



**City of Cedar Rapids
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
City Hall Training Room
Wednesday, June 15, 2016
3:00 p.m.**

The meeting was brought to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Council member Poe (Chair). Staff members present: Jennifer Pratt, Community Development Director; Bill Micheel, Community Development Assistant Director; Kirsty Sanchez, Community Development Planner; Adam Lindenlaub, Community Development Planner; and Anne Kroll, Community Development Administrative Assistant.

The minutes from May 18, 2016 will be considered at the July 20, 2016 meeting.

Informational items were discussed first.

Informational Items:

1. ReZone CR

Bill Micheel, Community Development Assistant Director shared the project overview for ReZone CR, the accomplishments so far, and the next steps in the process. There will be a public open house June 24, 2016 at CSPS Hall and that event has been placed on City Council members' calendars.

Jennifer Pratt, Community Development Director, noted that information on the special character areas will be used as a way to start discussion at the open house. It is important to have something tangible for people to look at and give feedback. This is just the beginning and staff is very excited to get input and feedback.

2. Northwest Neighbors Neighborhood Association Plan

Kirsty Sanchez, Community Development Planner, stated that a second open house for the Northwest Neighborhood Action Plan is on Monday, June 20, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. At the first open house in March it was discussed what the neighborhood's greatest strengths and needs are and what ideas they had for the neighborhood. The feedback from that first open house was turned into proposed goals that will be shared at the second open house to make sure the feedback was accurately captured. Ms. Sanchez will send Council a reminder email about the open house as requested by Council member Poe.

3. Mt Vernon Road Corridor Action Plan

Adam Lindenlaub, Community Development Planner, stated that there will be a visioning workshop for the Mt Vernon Road Corridor Action Plan on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. There will be a presentation, a polling exercise, and small group discussions. A second open

house will take place late July or early August 2016. The plan will be taken to City Council in September 2016.

Council member Poe asked how the advisory group is being engaged. Mr. Lindenlaub stated that the advisory group had a kick-off meeting last month and they will have follow-up meetings after each open house to give their feedback. The advisory group will make a recommendation for adoption to the City Council. Council member Poe asked that the advisory group come to a Development Committee meeting so that they can hear what Council's input and feedback might be.

Presentation:

1. Small Developer Boot Camp

Mr. Micheel stated that staff is partnering with the Czech Village New Bohemia Main Street District and the Incremental Development Alliance for a Small Scale Developer Workshop on September 14, 2016. Mr. Micheel shared the vision and mission of the Incremental Development Alliance, the purpose of the workshop, and a sample workshop agenda. Invitations for the Small Scale Developer Boot Camp are going out state-owned including Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Davenport, and others.

Council member Poe asked if the workshop will discuss specific properties in Cedar Rapids. Ms. Pratt stated that the workshop is not Cedar Rapids specific, but it will give us a network of developers to contact. Council member Poe asked what we can do as a city to help assist those developers who show interest. There is still a lot of property along Ellis that needs help and it would be helpful to know what the developers' objections are to being in that area and what we can do to overcome those objections to start the development in that area. Ms. Pratt stated that this workshop is a great way to build that capacity and will increase the number of people that are ready to take the next step.

Council member Poe asked how the developers can work specifically with Cedar Rapids now that the workshop has given them the tools they need. Mr. Micheel stated that there will be a signup sheet for those who are Cedar Rapids residents or those who have interest in doing a project in Cedar Rapids and they would receive a follow-up email from staff with contact information for the appropriate people.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

For future agenda items, Council member Poe requested updates on the extension projects (16th Avenue and 6th Street), the Sleeping Giant, progress on Ellis Boulevard, and One Park Place. Ms. Pratt added that Development Committee will also receive a Neighborhood Association update.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Kroll, Administrative Assistant II
Community Development