



Sedgwick County...
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District 4 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes

Tuesday, October 14, 2019
6 p.m.

McAdams Recreation Center
1329 E. 13th St. North

Board members in attendance: Paul Davis III, Sara Dixon, Nalini Fraser, Philip Fraser, Stephanie Kohlhoff, Madison Shriner

Chairwoman Kohlhoff called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

1. Selection of New Chairperson

The selection of a new chairperson was tabled until the next advisory board meeting. Commissioner Cruse wanted to give board members more time to consider their choice.

2. Call for a New Board Member

The selection of a new board member was tabled until the next advisory board meeting. Commissioner Cruse wanted to give residents of her district more time to find out about the open position and to apply.

3. Discussion of Riverfront Legacy Master Plan

Before the Riverfront presentation, Commissioner Cruse offered the group inspirational yard signs she had purchased. Board members were encouraged to put them in their front yards to enhance their neighborhoods and to let their neighbors know more signs will be available. A distribution method for the signs needs to be identified at a future board meeting. Cruse suggested the possibility of giving the signs away, but asking for a donation, so that funds will be available for future sign purchases. The signs cost \$8 each. Board members were also asked to consider high-impact phrases for future signs, including "You Matter."

Commissioner Cruse then introduced Shelly Prichard, President and CEO of the Wichita Community Foundation. Prichard has been heavily involved with the Riverfront Plan process and has aided in guiding public engagement. She said the development

groups, "...want the plan to be very deliberate and complimentary to the character of the area and for future developments."

Prichard took the board through a slideshow covering the Riverfront area. Topics included:

- A new performing arts and convention center possibly being constructed;
- Considerations for existing facilities, such as Century II and the former library;
- Considerations for existing programs, such as the Music Theater of Wichita;
- Other cities with sizes comparable to Wichita that have developed their riverfronts. Chattanooga, TN and Nashville, TN were offered as models;
- Building facilities that will attract and retain future generations;
- The history of the Arkansas River and attempts at "activation" in the past;
- Emphasis on green space and walkability within the final plan.

Prichard went on to say the leadership groups have held several public information sessions in an attempt to hear from as many people in the community as possible before new designs are presented in November.

Commissioner Cruse asked about possible funding avenues for the proposed facilities. Prichard explained that "all options" are being looked at, and may include a combination of bonds and special taxing districts. She went on to say that opportunities for partnerships and sponsorships are being looked at.

In closing, Prichard said the main goal of the Riverfront Legacy Master Plan is to be bold and to generate momentum for future projects. "If we had started this conversation right after INTRUST Arena, we wouldn't be here right now," she said.

Attendant Lonny Wright commented that he had been hesitant about the master plan, but after attending the public information sessions, he had "come around to the new plan."

4. Review of Sedgwick County's Draft Strategic Plan

Misty Bruckner, Director of the Wichita State Public Policy and Management Center (PPMC), presented the suggested Sedgwick County Strategic Plan. Over the last year, the PPMC has worked with Sedgwick County leadership to develop the strategic plan. She explained that the plan focuses on organizational goals, and once adopted by the

Board of County Commissioners, will act as a guide for internal decisions over the next three to five years. Benchmarks and measurements of success have been written into the plan to ensure accountability.

Employee input was essential to the creation of the document. Over 1,000 employees from departments across the organization were engaged at meetings throughout the year. County Commissioners also presented the proposed plan and asked for feedback at public information sessions. “The idea is to create an environment where everyone thrives,” said Bruckner.

Bruckner highlighted pieces of each division in the strategic plan then briefly discussed the new mission and vision statements:

- **Sedgwick County’s Mission--**

- Cultivate a healthy, safe and welcoming community through exceptional public services, effective partnerships and dedicated employees.

- **Sedgwick County’s Vision--**

- To be a local government leader in building public trust, implementing innovative solutions and supporting opportunities for success for all.

Strengthening community partnerships and approaching problem-solving from a “regional perspective” were also touched on.

5. Meeting Minutes from September 10

Madison Shriner made a motion to approve the September 10 minutes without any amendments and was seconded by Paul Davis.

The vote passed unanimously.

6. Other

Sara Dixon requested a representative from the Census Bureau attend a future meeting to discuss 2020 census operations in Sedgwick County.

Chairwoman Kohlhoff adjourned the meeting at 7:21.

Next Meetings

- December 9 – McAdams Recreation Center – Club Room – 1329 E. 13th St. N.