline
Janet Mathis, Renew Moline, Executive Director
Suzanne Chevalier, Renew Moline

Guest: Nicholas Kalogeresis, Lakota Group

Other: Terri Smith, Moline Main Street

Press: Dawn Neuses, Dispatch
Jennifer Dewitt, QC Times

- **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by Mayor Scott Raes, at 1:33 p.m.
- **Approval of Minutes** – Jerry Butts made a motion to approve the minutes from March 12, 2014, meeting. Motion was seconded by David Parker. Motion carried.
- **Moline Centre, Floreciente, and Edgewater Neighborhood Comprehensive Plans Discussion**



- Jeff Anderson stated at the last PMT there was discussions regarding the steps taken by the Lakota Group for the Comprehensive Plan which included neighborhood walks, interviews, neighborhood meetings/discussions, and assessments of the information by the Lakota Group. Jeff stated that the PMT is reviewing a product that is 95% done, with the allowance for a few minor tweaks if needed. Prior to the PMT there was a presentation to the Advisory Steering Committee and that later today there is a hearing with the Planning Commission. The next step after the approval of the plan will be a PMT Work Session to review in depth the document, and then the PMT will prioritize projects. Janet stated that the PMT's involvement is a critical and important key step to the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Jeff introduced Nicholas Kalogeresis, Lakota Group, to review the Comprehensive Plan. Nick thanked everyone for being here today, and said that he was pleased to be here today to review the product with the PMT. He stated that this has been an open and public driven process. This Comprehensive Plan is merely a continuation of the efforts Moline has been building on for the last 20+ years. After this meeting, the next step is to go to the Planning Commission for their recommendation to approve, which then will elevate it to the City Council for final approval. Jeff stated that he encourages the PMT to make any recommendations or ask questions during this discussion. Nick stated that the Lakota Group is getting ready to close out this 9 month process. He wanted to highlights areas of the report to the PMT. He stated that this Comprehensive Plan is updating previous plans to include: Moline Centre 2001, Floreciente 2001, and Edgewater 1994. The new Comprehensive Plan is building on the successes of the three previous plans. Nicholas stated that the Lakota Group along with The CLUE Group, TY Lin International, and The Planning Guild collaborated together to produce the Comprehensive Plan. This plan addressed everything below the bluff, with the exception of the McKinley School, to the River.
- There were several steps to preparing the Plan
 - September 2013 did an assessment of existing conditions in Moline
 - November 2014 walking tours in each neighborhood
 - November 2014 held first community workshops in three neighborhoods
 - January 2014 drafted an existing condition report
 - January 2014 workshop
 - March 2014 workshop
 - April draft presentation to Advisory Steering Committee, PMT, and Planning Commission.



- Nick stated that the key to the success for gathering the information was the community engagement and their involvement. He stated that the one-on-one interviews, the walking tours, and neighborhood workshops were key to the success for the Comprehensive Plan in the gathering of information vital for the plan. The Comprehensive Plan looked at the three neighborhoods and identified opportunities for revitalization, economic development, flood mitigation, and transportation improvements. Nick said that there are 21 Strategic Planning Actions outline in the Comprehensive Plan. All three different neighborhoods had different issues; however some similar issues includes transportation issues and potential for development and/or re-development of critical areas. There is a lot of emphasis in Floreciente in improving the quality of housing while in Moline Centre the improvement of 6th Avenue would stimulate commercial growth which is a critical need for 6th Avenue. Nickolas stated that the plan does not include significant changes to land use, but the city should focus on making existing industrial areas fit in better with the neighborhoods. All areas have a general need for Wayfinding signs and perhaps a Cultural Trail. There is a great need for branding for signage to unify all areas. A major issue to address is traffic calming and there is a need to address changing one way streets to two way traffic. This solution will help generate business growth and redevelopment as well as traffic calming. Nicholas said that they also addressed flood mitigation in all areas because this was a requirement of the grant that Moline received.

- Neighborhood Strategies Highlights
 - Floreciente
 - Re-use of Ericsson Elementary School
 - Traffic calming, changing two way to one way
 - Neighborhood Nodes
 - Moline Centre
 - Improved streetscape on 6th Avenue to encourage commercial and retail
 - Downtown area is the best area for retail and commercial growth
 - Redevelopment of the area around the planned QC Multi-Modal Station
 - Offered different scenarios for the land use in the I-74 realignment designs include residential, commercial and retail redevelopment, and a riverfront park.
 - Edgewater
 - Creation of a university district around WIU
 - Improved Streetscape along River Drive and 4th Avenue one way
 - Traffic Calming
 - Enhanced connections to the river
 - Flood mitigation



- John Knaack expressed concerns that a lot of the traffic and transportation issues were not addressed in depth during this study. Jeff Anderson replied that it is important to remember that there is a second planning grant the city has already received from IDOT that will focus only on transportation issues in Moline. It will address the realignment of I-74, and issues related to River Drive, and IL-92 among other things. John said he is concerned that if you only address the cosmetic issues like in Floreciente neighborhood you are not getting to the root of more serious problems. People are concerned about not only the roads but the alleys and how they are ill equipped to handle the traffic and sometimes water. John said there is a need to address the concerns of the conditions of the roads and flood mitigation in Moline. Jeff stated that a lot of these issues are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan; however, Nicholas' presentation today is only an overview of the Plan with the PMT. The total Comprehensive Plan is a lot more detailed, and covers some of these concerns. Jeff said it is important to remember that the 2nd Grant which we received from IDOT will address transportation issues and concerns in Moline.
- Jerry Butts stated he is very pleased with the plan and the strategic actions they have outlined in the plan. He also stated he was here when the first plan in 2001 was prepared by Vandewalle & Associates, and it is important to remember these plans are blueprints for Moline. This doesn't mean we cannot change or modify the plan as things change and new issues and projects develop. Janet Mathis stated she is exceptionally pleased with the Comprehensive Plan that has been presented today, and she is looking forward to the next step when the PMT will review in detail the plan and decide what the community's and Renew's next steps should be. The Comprehensive Plan will provide updates that will function as a policy guide and offer strategies and objectives from Moline to accomplish.
- **Moline Centre, Floreciente, and Edgewater Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan Approval Consideration** – Stephanie Acri made a motion for recommendation for the Planning Commission and City Council to approve the Moline Centre, Floreciente, and Edgewater Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan. The motion was seconded by Jerry Butts, and motion carried.
- **Next PMT:** The next PMT May 14, 2014, Room 104 WIU-QC Riverfront Campus and will include a tour of project site.



- **Adjourned:** John Knaack made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by David Parker. Meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Suzanne Chevalier
Office Operations Director
Renew Moline