

STADIUM IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

Tuesday November 13, 2012

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

315 City Hall

Meeting Minutes

Subcommittee members present: *Chair:* David Wilson. *Members:* Russ Adams, David Fields, Clint Hewitt, Betsy Hodges, Diane Hofstede, Jim Norkosky.

Subcommittee members excused: Hussein Ahmed, Rolf Engh, Chris Ferguson, Sarah Harris, Wade Luneburg, Peter McLaughlin

Guests: Phil Eckert (Hennepin County); Jim Cima, Larry Redmond (Mn Vikings); Dan McConnell (Mpls Building Trades), George Puzak.

Staff/consultants present: Peter Brown, Beth Elliot, Chuck Lutz, Sally Westby, Jason Wittenberg

1.0 Call to order – the meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by chair David Wilson.

2.0 Approval of minutes of 10/09/12 Planning Subcommittee – It was MOVED by Clint Hewitt and SECONDED by Jim Norkosky that the minutes of the 9/10/12 Planning Subcommittee be approved. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

3.0 Updates –

Meeting with HKS/City staff - Chuck Lutz reported that HKS and City staff met regarding City requirements related to the Stadium. Two Implementation Committee members Tom Fisher and Tom Meyer (both architects) will be sitting in on Stadium design discussions as the project moves forward.

4.0 Review and Approval of Final Planning Principles (appendix A)

Discussion ensued regarding the latest version of the subcommittee’s Planning Principles. Some of the items have been re-ordered and/or reworded based on discussion at earlier meetings. Language regarding the RFP process and vendor information has been added under the “sustainability” category. Under “neighborhoods” an explanation of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPETD) was added. Language advocating water features such as fountains was eliminated. The language under “transportation” was clarified to focus on all types of transportation including vehicular.

Subcommittee members expressed support for the changes/clarifications made. In response to a question from Clint Hewitt, Chair Wilson said that there would be a process for ensuring Planning Principle consideration by the Stadium Design Team (architects). Earlier versions of the Principles have already been sent to the architects.

Betsy Hodges suggested that language be added encouraging minority owned and neighborhood businesses in the area. While the City cannot require this sort of activity of private developers, Hodges felt it was important to include such language to ensure that minority and neighborhood participation did not get overlooked during the coming years.

After discussion, it was MOVED by Russ Adams and SECONDED by Betsy Hodges that language be added to the Planning Principles encouraging multi-ethnic businesses and an inclusionary workforce in the area. Motion CARRIED

5.0 Going Forward – Chair Wilson reviewed the process for review of the Stadium Design. The Schematic Design for the Stadium will likely be completed in March 2013. The Implementation Committee (IC) will then have at least 60 days to review it. After the IC review, the City Council will have 45 days to approve/disapprove the design. Given this timeframe, City Council approval/disapproval of the design should occur in June-July 2013.

Wilson noted the importance of educating the community during the next several months regarding the Principles and the plans and issues in the stadium district. Beth Elliott suggested a focus on important topics during upcoming subcommittee meetings so members would have a good understanding of all aspects of the project.

In response to a question from Clint Hewitt, Peter Brown said that a measurement device is being developed so that the stadium design can be reviewed against the Planning Principles

Wilson pointed out that a number of important goals (i.e. streetscape, green corridors, transit station enhancements) do not have current funding sources. Discussion ensued about ways to ensure that the Planning Principles become part of City, County and other governmental plans. Chuck Lutz said that a development workshop and visioning session is being planned for 2013.

6.0 Briefing – Elliot Park Planning Work and DEEP (Downtown East Elliot Park) initiative –

David Fields made a presentation on the planning work that has been done in Elliott Park. (There have been nine plans for the area since 2000). Included in the presentation were historical images of the neighborhood as well as images from the current day. An image from 1960 shows how green and well-connected the neighborhood used to be. By 1970, the freeway had cut through the area and by 2000 there were mostly parking lots around the Metrodome. Plans were underway to enhance the area in the mid 2000's, and Twin Cities' Business even called Elliott Park the next "new" neighborhood in Minneapolis, but the recession put a halt to those plans until now. A DEEP goal is to once again build a complete neighborhood.

Fields noted that the area is filled with historic and cultural amenities, parks and open space, and available lots for building. The area has walkable streets but needs to have the connections to other parts of downtown and the city built up. There is real potential for economic development. North Central College has made a commitment to staying in the area. The health of Elliot Park depends on the health of the entire Downtown East area. More detailed information regarding DEEP and related plans is on the Elliot Park website.

In response to a question from Wilson, Fields said there had been discussion in the past about the development of land bridges to connect Elliot Park to other neighborhoods. Subcommittee members noted that several cities have built land bridges in recent years over freeways/old rail yards. The Downtown 2025 Plan also mentions this concept. Elliott said the City had not yet looked seriously at the land bridge concept because of the development expense involved.

McLaughlin suggested creating a body that could spur creative development in the area. Wilson said that the Downtown 2025 Plan has a development subcommittee that is focusing on Downtown East. Members of that group along with members of the planning subcommittee and other interested parties could be great catalysts for making things happen. Lutz noted that there are individuals in the community who have experience setting up these types of groups.

7.0 Next Steps

- Seek approve of Planning Principles at 11/19/12 Implementation Committee
- Revise Principles to reflect Implementation Committee discussion
- Transmit Principles to MSFA, Mon 11/26
- Next meeting – Mon 12/10/12 @3:30 – 5:30 p.m. (Later canceled and rescheduled for Thurs 1/17/13 at 4 – 6 p.m. in 333 City Hall

8.0 Adjourn – 5:15 p.m.