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District 4 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting
Agenda

Tuesday, December 9, 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, Melody Miller, Nigel Morton, Madison Shriner

Commissioner Cruse called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. Selection of New Chairperson

- Vice Chair Hugh Nicks

The selection of a new chairperson was tabled until the next advisory board meeting.

2. Call for new board member

- Commissioner Lacey Cruse

The selection of a new board member was tabled until the next advisory board meeting. Commissioner encouraged everyone to let others know of this board vacancy.

3. Discussion of Riverfront Legacy Master Plan

- Riverfront Legacy Master Plan Coalition

Susie Santo with Visit Wichita and Gary Plummer from the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce presented an update to the Riverfront Legacy Master Plan.

Santo took the board through a slideshow covering the current stage in the master plan process that stakeholders are in. Topics included:

- The history of the Arkansas River and attempts at “activation” in the past;
- Building facilities that will attract and retain future generations;
- Emphasis on green space and walkability within the final plan;
- Planning principles and goals with the proposed master plan and development;

- Considerations and costs for repurposing existing facilities, such as Century II and the former library;
- The three scenarios, their plan characteristics, and impacts to existing facilities;
- Next stages of the master plan, including the final presentation and open house will be in January.

Santo went on to say the group has held several public information sessions in an attempt to hear from as many people in the community as possible before the final presentation in January. Parameters of the site development must include green space, connection to the Hyatt, and improvement of performing arts. Santo also stated that everything tonight discussed is online.

Commissioner Cruse asked about airfare and potential cost of being in and out of airports. Santo explained that would be a possible benefit to the area.

Nigel Morton had asked about if a pedestrian bridge would interfere with the WSU rowing team practices. Santo stated that at this point, there was a lot to consider currently with the water overall.

Sara Dixon questioned what the mixed used buildings would be. Santo responded that the retail would be at the bottom such as restaurants, with offices and residential on top, or with some combination of those units.

Sierra Franklin (audience) asked a question in regards to oversaturation of residential areas with River Vista currently in the area. Santo and other board members responded that there is a recommendation in the market to have more than what currently exists in the area. Philip Fraser inquired about any consideration for affordable housing within those areas. Cruse also mentioned a concern of hers in regards to the homeless population given the development at Naftzger Park. Santo explained that this early in the stage of the master plan has not considered that just yet, but that it would need to be considered at a later point.

Morton had also asked for any consideration for courting a grocery store. Santo explained that there has been a thought to have one of those in the locations proposed.

Madison Shriner inquired of other examples of conventions using facilities similar to what would be needed in the city. Santo stated that the Riverfront group was specifically looking to find a layout that would be fitting for the region that Wichita is in as well as take into account the different industries impacted.

Commissioner Cruse asked if there had been cost breakdowns by public and private partners, Santo responded that none of the mixed use development costs have been included in cost projections thus far.

Santo and Plummer commented that the January meeting would be the final plan to the City of Wichita with a price attached along with funding mechanisms.

P. Fraser stated that there currently is green space nearby within Riverside Park and that it is important to not discount the current generation that would be using this potential development. Santo answered a question regarding Drury Plaza connectivity, stating that the Hyatt would be the corporate hotel that currently has name recognition.

Nalini Fraser commented that it would be great to see this go to the ballot to be voted by the people within the area.

4. Census 2020 Update

- Jason Dean, Kansas Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census

Jason Dean with the U.S. Census Bureau presented on the upcoming U.S. Census. Dean took the board through a slideshow covering the census background and process. Topics included:

- Why a census is conducted within the country;
- Who is counted in the census and the impacts this brings to the state of Kansas;
- What questions will be asked during the census;
- The timeline of the census in 2020.

Cruse asked how the Census will instill trust in individuals being reached out to. Jason stated that community engagement and informing people that there is no tie in with other governmental departments, as well as getting trusted voices to partner with us.

N. Fraser inquired about how the homeless population is counted. Jason answered that they work with service based providers and also do a homeless count.

P. Fraser asked when individuals can start with the census, Jason stated March 13.

Nigel Morton queried what level of fluency was necessary to be a census worker. Jason stated that they don't get that specific in asking for fluency.

5. Meeting Minutes from October 14

- Citizens Advisory Board

Shriner made a motion to approve the October 14 minutes without any amendments and was seconded by Paul Davis.

The vote passed unanimously.

6. Other

Next Meeting

- January 13 – McAdams Recreation Center – 1329 E. 13th St. North

Commissioner Cruse adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.