

**Saint Paul Planning Commission
City Hall Conference Center
15 Kellogg Boulevard West**

Minutes April 5, 2019

A meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Saint Paul was held Friday, April 5, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Center of City Hall.

Commissioners Present: Mmes. Anderson, DeJoy, Grill, Lee, Mouacheupao, Reveal; and Messrs. Edgerton, Lindeke, Ochs, Perryman, Rangel Morales, and Risberg.

Commissioners Absent: Ms. *Underwood, and Messrs. *Baker, Khaled, Oliver, and *Vang.
*Excused

Also Present: Luis Pereira, Planning Director; Yaya Diatta, Department of Safety and Inspections, Fay Simer, Department of Public Works, Bill Dermody, Lucy Thompson, Tony Johnson, Michael Wade, and Sonja Butler, Department of Planning and Economic Development staff.

I. Approval of minutes January 25, 2019.

MOTION: *Commissioner Lindeke moved approval of the minutes of January 25, 2019. Commissioner DeJoy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

II. Chair's Announcements

Chair Reveal had no announcements.

III. Planning Director's Announcements

Luis Pereira announced that notice was received from the PED staff who works on Cultural STAR, there are 82 applications that have come in for round one with \$2.8 million in requests and \$620 Thousand available. Interviews are scheduled for mid-April. City Council held a public hearing on the Ford Site Master Plan Amendments and Zoning Text Amendments on Wednesday, April 3rd, no final decision has been made that will happen next Wednesday at City Council. The previous City Council meeting on March 27th Councilmember Tolbert introduced a set of amendments to the amendments, a few notable ones are reintroducing the single-family homes along the Mississippi River Boulevard as well as a higher parking requirement, Ryan had been requesting one space for 200 sq. ft. at the meeting on the 27th the majority voted in favor of those amendments and that is what's being considered by the City Council. Also, Lucy Thompson has circulated a notice calling for volunteers for the Congress for the Urbanism Conference.

Lucy Thompson, PED staff said that Saint Paul has been selected for the National Conference of the Congress for the New Urbanism next year mid-June of 2020. She is the co-chair of the Local Host Committee and they have started meeting, they have a program committee, a fund-raising committee, marketing outreach committee and the flyer handed out this morning is about an event

on Thursday, April 11th at Dual Citizen Brewing Company, in the evening a call all volunteers. They will tell people about the congress, about the CNU if not aware of the Congress for New Urbanism, the theme that they are working on now and tell people about opportunities to get involved. About 2,000 people come so it is a year's work in planning, they would like to have Commission's involved in any of the programing or just brainstorming however they want to be involved. Ms. Thompson welcomes the Commissioner's to attend this upcoming event next week. If you have questions contact Lucy Thompson also, the on-line link is CNU.org to learn more.

Commissioner Lindeke went to the CNU one of the congresses in Florida about 10 years ago, a great conversation about architecture, urban design and planning stuff a positive brainstorming perspective, it's fun and really a great experience.

Ms. Thompson said the thing that has grown over the years, she has been a charter member since 1996 and in the beginning it was super philosophical and now the real estate community understands that new urbanism sells. New urbanism maintained its value during the recession and there is a strong developer contingent that comes to the conferences, so it's a great opportunity to network with people that they are trying to influence, trying and set the stage for.

IV. Zoning Committee

SITE PLAN REVIEW – List of current applications. *(Tia Anderson, 651/266-9086)*

Three items to come before the Site Plan Review Committee on Tuesday, April 9, 2019:

- Raymond Avenue Mixed-Use – New mixed-use, updated plans at 918 Raymond Avenue. Stephen Mastey, Landscape Architecture Inc. SPR# 18-073301
- Gabriel Flats – New residential at 1402 7th Street East. Jeffrey Prasch, Demarc Land Surveying & Engineering. SPR# 19-024412
- Roseville Auto Mall – Parking Lot upgrades at 332/336 Larpenteur. Wayne Stark, Stark Engineering. SPR# 19-025075

NEW BUSINESS

#19-015-902 Flint Hills Storage Building – Conditional use permit for storage building below the regulatory flood protection elevation. 2209 Childs Road. *(Josh Williams, 651/266-6659)*

MOTION: Commissioner Edgerton moved the Zoning Committee's recommendation to approve the conditional use permit subject to additional conditions. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

#19-017-008 Paula Schad Lilly – Rezone from R2 one-family residential to RT1 two-family residential. 321 Irvine Avenue. *(Michael Wade, 651/266-8703)*

MOTION: Commissioner Edgerton moved the Zoning Committee's recommendation to approve the rezoning. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

#19-016-207 Dayton Avenue Church Use Variance – Historic use variance for a rental hall for weddings and receptions. 217 Mackubin Street, NW corner at Dayton Avenue. (*Tony Johnson, 651/266-6620*)

MOTION: Commissioner Edgerton moved the Zoning Committee’s recommendation to approve the Historic use variance subject to an additional condition. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Edgerton announced the items on the agenda at the next Zoning Committee meeting on Thursday, April 11, 2019.

V. Transportation Committee

Saint Paul Pedestrian Plan – Review public comments and recommended changes to draft; forward to the Mayor and City Council for adoption. (*Fay Simer, 651/266-6204, Public Works*)

Fay Simer, Pedestrian Safety Advocate with the Department of Public Works. The Planning Commission had a public hearing on February 8th on the draft Saint Paul Pedestrian Plan, and the packets at that time included all of the comments that were received up to that date. Also, testimony was heard from two members of the public at the hearing. Since, staff and the Planning Commission has had a chance to review all of the comments received as part of the public record for the plan. Ms. Simer has reviewed and summarized those comments and made some recommended revisions to the draft plan that were shared with the Transportation Committee last week. She will give a few highlights of what the recommended revisions are and share those today.

In general, some of the key things heard during the comments and speaking with district councils and various resident groups after releasing the draft plan were: having a Pedestrian Plan was an important first step in making walk being safer and easier in Saint Paul. And a lot of comments affirming how important it was to do this plan and they appreciated seeing walking elevated as a mode of transportation in Saint Paul.

Generally, people said that the plan reflects the right vision goals and key priorities in Saint Paul. She also heard that objective prioritization is important to ensuring that resources for pedestrian infrastructure and pedestrian needs are distributed equitably throughout the city. A few people thought that the plan should address further: 1) the role of trees in the urban forest and making a comfortable walking environment. 2) the importance of non-sidewalk infrastructure, things like cut throughs through bluffs, stairs even things on private property like parking lot design or driveway openings and how those support a pedestrian environment. 3) the importance of people’s sense of personal security to their comfort while walking. 4) the importance of lighting in making pedestrians visible on the sidewalks and especially at crossings. 5) to address pedestrian needs at specific locations outside of the high priority areas for walking improvements. Meaning that people like the prioritization and understand that they need that to do that to be equitable but the needs in the city are vast and there are needs outside of the areas that the plan identifies as high priority. 6) the importance of educating pedestrians about safe crossing behaviors. They have a strong partnership in Saint Paul with the Police Department, and the Stop

X. Old Business

None.

XI. New Business

None.

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Recorded and prepared by
Sonja Butler, Planning Commission Secretary
Planning and Economic Development Department,
City of Saint Paul

Respectfully submitted,

Approved _____
(Date)

Luis Pereira
Planning Director

Lue Vang
Secretary of the Planning Commission