



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved NORTHPORT-WARNER PARK-SHERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD STEERING COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 14, 2008

5:30 PM

Warner Park Community Recreation Center
1625 Northport Drive, Community Room

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 9 -

Lydia S. Maurer; Jenifer L. Carter; Benjamin C. Cashin; Madeline Scherb;
Mary Schumacher; Karen M. Thompson; Donald B. Bruns; Thomas C.
Blake and Betty L. Thompson

Absent: 2 -

Pat Steele and Jacqueline M. Wilson

Excused: 4 -

Lorie A. Walker; Cynthia M. Wood; Pacia J. Harper and Jolena K. Presti

City Alderpersons and Staff: Satya Rhodes-Conway (District 12); Michael Schumacher (District 18); Jule Stroick; Archie Nicollette; Tom Hinds. (Planning & Community & Economic Development).

Others: Tim Carlisle (Northside Planning Council); Julie Spears (Northside Planning Council); Ellen Barnard (Northside Planning Council); Ted Krez (Northside Business Association); Dolores Kester (Sherman Neighborhood).

2. APPROVAL OF July 24 MINUTES

A motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Bruns, to Approve the July 24, 2008 Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ellen Barnard of the Northside Planning Council's (NPC) executive committee stated the NPC would like clarification regarding how the steering committee (SC) can and cannot carry out public involvement activities and what type of relationship is permissible between the SC, its planning process and the NPC. The NPC would like specific direction in this matter. Ms. Barnard also requested that the Raemish Property under discussion for possible redevelopment designs should be left open for designs more creative than just residential development. Ms. Barnard would like to be on a future SC meeting agenda to present a design concept for the property.

5. [10062](#)

Planning Process Status

City Staff explained that the planning area and SC expansion proposal will be introduced to the Common Council on September 2. By the end of September, the expanded SC should be in place with 15 full and 8 alternate members.

M. Schumacher and L. Maurer reported out on the previous evening's public participation subcommittee meeting. They discussed key planning process dates and reported that community-based organizations would be sent letters inviting them to provide input regarding the planning process and priority issues.

A SC retreat is scheduled for September 20; and the public participation committee recommends that some SC members attend the Northside Farmers Market to talk with Northsiders about the neighborhood plan. This would take place either August 24 or September 7 or 14 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. A tent is needed for this activity. Alder Rhodes-Conway advised that this activity should be noticed as a subcommittee meeting.

The SC requested clarification on how to carry out public involvement without violating city and state laws. J. Stroick will consult with the city attorney and report back regarding the questions posed by the SC and the NPC.

The public participation subcommittee also announced that in the last week of September, Michael Stumpf will share his market study findings with the SC, and on October 2 an open house will be held to present the findings to the community.

6. [09720](#)

Land Use

City Staff presented three land use schemes for the Northside Town Center and two schemes for the Airport Gateway. The SC discussed and provided feedback on the schemes. Each member received a Design Preference Survey where they used a scale to rate design examples for the Northside Town Center and Airport Gateway. Attached are the compiled results.

Some SC comments on land use for the Airport Gateway:

- Some people have negative perceptions of roundabouts.
- A roundabout for this area would be low speed and quite safe, although visually impaired people do not like roundabouts.
- Could we increase signage, helping people to know how to get to the airport, especially out-of-towners?
- Driving mistakes (like missed turns) are easier to correct with roundabouts.
- Move Packers Avenue east to make more room for business.
- Can the new street that would cut over to International Avenue come off the roundabout?
- Would the street to International Lane be able to handle the traffic?
- SC prefers commercial as opposed to residential land use along the Packers strip.
- If housing were to remain along Packers, consider how to improve the residents' entrances to their homes from Packers. High speed traffic makes their entrance difficult/dangerous. Consider alleys behind the homes.
- Brownfields at businesses along Packers.

- Traffic speed along Packers Ave. is a problem for both businesses and residents.
- Have pedestrian access at least on one side of Packers Avenue.
- Need safeguards for pedestrian crossing.
- Connect Airport Gateway better to other side of Packers Avenue. Consider connecting Northside Town Center with residential areas, rail stop, and North Transfer Point.
- Recommend connecting the transportation services - bus/rail - possibly locating all at one location.
- It would make sense to combine retail with rail.
- For airport corridor consider businesses related to goods transportation because proximity to airport.

Some SC comments on land use and design types for the Northside Town Center:

- Elderly housing? not good to put here - will not revitalize the area.
- Put residential here - for more affluent young professionals.
- Can combine elderly and disabled, mix of ages.
- This area is good for senior citizens; it's close to the library, groceries, pharmacy.
- If building elderly housing, include a community room.
- Put tallest buildings toward Packers Ave. for possible park and lake views, then taper back to residential.
- Instead of a hotel on the corner, SC member pictures a big office building on the corner and tall residential building south of it on N. Sherman Ave.
- Signage is important. Consider how it works.
- Will there still be room for the farmers market? Consider a permanent home for it. - a pavillion??
- If a ramp is built, could there be shared parking between Warner Park/Mallards and the Town Center?
- How does the design address traffic and safety on N. Sherman Ave.? Consider impact on pedestrians and traffic.
- If we don't develop at this location, someone else will further out and traffic will still increase, so better to develop here, creating business/sustainability in our neighborhood.
- Would a 6-story building be awkward here?
- Consider how housing blocks the view of businesses from the street. This could negatively affect business.
- Consider retail along a main street connecting to Dryden, or connect this street up to roundabout.

7. Next Steps

Agenda for Steering Committee meeting that will take place Thursday August 28, at Vera Court Neighborhood Center, 614 Vera Court, 6:00 p.m.

- Open Meeting Laws.
- Farmer's Market Booth.
- Land Use.
- Safety Issues.
- Meeting schedule finalization.
- Report back from neighborhood association meetings and other public outreach.

8. Check Out

- L. Maurer asked if a SC meeting could be recorded and broadcast on City cable channel.
- T. Krez from the Village of Maple Bluff introduced himself and expressed his interest in becoming a SC member.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Schumacher, to Adjourn at 7:45. The motion passed by voice vote/other.