

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
390 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN 55101

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY NOTES
October 9, 2008

Committee Members Present: Chair Ruth Grendahl, Gina Bonsignore, Glen Hardin, Don Jensen, Janet Jeremiah, Peggy Lucas, Dan Marckel, Doug Snyder, Blair Tremere and Charleen Zimmer

Committee Members Absent: James Barton, Gary Fields and Lance Neckar

Others Present: Staff: Guy Peterson, Paul Burns, Joanne Barron, Linda Milashius, Deb Jensen, Mark VanderSchaaf and Jan Bourgoin

Guests: John Weis, Forest Oak Apartments Project

Call to Order

Chair Ruth Grendahl called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Chair Grendahl called for the approval of the agenda, and upon hearing no changes, stated that the October 9, 2008 agenda was approved as written.

Approve Summary Notes

Don Jensen moved to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2008 meeting; Dan Marckel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Miscellaneous Items

Blair Tremere said he had some problems opening a zip file that was distributed with the meeting notice. Marckel explained it was a Google Earth file that could be opened by saving the file, opening Google Earth and then going through your desktop menu to double click and open the file. Please contact Dan if you have any problems with the Google Earth files.

Joanne Barron distributed a list of selected LCDA-funded projects that have been completed or substantially completed. This is in response to a request from Blair at a previous committee meeting.

Scoring Form

Barron briefly summarized the scoring form the committee used last year. Chair Grendahl said she thought the form worked well last year. Following committee discussion, the committee decided on one minor change for the scoring form: in the description of the catalyst section, 'project' has been changed to 'project area' to reflect committee discussion about the potential for LCDA funding to be a catalyst for areas the project is or will be physically connected to, and to reflect future project phases or other future adjacent development. It was determined that as long as each member stays consistent with their scoring

process, it shouldn't skew the numbers. Barron reminded members to record catalyst scores only for projects that are requesting a single element, or a group of related elements. For projects requesting multiple unrelated elements, list how you would prioritize those elements for discussion at the Oct. 23 meeting. She also noted proposals must score 30 or more points (of a possible 50) to be considered for funding and moved to Step Three of the evaluation process (readiness).

There were a couple of suggestions for possible changes to next year's application: 1) Include geothermal energy component, and 2) for all land acquisitions, it would be beneficial to know who owns the land, who will be the property owner, and will the property be back on the tax rolls?

Discussion of Funding Proposals

Responses to the Q&A follow-up questions were distributed in today's packet. Additional questions were discussed – staff will contact the representatives and forward responses as soon as they are received.

Today's discussion was a full discussion of all of the projects, focused on the following questions for each project request:

- Were all questions (from the Q&A) answered?
- How is the project innovative? What is being demonstrated?

Members were reminded that projects should be evaluated as proposed, but suggestions for next year's application could be considered on projects not recommended this year. There was discussion about giving suggestions for possible changes to the project design or components; this type of suggestions can be made when the grant is awarded.

Using a laptop computer, Linda Milashius recorded the committee's comments from today's discussion on the projects. The comments will be distributed to members for their use in the remainder of the evaluation process.

The 14 proposals were discussed in the following order:

| | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| A.1 | Bystrom Brothers/Franklin Station | Minneapolis |
| A.2 | Creekside Commons | Minneapolis |
| A.3 | Jackson Street NE Artists Housing | Minneapolis |
| A.4 | Linden Yards West | Minneapolis |
| A.5 | Salem Redevelopment | Minneapolis |
| A.6 | Arlington Jackson West | St. Paul |
| A.9 | Schmidt Brewery Project | St. Paul |
| A.10 | 2700 the Avenue | St. Paul |
| B.2 | Cobblestone Senior Housing | Apple Valley |
| B.5 | Boat Works Square | White Bear Lake |
| C.1 | Phase I Downtown Redevelopment | Centerville |
| C.2 | The Landing | Chaska |
| C.3 | Forest Oak Apartments | Forest Lake |
| C.4 | Oak Grove Dairy Redevelopment II | Norwood YA |

Other Business

Jan Bourgoin will poll members to determine a date for a committee debriefing meeting in December. Grendahl suggested a two-hour meeting, allowing time to discuss sustainable guidelines that should be included in next year's application and evaluation. Lunch for the group will follow.

Adjourn

The next committee meeting is on Thursday, October 23 from 9:00 am to noon in conference room LLA.

In preparation for that meeting, the committee will score all 14 proposals on Part I, "Development and Land Use," and report these totals to staff. For Part II, 'Catalyst,' members will score the projects requesting one element to be funded. For projects requesting more than one element, members will list the elements in order of their catalyst potential. Milashius will email an evaluation form for each project, and will also send a form to record scores and return to her.

Members' scores are due to Milashius by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21st, to allow time to tabulate them for the October 23rd meeting.

Chair Grendahl thanked members for the good discussion and adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.