City of Cedar Rapids
Flood Control System Committee Minutes
City Hall – Training Room
Thursday, February 19, 2015
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Present: Council members Ann Poe (Chair) and Pat Shey
Sandi Fowler, Assistant City Manager – Development Services; Sandy Pumphrey, Project Engineer II

Absent: Mayor Ron Corbett, Council member Justin Shields

Meeting called to order at 11:06 a.m. by Council member Poe.

Council member Shey moved to approve the meeting minutes from the November 20, 2014 Flood Protection Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Council member Poe. Motion passed.

Jim Halverson from HR Green presented a PowerPoint located in the packet. He updated the Committee on the previous work sessions and community outreach efforts to gather feedback for the west side flood control systems. He reviewed the major themes they received regarding different areas along the river including Time Check, Czech Village and Kingston Village. He also presented pictures of the public's aesthetic preferences related to levees, permanent and removable walls, gateways, connectivity and memorialization which they will use to incorporate into the final design recommendation. He announced the second open house will take place at the Public Library on March 31 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 4 – 7 p.m. The open house will include a presentation, aesthetic design boards, and preliminary alignment boards showing one alignment line denoting levees, permanent and removable walls, and gates. The third open house will take place in June 2015 in which the final selected alignment for the west side and the aesthetic design will be presented. Although this open house will allow some time for feedback, it will generally be used as a time to display their final recommendations. Jim Halverson announced they are currently working on a FAQ document that will be available to the public in the near future.

Jon Bogert from Anderson-Bogert presented updates for the east side of the river from the document located in the packet. He stated that Anderson-Bogert is collaborating with Stanley Consultants in the design of the east side flood control system. They have held 20 meetings with stakeholders and property owners, in addition to the public open houses, to gain feedback. Two issues they are investigating further include the exclusion of Cedar Lake in the Army Corps of Engineer's plan for the east side of the river and the amount of removable walls in downtown that could be realistic to install in a 48 hour time period. They will also show their recommended alignment and types of walls for the east side of the river during the March 31 open house with HR Green.

Council member Poe thanked the consultants for their coordination in creating a flood control system for both sides of the river.

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Dan Miller from Stanley Consultants informed the Committee that the Quaker Oats Floodwall design has been completed and will be presented to Council soon.

Sandy Pumphrey stated the CRST Floodwall is currently on schedule. The floodwall foundation system is almost complete and they will be building the walls up from the footings shortly.

Sandy Pumphrey informed the Committee that the demountable walls for the Amphitheatre are currently being fabricated and are on schedule to be installed by April 15. Council member Poe encouraged staff to think about providing the public with an installation demonstration.

Robin Kash spoke during public comment. He stated he heard that China is the 'best in the world' in engineering of canals, dams and bridges and wondered if the consultants have incorporated knowledge about the building of flood control systems from other countries in the world. Dan Miller stated that knowledge from the Dutch has been instrumental in building the flood control systems in New Orleans and Stanley has been learning more about their practices as well as other flood control systems that have been installed throughout the country.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Wing
Administrative Assistant
Development Services

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