

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: February 2, 2009

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:56 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Kent Smith, Chair
Virginia Cain
Jeff Cardwell
José Evans
Brian Mahern
Dane Mahern
Janice McHenry
Jackie Nytes
Lincoln Plowman

Absent Members

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 38, 2009 - appoints Jason Gaines to the Metropolitan Development Commission

PROPOSAL NO. 39, 2009 - approves the Mayor's appointment of Maury Plambeck as the Director of the Department of Metropolitan Development

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council met on Monday February 2, 2009. Chair Kent Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Virginia Cain, Jeff Cardwell, José Evans, Brian Mahern, Dane Mahern, Janice McHenry, Jackie Nytes, and Lincoln Plowman.

PROPOSAL NO. 38, 2009 - appoints Jason Gaines to the Metropolitan Development Commission

Mr. Gaines said that his first job after graduation for Indiana University (IU) was a zoning inspector and he worked Maury Plambeck. He said after that position he went into a family owned business dealing with insurance.

Councillor Nytes asked what Mr. Gaines thoughts about the Comprehensive Plan are. Mr. Gaines said that he is not updated on the current Comprehensive Plan but he is very excited about everything that is going on in Indianapolis. He said that he is also excited to see the growth and development into old areas. He said when people see things happen in their community they get excited and makes them feel proud of their community.

Chairman Smith asked how Mr. Gaines would bring growth to a community such as the Brightwood Area. Mr. Gaines said that his in-laws are from the Brightwood Community and being from an area helps in determining what community needs are. He said the ideal is to listen to the people in that community and see what there wants and need are. He said that he should not be able to dictate what a person wants in their neighborhood, but he should be able to listen and help facilitate what that neighborhood needs.

Councillor Cardwell moved, seconded by Councillor Cain, to forward Proposal No. 38, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 9-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 39, 2009 - approves the Mayor's appointment of Maury Plambeck as the Director of the Department of Metropolitan Development

Maury Plambeck, Director of Metropolitan Development Committee (DMD), stated that he has a degree in Architecture and a Master Degree in Planning. He said that when he was in Architecture School he felt that looking to improving cities is where he wanted to be. Mr. Plambeck said that he work in the city of Cheyenne Wyoming for six years before coming to Indianapolis to work in the Division of Planning. Since then his job titles were: Planner, Administrator of Current Planning, Administrator of the Division of Planning, and seven years ago was appointed the Director of the DMD. Mr. Plambeck said when you get out of planning school you feel as though you have all the answers to how development should happen in the city but you later on find out after a few months that you do not have all the answers. He said that best way to be successful for planning and developing a government is to listen to the citizen, elected officials, commission member, and other staff members are saying about the neighborhood. Mr. Plambeck said that he try to instill in the staff that DMD's answers are timely and correct to the extent possible. He said that DMD has a

great staff and a great partnership with elective officials, neighborhoods, and the development community. He said that it take everyone working together to make a great city.

Mr. Plambeck said that in 2009 there will increase the ability for zoning inspections to happen quickly. He said the building inspection rate is currently over 90 percent and the goal for that was to have a certificate of occupancy for residential in 2009, and a few year after for Commercial and Industrial. He said the zoning ordinances facilitate more neighborhood family development. He said there are several industrial commercial sites that need redevelopment and DMD is working with the mayor office staff to determine what kind of priorities there should be on these projects. The Community Economic Division is working on the five year consolidated plan, and there is also the Neighborhood Stabilizations Plan in the works. And lastly DMD is working very close with the Mayor's Office on their abandon housing program. The Neighborhood servers which include the Mayor's Neighborhood liaisons is continuing to reach out to neighborhood groups and making them and other citizens able to interact with the City.

Councillor Cardwell asked if Mr. Plambeck would explain his part in affordable housing. Mr. Plambeck said that he has been on the board for Habitat for Humanity for several years because he works for the city. He said that is a rewarding experience to help provide abilities for low income family to purchase houses really improves their lives.

Councillor Nytes said that she would like to thank Mr. Plambeck for everything that he does for the city and the communities.

Chairman Smith asked if there were any redevelopment tools or items that can be utilizes in redeveloping the Wynona Property. Mr. Plambeck said that DMD recently obtained that property through the tax sale, and it is key to the ability as a department to reduce initial expenses to who ever redeveloped this property. He said that DMD can also use zoning tools to facilitate new uses on this property. He said that as it is redeveloped and as issued come up, DMD will try to be creative and look at the needs of the developer.

Councillor Nytes moved, seconded by Councillor Cardwell to forward Proposal No. 38, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 9-0.

Conclusion

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Smith, Chair
Metropolitan Development Committee