

MEETING NOTES

NAME OF GROUP:	URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE
DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:	Wednesday, November 5, 2008 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 2 nd Floor, 555 South 10 th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska
MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:	JoAnne Kissel, Michelle Penn and Gordon Scholz. Margaret Berry, Mike Eckert, Scott Sullivan and Mary Anne Wells absent.
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:	Michele Roth, Jenni Kellis, Dan Vining (U.S. Cellular); Jim Mannel and Dan Wesolowski (LES); Scott Wieskamp (LPS); Ed Zimmer, Brian Will and Michele Abendroth (Planning Department.)
STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING:	Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

Accept meeting notes of September 3, 2008

As there was not a quorum, the meeting notes were not voted upon.

U.S. Cellular Tower, vicinity of N. 14th & Alvo Road

Kellis began by stating that there are two site options for the cellular tower at N. 14 & Alvo Road. The first site they recommended is at the power substation owned by LES. However, at a neighborhood meeting, the neighbors had concerns with this site in regard to the setback to their homes as well as aesthetic concerns. They asked them to look at Lincoln Public Schools property at Kooser Elementary. They reviewed this site and determined that it would work as well for their needs.

Will stated that typically these facilities require a special permit, but given that these are public sites, that is not the case. So this committee will review this proposal. Both of these sites have disadvantages and advantages. Advantages of the LES site are that it has structures of similar size and scale; the disadvantages are that there are homes in proximity. The school site has the advantage of raw land, but there likely will never be any other structures of similar height to the proposed tower.

Committee members expressed concerns with the school site in that it is flat land and the tower would be the only structure of such height on the property. As there are already many structures of the same height and scale at the LES site, Committee members generally agreed that the LES site is the preferred site as they felt the tower would blend in among the many other structures.

Staff report: Downtown Design Standards adoption, West Haymarket activities, etc.

Zimmer stated that the Downtown Design Standards have been adopted by the City Council with one amendment in that staff reports back to the City Council within 2 years on how the standards are working.

Zimmer also updated the Committee on the West Haymarket project. He stated that current urban design and historic preservation issues with the West Haymarket project include the configuration of Q Street and the use of the canopy system. These and many other key decisions will be decided upon prior to any election next spring. Some of these issues will be brought to the Urban Design Committee for review. This project is in the jurisdiction of both the Urban Design Committee and Historic Preservation Commission, so he feels a joint meeting may be the best way to have a cohesive discussion.

Misc.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

***Please note that these minutes will not be formally approved until the next meeting of the Urban Design Committee. ***

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