

**City of Lake Forest Park
Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Summary
17425 Ballinger Way NE—Forest Room
September 6, 2011**

Commissioners present: Chair Richard Saunders, Vice Chair George Piano, Mark Phillips, Chuck Paulsen, John Resha, Doug Gochanour, and Sean Bouffiou.

Commissioners absent: None.

Staff and others present: Steve Bennett, Planning Director; Jennifer Franich, Assistant Planner; Catherine Stanford, City Council Liaison; Suzanne Lueer, community member.

Call to order: Chair Saunders called the meeting to order at 6:57 pm.

Approval of meeting minutes:

The Planning Commission reviewed the draft minutes from the August 16, 2011 regular meeting. Cmr. Gochanour moved to adopt the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Cmr. Paulsen and approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Southern Gateway Project Update: Consultant Interviews and Selection Process

Chair Saunders provided an overview of the consultant interview process. The subcommittee was impressed with all three consultants that were interviewed. The subcommittee's choice had the best balance of economics and community outreach components in their application and throughout the interview. The subcommittee chose MAKERS as the consultant to recommend to the City Council. He went on to state that Mr. Bennett will write up a scope of work, and a recommendation will be made to Council at the September 22 Council meeting.

Chair Saunders then asked for any questions. Cmr. Phillips asked for more details concerning the reasons that the committee made that choice. Chair Saunders explained that MAKERS had the most thorough proposal, the most detailed community outreach, and seemed to have done the most homework. Cmr. Paulsen added that all of the consultants had strengths, but MAKERS focused on outreach, current zoning, design aspects, and economics. They had the best variety of strengths. Cmr. Resha noted that the team had clearly worked together, and they acknowledged the neighboring communities. Cmr. Piano added that they stressed the importance of commissioner involvement to the project and they will expect more work on the part of the commission.

The MAKERS proposal was circulated for review. Councilmember Stanford informed the Commission that the economic analysis lead for MAKERS, Greg Easton, was on the Planning Commission at the same time that she had been a commission member. Dir. Bennett said that he would post a PDF of finalists' materials on the website, to give everyone the opportunity to see where the recommendation came from. Councilmember Stanford asked whether the project was following the timeline as it was previously set, and if the recommendation to council would be in the form of a contract. Dir. Bennett replied that some of the dates have changed but that Phase I will be finished by the end of December. Cmr. Bouffiou asked whether there is grant money or money in the budget for Phase II of the project. Councilmember Stanford answered that the budget has not yet been discussed at council.

Backyard Chickens and Bees Regulations

Assistant Planner Franich presented the second draft of the chicken and bees draft ordinance, which incorporated changes from the previous meeting. Cmr. Paulsen asked for some general data regarding lot sizes. Dir. Bennett offered that lots average around 10,000 square feet in north part of the city, 7,200 square feet in the south near Seattle, and that 10,000 to 15,000 square foot lots make up the majority of land. The mode or middle value is about 7,200 to 10,000 square feet.

Chair Saunders asked about incorporating a sliding scale for the number of chickens allowed according to lot size. There was discussion about whether to allow more than six chickens for on larger lots, and whether it would be worth the time and money to have only six chickens, or if six hens would produce more eggs than a four-person family could eat. The Commission asked Suzanne Lueer, who indicated that she is a prospective chicken owner, for input. Ms. Lueer offered that she has an 11,000 square-foot lot, and would like to have 8 chickens. She went on to state that there is a large variety of chickens available for purchase and that the type of chickens that she picked will not lay eggs every day.

The Commission then discussed the rules for the height of coop. Commissioners were agreed to extend the maximum height to 10 feet. Discussion ensued regarding the maximum number of chickens for the larger lots. It was decided that 15 chickens would be the maximum number for any lot, with the maximum being eight for lots up to 10,000 sq. ft. Lots above 10,000 sq. ft. will be allowed one additional chicken for every additional 5000 sq. ft. Cmr. Paulsen brought up the issue of predators to chickens and whether there should be additional language in the code address this issue. Councilmember Stanford informed the commission that Community Service Commission has been holding special meetings to draft a recommendation to address this issue.

Interactive timeline:

Cmr Phillips provided a Historical Timeline update to the commission. Very good feedback was received from Vicki Styles, the curator of Shoreline Historical Museum. Nothing yet has been received from the other two reviewers. Cmr. Phillips has spoken to Lee Foltos, who seemed receptive to the idea of posting the Timeline on the website. She will store the information for the website update. Chair Saunders said that they may be able to add it to the current website. He also thanked Cmr. Phillips for all his work. Councilmember Stanford asked if there was any way that the timeline could be presented to Council. Some may not be aware of the project, and putting a presentation on public record would be one more way of getting the word out about the project.

New Business:

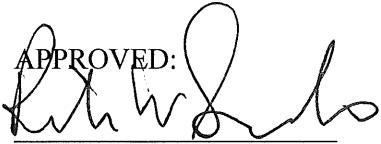
There was no new business.

Reports/Communications/Announcements:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 4. Cmrs. Resha and Chair Saunders will not be attending. Vice Chair Piano will be acting Chair if the meeting is on the 4th.

Public Comment:

Adjournment: 8: 18 PM

APPROVED:

Richard Saunders, Chair