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Citizens for a Loring Park Community
Land Use Committee

Monday, February 22, 2010

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Loring Park Office Building (430 Oak Grove), Room 207

Attendance: Dick Sandberg (1201 Yale Place), Jan Sandberg (1201 Yale Place), Jana Metge (CLPC Executive Coordinator), John Van Heel (100 West Grant), John Hershey (University of St. Thomas), Gary Gliem (Summit House), Michael McLaughlin (Loring Business Association), Neil Reardon (1401 Willow), Paul Hinderager (Summit House), Dee Montgomery (Lowry Hill resident), Kim Havey (Bellvue Condominiums)

I. 6:30-6:45 p.m. Call to Order—John Van Heel, CLPC Land Use Chair

John led introductions of those in attendance.

Approved the agenda by consensus. (Motion Dick, second Paul)

Approved the January 25, 2010 minutes. (Motion Dick Sandberg, second Paul Hinderager)
Motion passed

Approved the November 23, 2009 minutes as amended during discussion. (Motion Neil Reardon, second Paul Hinderager) Motion passed (two abstain due to absence from the meeting).

Announcements

- Jana distributed handouts concerning the census including job opportunities.
- Jana distributed the CPC/SAFE materials distributed at the last Livability Committee meeting.
- Jana announced Monday presentations of Thirst Theater at Joe's Garage.
- **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!** The CLPC Annual Meeting will be Tuesday, March 16th at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis/410 Oak Grove. The Information Fair will run from 5:30-6:45 p.m. and the membership meeting from 6:45-8:30 p.m.. Speakers are: Deputy Chief Janee Harteau, Inspector Kristine Arneson, and Loring Park Sector Lt. Matt Clark.
- The Twin Cities Sustainable Communities Conference, March 12 & 13 2010, at the Central Lutheran Church, 333 12th Street South, Minneapolis 55404 (next to the Minneapolis Convention Center): Local Government Sustainability Workshop - Friday March 12 Noon to 5pm; Neighborhood Sustainability Conference – Saturday March 13 8:30am to 4:30pm
- Court Watch – March 5th - 10:00-11:30 AM Central Library 2nd floor
- Traffic Calming Task Force Meeting is: Monday, March 1st, - 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Loring Office building/Room 207 – 430 Oak Grove. Note date change.
- Master Plan Steering Committee – Meeting is Wednesday, February 24th-7:00-8:30 p.m.
- The next Community sing-along is March 16th, the same night as the CLPC Annual Meeting.

II. 6:45-7:15 p.m. St. Thomas' Legislative Request – John Hershey

Senator Dibble has requested input from both CLPC and DMNA (Downtown neighborhood) concerning a request by the University of St. Thomas seeking passage of a bill to facilitating a liquor license for the University. State law requires Legislative approval for a college or university to obtain a liquor license. In the past, St. Thomas has obtained a temporary, one-day license to sell alcoholic beverages at larger events but has not obtained temporary licenses for smaller events (such as dinners) where it charged a general fee that

DRAFT

included alcoholic beverages. The university has been advised it should have licenses for these events as well. St. Thomas has no intention of establishing a regular, on-sale liquor operation such as a bar or a pub on either its St. Paul or Minneapolis campuses.

John said that based on review of business practices this year, the University determined that they need a license for smaller events. There is a limit on the frequency allowed for temporary licenses and the University may need to do so more frequently than every 30 days. Senator Dibble asked St. Thomas to meet with the community groups before any legislation is advanced.

One glitch that John discovered this afternoon is in the specific statutory language. Augsburg College received a similar license last year – that language allowed the City to issue a license. This year’s legislation allows the state, not the City, to issue the license. University staff have spoken with St. Paul councilman who prefers that the license application runs through the City of St. Paul. They have not yet spoken with Councilmember Goodman.

In response to committee questions and comments, John said:

University security will be used to monitor the event and ensure that those outside will not be allowed to access the event.

Events will not be limited to a specific room/building.

The University is willing to notify the CLPC office about larger events.

