

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: NEBRASKA CAPITOL ENVIRONS COMMISSION

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: Thursday, May 26, 2011 8:00 a.m., Room 210, County/City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tom Laging, Karen Nalow, Jeff Searcy and Kim Todd. John Kay, Cecil Steward and Larry Stoll absent.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bob Ripley (Capitol Commission); Jerry Shorney (Parks & Rec); Ed Zimmer and Michele Abendroth (Planning Department)

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING: Regular Meeting of the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

Approval of meeting notes of April 28, 2011

Laging moved approval of the April 28, 2011 meeting notes seconded by Nalow. Motion carried 4-0. Laging, Nalow, Searcy and Todd voting 'yes'; Kay, Steward and Stoll absent.

Design update on plan for Centennial Mall (Design Team and Parks & Recreation Dept.)

Nalow stated that at the last meeting, Yost informed the Commission that they received a grant to study stormwater. They will have a series of meetings with Public Works and a design firm in regards to silva cells and ways to manage the stormwater. The other item they are focusing on is finishing up the north blocks in terms of fundraising.

Searcy stated that perhaps the fundraising team could provide an update to the Commission at the next meeting.

The Commission discussed seeking support and involvement from the State and the Department of Administrative Services on the work at Centennial Mall. Shorney stated that it is important from the Parks Department's perspective to form a partnership with the State. Zimmer suggested that an interlocal agreement could be useful in this case.

The Commission discussed the importance of maintenance and the sustainability of the landscaping and other design features.

Sidewalk café for Red Mango, 210 N. 14th Street, in the Capitol Environs District

Zimmer stated that in discussions with the applicant, the City's sidewalk café committee had some concerns about whether there is sufficient clear sidewalk space. They are proposing it with or without a fence. They decided that they would have a Panera-type fence which is just a suggestion of a fence.

This will provide more flexibility in the sidewalk circulation and pedestrian movement. The owners would like to have a red LED tree which they have used at many sites. It could be interpreted as a logo or an identifying feature of the business.

Commission members requested that the fence and other features tie in with the facade of the building. They also recommended that shade trees rather than ornamental trees be used. Commissioners were concerned that the tree as depicted would not fit in the fence enclosure and would intrude into the sidewalk. They requested more detail on the tree design and placement.

Laging moved approval of the project noting the recommended suggestions and the request for more information on the LED tree; it was seconded by Todd. Motion carried 4-0. Laging, Nalow, Searcy and Todd voting 'yes'; Kay, Steward and Stoll absent.

Staff report/misc

Staff has been working on the 2040 Comp Plan update. He will bring the Placemaking chapter to the Commission in July for their review. This chapter identifies the capitol as the key urban feature of the City. The capitol view corridors map has been updated as well.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

Please note that these minutes will not be formally approved until the next meeting of the Capitol Environs Commission.

Q:\NCEC\MINUTES\2011\110526.docx