



Planning Commission Minutes

September 27, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Kathryn Quam, Commissioners Brendan Kennealy, Susan Rosenberg, and Brett Stursa

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Rudolph, Bryan Pynn

STAFF PRESENT: Melissa Poehlman, Assistant Community Development Director; Ryan Krzos, City Planner; Nellie Jerome, Assistant Planner

OTHERS PRESENT: Ben Krsnak at Hempel Companies, and Erik Forsberg, of Erik the Red restaurant, for Public Hearing Item #2.

Chairperson Quam called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Rosenberg, S/Stursa to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2021, meeting.
Motion carried: 4-0

OPEN FORUM

No members of the public spoke, no comments received.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/Rosenberg, S/Kennealy to approve the agenda.
Motion carried: 4-0

OTHER BUSINESS

ITEM #1 - Consider a recommendation of approval of a resolution accepting the Portland Gateway Report and directing staff to consider its recommendations when evaluating proposals and policies in the study area. Assistant Director Melissa Poehlman presented the staff report. Commissioner Rosenberg noted that something similar to this project should be considered for Penn Ave as well, and noted that the Portland Gateway Report was a very useful document to have. Commissioner Stursa and Commissioner Kennealy also stated their support for the report and the improved mobility for all modes of transportation in the area. Chair Quam asked for clarification on the improved safety in the area and Assistant Director Poehlman spoke about public realm improvements creating a more inviting space, adding "eyes on the street" and improving safety in the area.

M/Rosenberg, S/Quam to Recommend approval of a resolution accepting Portland Gateway Report and directing staff to consider its recommendations when considering code amendments, policy and programming, and land use applications in the Portland Gateway area.

Motion carried: 4-0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ITEM #1 - Consider a variance request for air conditioners in the front yard areas within the Wood Lake Village Condominium property. Assistant Planner Nellie Jerome presented the staff report. A long-time resident of Wood Lake Village, Doris Rubenstein at 6516 Emerson Ave, spoke in support of the variance and noted that the newer, unobtrusive air conditioning systems improve residents' comfort and air circulation in the units.

LIAISON REPORTS

Community Services Advisory Commission: liaison not present

City Council: No report

Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA): The HRA supported a resolution for a grant application for Woodland Terrace, a manufactured home community, for infrastructure improvements. They also considered a preliminary donation agreement for a property at 1600 E 78th St.

Richfield School Board: (vacant)

Transportation Commission: Safe Routes to School, the 77th St underpass, Bus Rapid Transit, and other topics were discussed.

Chamber of Commerce: (vacant)

Sustainability Commission: liaison not present

CITY PLANNER'S REPORT

On October 25, the HRA, City Council, and Planning Commission will meet for a joint work session to further work on missing middle housing policies to follow up on a work session held last March. The LYNK 65 development submitted a building permit application and the Novo apartments recently received their certificate of occupancy.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 25, 2021, at 7pm.

M/Stursa, S/Quam to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried: 6-0

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at **8:14 p.m.**



Acting Planning Commission Secretary