The CLPC Land Use Committee supports an application by the University of St. Thomas for statutory language that allows the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul to issue an on-sale intoxicating liquor license to the University or to an entity holding a caterer’s permit and a contract with St. Thomas University, for catering on the premises of St. Thomas University campus or campuses, or for any portion of the premises as described in the approved license application. The license authorized by this section may be issued for space that is not compact and contiguous, provided that all the space is within the boundaries of the St. Thomas University campus, or campuses and is included in the description of the licensed premises on the approved license application. The license authorizes sales on all days of the week to persons attending events at the college. All other provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 340A, not inconsistent with this section, apply to the license authorized under this section. EFFECTIVE DATE: This section is effective the day following final enactment. The Committee stipulates the additional requirement that there be notification to the CLPC office of any events scheduled for 50 or more persons serving alcohol. (Motion Jan Sandberg, second Kim Havey) Motion passed.

III. 7:15-7:40 p.m. 337 Oak Grove – John Van Heel

John noted that this is the third property in the area to become vacant within a year. They have worked with Dee Montgomery to move forward an application for the Ladd House. The Dunn Mansion situation is more serious. Dee reported several concerns based on a recent tour. The following language has been prepared as a request to Councilmember Goodman. John noticed that the valuation has decreased substantially in the last few years nearing the value of the land alone . A few windows have apparently been stolen.

Dee stressed that the house is lovely and it is functionally sound. There has been some damage to the carriage house. The zoning is commercial but rents needed to justify taxes are not obtainable. One idea is down zoning of the three parcels (Dunn, Lyon and Ladd). Dick noted that the taxes are over \$25,000 for the Dunn House, less than half for the Ladd House. John spoke with Beth Elliot about down zoning – Beth thought that it would difficult for individual property. Jana suggested speaking to others about alternative uses. Kim noted that there is a need to secure the house and prevent any loss of the historic contents such as the fireplace and woodwork.

The CLPC Land Use Committee requests that Councilmember Goodman nominate the property

DRAFT

known as the James H. Dunn property (residence and carriage house) at 337 Oak Grove Minneapolis for local historic designation and to establish interim historic protections pursuant to Minneapolis Code of Ordinances §599.240(b) covering all internal and external alterations to buildings, accessory structures and landscape features on the property, including demolitions, additions, renovations and other improvements. The Planning Director is directed to prepare the necessary documentation to bring this nomination forward to the Historic Preservation Commission no later than April 6, 2010.

The CLPC Land Use Committee further requests that the nomination included all exterior features and interior features including but not limited to woodwork, art and leaded glass, hardware, light fixtures, fireplace facades, flooring, staircases, built-in cabinetry, mirrors, and any other original fixtures. (Motion Kim Havey, second Dick Sandberg) Motion passed

John noted his conversation with the realtor about potential buyers. CLPC does have some funds in Phase II to assist potential buyers with these properties.

Kim raised the issue of proposing a historic district for this area. Dick also noted the historic survey completed a few years ago and there were two proposed districts on the Hill (one was thematic based on mansions including Lyon and Dunn, the other included the older apartments buildings although excluded the Ladd House). One district idea is to include the three houses on Oak Grove which has the advantage that a house could be included as contributing even though it might not qualify by itself. Dee would like to see pushing for the Dunn and Ladd houses individually as well as a district.

The CLPC Land Use Committee requests that the historic mansions along Oak Grove, Clifton Avenue, Clifton Place and Groveland be reviewed for inclusion in a possible Loring Park Mansion Historic District. (Motion Kim Havey, second Gary Gliem) Motion passed.

John noted that the Master Plan Committee is a few months out from issuing an RFP but at that time the work could include considering a possible historic district. This may require a subcommittee to pursue a historic district with some committee members doing historic research. Dee Montgomery and Kim Havey volunteered to help with this work.

VI. 7:30-8:00 p.m. - Report from Task Forces

Master Plan – Michael asked how the work on the Loring Hill guidelines fit with the master plan. John said that the guidelines will be rolled into the master plan. John noted that the next meeting is next Wednesday. He will bring the RFP back to Land Use.

Historic Plaque Task Force – John, Kim, Bob Copeland, and Ray Harris have been working on this project with Ryan from Shea, Inc. Kim reported that the material for the plaques is complete, a combination of text and graphics. The final ideas will be reviewed by the committee one more time before installation in early summer. Dick suggested bringing some drafts to the annual meeting.

Traffic Calming Task Force -- Letter sent to Councilmember Goodman and Commissioner Tabb. The next meeting will be March 1.

Shaun Murphy Task Force – On the Gateway entrance to Loring Park @ 15th & Hennepin. First meeting was held last week. There is a group of neighborhood folks that will work with Shaun.

Adjourned 8:20 p.m.