

## MEETING NOTES

<b>NAME OF GROUP:</b>	URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE
<b>DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:</b>	Wednesday, May 5, 2010, 3:00 p.m., Room 106, County-City Building, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, 555 South 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska
<b>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Mike Eckert, JoAnne Kissel, Michelle Penn, Gordon Scholz and Scott Sullivan. Mary Anne Wells absent.
<b>OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Gill Peace and Matt Bowers (BVH); Kim Todd (Landscape Architect); Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Ed Zimmer and Michele Abendroth (Planning Department.)
<b>STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING:</b>	Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

The meeting was called to order at 3:08. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

Adoption of meeting record from the regular meeting of April 7, 2010.

### **Update of Color Court redevelopment project/Block 68 streetscape improvements (Gill Peace, BVH)**

Peace presented a site map of the Block 68 redevelopment project. They are working on a surface parking lot directly south of the Gold's building, bounded by 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Streets, M and N Streets. It is a multi-phase project. The piece they are working on now is the north section. The south piece is proposed to be entertainment hospitality. The north section will be retail on the street level with housing above. Between the apartment building and the hotel will be an access court and parking area. There also will be a parking level below. The redevelopment agreement has been reviewed and approved. They are in the second half of the design phase. The redevelopment plan was affected by the Downtown Master Plan. Today they are looking at the building and not the streetscape. They will present the streetscape plans at a future meeting.

Bowers presented a drawing of the building. They are proposing slate on the first floor, patterned masonry panels on the second floor, and metal panels with a glass railing system above that. The building is too large for brick. They are envisioning a tall vertical element at the entry. Peace stated that the color of the building is mainly tones of gray with small amounts of red. This is due to the branded image of the hotel which they are trying to tie into.

Zimmer stated that this project is coming before the Committee because it is a public/ private TIF project. The TIF money is being used for utilities, streetscape and demolition.

Committee members asked if the proposed building meets the Downtown Design Standards. Zimmer stated that it does, mentioning sufficient ground floor transparency, the flat roof, and the materials.

Sullivan stated that the components make a lot of sense, but his concern is regarding the pedestrian experience and the scale.

Sullivan moved to approve the design direction of the building recognizing the importance of all four facades and consistency with the design standards, seconded by Kissel. Motion carried 5-0. Eckert, Kissel, Penn, Scholz and Sullivan voting 'yes'.

**Landscape design for S. 48<sup>th</sup> and Prescott Streets streetscape project (Scott Sullivan, Kim Todd for Urban Development)**

Sullivan stated that he came before the Committee with plans for Calvert to Pioneers for ornamental lighting and streetscape. Today they will present the landscape design for the project. He identified the location of the planting beds. Prescott Avenue is a centerpiece.

Todd stated the neighborhood association's priority is street trees. The interesting thing about the landscape is that the west side is so different from the east side. The association was also interested in the seasonal color change. They also wanted a tidier maintenance management so the design is almost exclusively shrubs. It is 30 inches or under which is difficult for winter interest. The trees are diverse and include elms, linden, "State Street" maple, a few maples, and northern pin oaks. There are no understory trees. The bioswales may include goldenrods, false spirea, and possibly a mix of grasses, but the design work has not been completed.

Committee members were pleased with the proposed design and plant materials and did not express any concerns.

Penn moved approval of the landscape design for S. 48<sup>th</sup> and Prescott streetscape, seconded by Kissel. Motion carried 4-0. Eckert, Kissel, Penn and Scholz voting 'yes'; Sullivan abstaining.

**Havelock Historic District/Business Association sign at Havelock Ave. & Cornhusker Highway (Scott Sullivan for Urban Development).**

Sullivan stated that this project is from Cornhusker to 64<sup>th</sup>. The project includes ornamental lighting, district signage, banners for events, trees, and landscaping. Ornamental lighting includes a 5 headed globe and occurs at intersections generally. He presented two designs for a pole sign as well as a design for an entry sign. The entry sign will be in the commercial district on Cornhusker Highway and will have a space for scrolling advertising and two spaces for business advertising. The design features a train. The entry sign is 32 feet tall.

The Committee members were pleased with the improvements.

Penn moved approval of the proposed design, seconded by Kissel. Motion carried 4-0. Eckert, Kissel, Penn and Scholz voting 'yes'; Sullivan abstaining.

**Street Painting**

Zimmer stated that this spring the City adopted an ordinance to allow groups to paint streets and intersection in neighborhoods. This design is for a roundabout at Trago Park and was submitted by Wendy Bantam. The work is planned for late May or early June.

Members expressed approval of the design.

Kissel moved approval of the design as submitted, seconded by Sullivan. Motion carried 5-0. Eckert, Kissel, Penn, Scholz and Sullivan voting 'yes'.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

*\*\*Please note that these minutes will not be formally approved until the next meeting of the Urban Design Committee.\*\**

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