



Approved

MINUTES CITY OF DUBUQUE LONG RANGE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR SESSION

5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21, 2014
City Council Chamber, Historic Federal Building

Commissioners Present: Chairperson John Pregler; Commissioners Charles Winterwood, Chad Darter, Jim Prochaska, and Alan Vincent.

Commissioners Excused: Commissioner Craig Beytien.

Staff Members Present: Laura Carstens, David Johnson, Eric Van Buskirk, and Jill Connors.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Pregler at 5:30 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE: Staff presented an Affidavit of Compliance verifying that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Iowa Open Meetings Law.

MINUTES: Motion by Prochaska, seconded by Vincent, to approve the minutes of April 16, 2014 as submitted. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye – Pregler, Winterwood, Darter, Prochaska and Vincent; Nay - none; Abstain - none.

INTRODUCTIONS OF VISITING ICMA FELLOWS: The visiting ICMA Fellows were not present as scheduled for the meeting.

ITEMS FROM PUBLIC: There was one member of the public present at the meeting, Joshua Clements with the Iowa State University Extension Office. He had no comments.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION: Commissioner Prochaska asked for clarification about the required training for compliance with the Housing and Urban Development Voluntary Compliance Agreement. Staff explained that Commissioners would be required to attend a half day training session once a year for the next five years, and that new members would be provided training information and then officially trained at the next scheduled session.

Commissioner Darter noted that former Commissioner Van Iten was the representative to the Enterprise Zone Commission, and asked Staff when that position would be replaced. Staff noted that the Enterprise Zone program and Commission would cease on June 14, 2014, and that it was not necessary to appoint a representative. Staff and the Commission discussed pending state-level changes to the Enterprise Zone program.

Chairperson Pregler asked Planning Staff about advertising for vacancies on the Commission. Staff indicated that several Boards and Commissions supported by Planning Services have vacancies that need to be filled, an application had been filed by Joshua Clements to serve on the Commission, and that Staff would explore additional advertising to promote the vacancies. The Commission expressed a desire to encourage and promote a more diverse Commission by appointing a woman or a minority applicant if possible.

ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Greater Downtown Urban Renewal District Amendment: Staff Member Connors from the Economic Development Department made a presentation on the proposed changes. She noted the locations of district additions, and the goal of promoting increased home-ownership and revitalized single and multi-family housing units.

Staff Member Carstens noted the role of the Commission in reviewing the Urban Renewal Amendment, noting that the proposal is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan. The Commission indicated that the changes would provide opportunities for redevelopment along the U.S. Route 52 corridor. The Commission agreed that the amendment was consistent with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan.

Motion by Vincent, seconded by Prochaska, to recommend adoption of the Greater Downtown Urban Renewal Amendment, as it is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye – Pregler, Winterwood, Darter, Prochaska and Vincent; Nay - none; Abstain - none.

Dubuque Technology Park Urban Renewal District Amendment: Staff Member Connors presented the proposed changes. She provided an overview of the project goals, and the desire to extract undeveloped parcels within the Dubuque Technology Park. She noted that these areas could be developed in the future and could be placed back into the Urban Renewal District to maximize the incentives to development in the future.

Staff Member Carstens provided additional clarification about the project. She noted that the proposal is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan. The Commission asked if the removal of the undeveloped parcels would restrict development potential or impact the tax base of the City. Staff clarified that the land would still remain in within the City Limits but that the removal of these areas from the

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Urban Renewal District would provide additional incentives in the future as the District is amended in the future. The Commission agreed that the amendment was consistent with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan.

Motion by Winterwood, seconded by Darter, to recommend adoption of the Dubuque Technology Park Urban Renewal Amendment, as it is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye – Pregler, Winterwood, Darter, Prochaska and Vincent; Nay - none; Abstain - none.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carstens, Planning Services Manager

Adopted--

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