

## MEETING RECORD

**NAME OF GROUP:** URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE

**DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:** Wednesday, July 6, 2011 3:00 p.m., Room 214, County/City Building, 555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Gordon Scholz, Scott Sullivan, and Mary Anne Wells. JoAnne Kissel, Gill Peace, Michelle Penn and Michele Tilley absent.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** John Kay and Dan Grasso (Sinclair Hille); JJ Yost (Parks & Recreation); Ed Zimmer & Michele Abendroth (Planning Department)

**STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING:** Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

### **Adoption of meeting record from the regular meeting of June 1, 2011**

Due to the lack of a quorum, the meeting notes were not voted upon.

### **Design for new Amtrak Station at Q Street and Arena Drive (Sinclair Hille)**

Kay stated that the project is currently at approximately the 90% design completion level. They have submitted drawings to Amtrak. Construction is scheduled to begin October 1 with completion June 15, 2012. The key component is the removal of the track and a new track built by Burlington Northern. There will be a new platform with a canopy. Much of the West Haymarket construction will begin in late 2012.

Grasso stated that the footprint for Amtrak is approximately the same size as the basketball court. It is not a big building, but it was placed in an important location. Kay noted that Canopy Street will be the main walkway or promenade. It is an important movement path.

Grasso stated the new depot will be located on Arena Drive across from two parking garages. The platform is 1200 feet long and the new canopy runs behind the building. There is a dropoff lane for buses. A bike trail runs along the site behind the parking, so they are planning bike racks and other amenities.

Grasso presented photos of other train stations which were used as inspiration for their design. He presented a layout of the interior of the station. The lobby will be flooded with natural light. The support functions of the building are anchors to the main lobby. Next, he presented sketches of the exterior of the building. They are working on the details and connections of the exterior elements. It is important to the Mayor to have artwork on the exterior of the building. They are looking at using a train theme on glass squares on the windows. He presented three options for the towers which they are still exploring. They feel the tower is important because it becomes the terminus and focal point at the end of Q Street.

Grasso noted that they are not pursuing LEED certification, but they are tracking the requirements, and they could possibly apply for silver certification.

Grasso stated that they want the building to complement the Haymarket, but not match it with respect to the brick. They are looking at several options for the brick.

Grasso stated that the train canopy is a large part of the budget, so they are simplifying that as much as possible because they feel more of the budget should go into the building. The skylight is a priority.

Sullivan stated that he believes the project should strive for LEED certification equivalency.

Scholz stated that he likes the idea of the artwork on the exterior of the building and the use of the glass squares.

**Design for Near South neighborhood sign at pocket park, NW corner of South 27<sup>th</sup> and South Street (Urban Development Department)**

Yost stated that they have developed a landscape plan for the park at 27<sup>th</sup> & South Street. The project will begin in approximately two weeks. The Urban Development Department has received a grant for the Near South neighborhood to place an identification sign in the park. There are two designs they are considering. They will work with Urban Development on the placement of the sign.

The Committee requested that the sign design be brought back to a future meeting for review.

**Staff Report/Misc.**

Zimmer noted that the future joint Historic Preservation Commission and Urban Design Committee meetings will likely be the second Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 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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