

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP:	URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE
DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:	Wednesday, June 1, 2011 3:00 p.m., Room 214, County/City Building, 555 S. 10 th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska
MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:	JoAnne Kissel, Michelle Penn, Gordon Scholz, Scott Sullivan, Michele Tilley and Mary Anne Wells. Gill Peace absent.
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:	Dennis Scheer and Elizabeth Thomas (Clark Enersen Partners); Ernie Castillo (Urban Development Department); Ed Zimmer & Michele Abendroth (Planning Department)
STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING:	Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

Adoption of meeting record from the regular meeting of May 4, 2011

Scholz moved approval of the meeting record of May 4, 2011, seconded by Kissel. Motion carried 6-0. Kissel, Penn, Scholz, Sullivan, Tilley and Wells voting 'yes'; Peace absent.

Landscape design for S. 48th & Calvert enhancement project

Sullivan stated that this is an update on the S. 48th Street project. Everything but the landscape is done now. The conceptual centerpiece of the project was the Prescott commercial district. There is signage, lighting and benches. One of the biggest landscape pieces is to highlight the edge of the Union College campus. The entry points are also important. There will be landscape beds at these key points. They created bio-swales that will have low ground cover. He presented photos of the canopy tree plantings which will be a mixture of species. He reviewed the plant materials used in the different planting beds.

Castillo stated that they intend to finish this project in early summer next year.

Tilley moved approval of the landscape design, seconded by Kissel. Motion carried 5-0. Kissel, Penn, Scholz, Tilley and Wells voting 'yes'; Sullivan abstaining; Peace absent.

Design for public space at 940 N. 27th Street

Castillo stated that two years ago, the City bought the property at 940 N. 27th Street with the intention of demolishing the blighted and substandard structure on the property. To the north is the recently completed Elaine Hammer Pedestrian/Biker Bridge. To the south is a convenience store. They felt this was a good opportunity for redevelopment. They are using TIF funds for this project. They gave direction to the Clark Enersen design team which included complementing the bridge and the recently completed plaza space underneath the bridge, having green space with considerations to keep it low maintenance, potentially an area for educational purposes, and keeping safety in mind.

Scheer stated that the original plan included a mural, but recently it has changed in terms of how they are going to implement the detail. They started to think of the space as a progression of a story. Elizabeth Thomas stated that the space is divided into three parts of a journey of an arrival into a community. It can be either a mental or physical journey. The first space symbolizes arrival. This

becomes the passive space, the view from the train. The second space will include a focal plaza with seat boulders and resource landscape. From there, we move to community-building. This is the culmination of the journey. There is low berm fusion landscape to buffer the parking. It includes pillars of the community, which is still in the conceptual stage. They want them to represent structure and substantial presence.

Wells asked if they have considered using the space for public gatherings. Castillo stated that they have spoken with the neighborhood association as they are interested in using the space for possibly a farmer's market.

Widening the entry to the area was discussed as it was felt that people wanting to enter the area would cut across the sidewalk. The design team stated that they would look at ways to widen the entry.

Penn thanked the City for the vision to purchase this property. She complimented the design team on the concept.

Penn moved approval of the design, seconded by Scholz. Motion carried 6-0. Kissel, Penn, Scholz, Sullivan, Tilley and Wells voting 'yes'; Peace absent.

Design for new Amtrak Station at Q Street and Arena Drive

Zimmer stated that this item will be deferred to a later meeting. They are working on the design and budget.

Annual election of committee officers

Nominations were made for Kissel as Chair and Penn as Vice Chair. Motion carried 6-0. Kissel, Penn, Scholz, Sullivan, Tilley and Wells voting 'yes'; Peace absent.

Staff Report/Misc.

Zimmer stated that he is working on a meeting with the Mayor regarding the arena discussions between the Urban Design Committee and Historic Preservation Commission. The Committee felt that there was a sense of urgency in scheduling this meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:31 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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