



FLINT MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE Meeting Notes March 4, 2014



Members Present

Jim Richardson, Co-Chair
Bob Wesley, Co-Chair
Bryant Nolden, City Council
Elizabeth Jordan, PC Rep
Jackie Poplar, City Council
Pamela Hawkins
Barry Williams
Charles Tutt
Isaiah Oliver

Richard Boone
Judy Hovey
Supt. Quintin Marshall
Raynetta Speed
John Henry
Linda Boose
Paul Mattern
Mona Munroe-Younis
Sandra Robinson

Members Not Present

Clarence Pierce -excused

Pastor LaTrelle Holmes

Staff Present

Megan Hunter, Chief Planning Officer
Vincent Slocum, Outreach Coordinator

Kevin Schronce, Assoc. Planner

CALL TO ORDER:

Co-Chair Richardson called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. The meeting was held at the Flint Public Library, 1026 Kearsley St., Flint, MI.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Co-Chair Richardson stated that this is a working meeting for the Master Plan Steering Committee. Therefore, public comment will be limited to the first ten minutes in order to allow for dialogue between Steering Committee members. The audience will be invited to participate in small group discussions.

City Council member Wantwaz Davis addressed the Steering Committee about the importance of economic development in the City and his role as Chair of the Economic Development and Planning Sub-Committee

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE:

Co-Chair Bob Wesley gave a brief update on recent Planning Commission Activities, including the approval of the application for the Implementation Task Groups.

Brief discussion broke out among several members about a new supportive housing development to be situated at the downtown Swayze Building. Several committee members expressed concern over the possibility that individuals with substance abuse problems would be housed among more vulnerably disabled individuals.

MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

With the addition of five new members (Paul Mattern, Isaiah Oliver, Richard Boone, Mona Munroe-Younis, and Sandra Robinson), each committee member took time to introduce themselves and offer background information on themselves for the edification of new members.

IMPLEMENTATION TASK GROUPS

Co-Chair Jim Richardson outlined the Steering Committees role in recruiting members to serve on Implementation Task Groups. To facilitate this, each committee member was given ten Task Group applications to be distributed to qualified individuals.

Several members asked if there any age, ward, or residency requirements for Task Group membership, to which Megan Hunter responded that there weren't. The only exception being that Task Groups must be made up of two-thirds residents.

Mona Munroe-Younis requested that digital copies of the applications be made available to Steering Committee members.

MASTER PLAN ZONING FRAMEWORK

Kevin Schronce discussed timelines related to the development of a form-based zoning code.

Members were informed that representatives from master plan consulting firm Houseal Lavigne would give a presentation at the April meeting on the zoning progress. Megan Hunter also informed members that the deadline for zoning code completion was legally fixed according to the HUD grant that was received to fund the project.

Co-Chair Jim Richardson discussed the need for a public education initiative related to the zoning ordinance to inform the public about the importance of zoning and the nature and benefits of form-based zoning ordinances. Co-Chair Bob Wesley agreed and added that educational materials regarding form-based zoning should be included on the Imagine Flint website.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

Kevin Schronce presented material on the Capital Improvements Plan to committee members. This plan would be used to target necessary improvements to city infrastructure and to market improvement projects to grant and funding bodies.

Ms. Poplar stated that the current breakage of water mains throughout the city demonstrates the need for a capital improvements plan.

Mayor Walling addressed the committee members briefly, stating that the Steering Committee would be a valuable guiding body in sparking discussion on important issues related to the Capital Improvements Plan. Several members of the committee added that transparency and the communication of facts rather than rhetoric would be paramount to the success of the Capital Improvements Plan.

MASTER PLAN SUB-AREA PLAN DISCUSSION

Kevin Schronce presented the first completed Sub-area plan on the S. Saginaw commercial corridor.

Ms. Poplar expressed concern over the number of trees in the design graphic for the corridor, stating that it would necessary, moving forward, to be clear as to who would be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of those trees.

NEXT STEPS

There will be a series of design meetings for the proposed Grand Traverse Greenway Trail on March 18th from 5-7 pm and on March 19th from 11-1 pm. The public is encouraged to attend and take part in these meetings

The next Master Plan Steering Committee meeting will be held on April 1st, 2014, 5:30 p.m. at the Flint Public Library, Basement.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Vincent Slocum