

## MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: Thursday, February 16, 2012, 3:30 p.m., Room 214, County/City Building, 555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: JoAnne Kissel, Michelle Penn, Michele Tilley and Mary Anne Wells. Gill Peace and Scott Sullivan absent.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Charles Meyer (Lincoln Saltdogs); David Ciavarella (DLR Group); Marvin Krout, Ed Zimmer, Stacey Hageman & Michele Abendroth (Planning Department)

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING: Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

### **Amendments to Special Sign District, Haymarket Park & Environs**

Zimmer stated that there is a request for an amendment to the Haymarket Park special sign district. The first step is proposing the amendment to the Urban Design Committee. Because other things are happening in this area, including the Breslow Ice Center, it is the right time to address other items we anticipate needing in this area. Meyer stated that the special sign district was created 12 years ago, and they wanted to make sure they tied into the Haymarket. It is also an entrance into the city and they didn't want a bunch of signs in the district. They want to keep it low-key. Because there is an interstate, billboards come into play as well. When they originally designed Haymarket Park, the scoreboard had to be moved so it wouldn't interfere with the interstate. They have been very cautious with what they have done with signs throughout the park. They have recently added the practice facility and have updated the promenade area. They want to create more signage, and it is also a recruiting tool. Ciavarella stated that they would like the sign to be a front door to the park. The reason for the nonconforming sign is that they want the sign to be legible from the interstate. The sign is a perforated metal which is the same material used all the way around the stadium. The letters are gold painted aluminum and are 5.5' tall.

Zimmer stated that in this package they would extend the boundary of the special sign district. They want to treat the area, which is under several ownerships and includes the Breslow Ice Center, as one premise. If we change the area to P Public zoning, P does not have any specific sign language. All signs would fall under the requirements of the I-1 zoning district. Amendments will be reviewed by Urban Design Committee, and basic adjustments will be made by the Planning Director.

Penn stated that it is good to accent the entrance to the City, and they do it well.

Penn made a motion to recommend the proposed changes to the Haymarket Park Special Sign District, seconded by Tilley. Motion carried 4-0. Kissel, Penn, Tilley and Wells voting 'yes'; Peace and Sullivan absent.

## **Enersen Urban Design Award**

Zimmer stated that he has not yet developed the guidelines for the selection committee and nominating process. He envisions having a nominating committee of retired designers so as to avoid possible conflicts.

Zimmer stated that he believes the Whittier project fits the qualifications for the Enersen Urban Design Award and suggested honoring the University. This project has been in place for a little while, and while it is a single building project, it also has a subtle parking lot. The external lighting is also nicely done.

Kissel stated that she does not believe the conflict of interest is the driving force behind the committee. She feels there is some expertise out there that is not on this committee. This should be a rigorous process to get this award, so we as a committee are proud of the award. Penn added that the committee should be diversified.

Zimmer stated that traditionally this award occurs with the Mayor's Art Award, which honors an individual. The Urban Design Award typically honors a project. In the past, they have honored one private and one public project. The recipients receive a certificate for the award.

Kissel stated that she believes the Whittier project has made a major impact in terms of where the University meets the community. It has some urban design impacts that are worth recognizing.

Committee members supported the suggestion to honor the Whittier project as the Enersen Urban Design Award.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:22 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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