

MINUTES
Agenda Review Meeting
Tuesday, October 9, 2018
City – County Building

The Knoxville/Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission convened on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, at 11:30 o'clock a.m. in the Small Conference Room of the City-County Building for the monthly Agenda Review meeting. In attendance were: Planning Commissioners, Chris Ooten, Richard Graf, Matt Goodwin, Patrick Phillips, Charles Thomas, Jeffrey Roth, Gayle Bustin, Janice Tocher, Chair of MPC, Art Clancy, III, and Dr. Charles Lomax Jr.

Also in attendance were MPC's Executive Director, Gerald Green, and various MPC Staff members, including several new faces as a consequence of recent staff changes at MPC.

Mr. Green called the meeting to order at 11:46 o'clock a.m., and delivered the monthly Executive Director's Report, which included the following:

1. The ReCode Knoxville Project continues with the text of the third draft of the proposed ordinance to be made available on October 13, and the second version of the revised map to be made available on October 16. Additional public meetings are scheduled this month at the CAC East office, and a stakeholder advisory meeting is planned for October 24th. If the anticipated schedule remains in place the proposed new ordinance will be made available for consideration at MPC's November meeting.

2. MPC's office renovation continues with new furniture currently arriving. It is anticipated that the conclusion of the first phase of the project will occur in November with MPC employees moving into the space. The second phase of the project will be completed in early 2019, at which time an open house will be held to display MPC's new, more efficient space, and to introduce MPC's new branding.

Commissioners Tamara Boyer and Elizabeth Eason joined the meeting at this time.

Continuing with the Executive Director's Report Mr. Green reported:

3. The John Sevier Scenic Plan Project is moving into the final stages. Three major initiatives have been identified, which will be incorporated into the final report.

4. The Hardin Valley Mobility Plan continues with the identifying of persons to serve on the Stakeholder Committee. The consultant is gathering information and building a database for use by the Stakeholder Committee. Various meetings have been scheduled.

5. The Chapman Highway implementation Strategy meetings have been successful with a turnout in excess of 100. An online survey is also available for citizen input.

6. A Staff/Developer meeting has been scheduled for October 19 inviting members of the development community to meet with MPC staff and the staff of the City Engineering Department to discuss issues in the development process.

Mr. Green then introduced MPC's newest employee, Laura Edmunds, who will serve in an Administrative Assistant position.

Mr. Green then moved to the podium and provided a dazzling PowerPoint presentation on Knoxville's Zoning Ordinance Update (ReCode Knoxville). Topics covered included: Guiding Principles; Community Outreach, Key Issues and Topics, Draft Form Plan; and Schedule of Next Steps. In the course of the presentation Mr. Green noted that there have been more than 55 community and neighborhood meetings and thousands of website reviews. Mr. Green responded to Commissioner's questions.

Mr. Green noted that ReCode Knoxville has been a twenty month process but is still ongoing. He reminded Commissioners of the October 15 due date for the third draft of the Code and the October 16 date for the second draft of the map. Assuming that the proposed Code is made available to the Commission in November it would be anticipated that City Council would commence consideration at their December meeting.

Thence followed a discussion regarding the review, revision and approval process. The conclusion of the dazzling PowerPoint presentation was met with a warm applause from the Commissioners.

In what is believed to be an inaugural appearance as a Staff recommendation presenter, Jeff Archer of MPC staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Items 8 through 14 of the October Agenda, all concerning various street closures proposed to facilitate a KCDC redevelopment plan on adjoining properties.

Thereupon Tom Brechko, a grizzled veteran of MPC staff, then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 17, and responded to questions from the Commissioners about the connectivity of the required sidewalks and the location of a utility box. Notably, for the first time in the memory of man, Mr. Brechko did not preface his remarks with a dubious promise to "be brief". The missing promise did not go unnoticed, as a pall of foreboding swept across the room. The communal worry was proven justified, as his presentation belied any pretense of brevity.

Grizzled Veteran Brechko then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 18 at great length, and responded to Commissioner's questions.

A grizzled Tom Brechko then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 19 at great length.

Mr. Brechko then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 21 at great length, offering that the initial feedback from TDOT indicates that the road access in the proposed application does not present an interlock problem. He did not explain what an interlock problem is.

Mr. Brechko then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 49 at great length. Because of his storied history of Staff recommendations, those in attendance were not surprised that Mr. Brechko spoke at great length on the Staff recommendations. They were surprised, however, that he had the strength and stamina to do so at his grizzled age.

Mr. Brechko then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda item 54 at great length.

Thereupon, in a pleasant respite from Mr. Brechko, the relatively youthful Mike Reynolds of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 59, and responded to questions about landscaping around Hollywood Drive and about the location of sidewalks.

Commissioner Clancy, III then inquired whether the rezoning proposed in Agenda Item 43 would open up opportunities for additional homeless services along the Broadway Corridor. The youthful Mr. Reynolds replied.

Commissioner Boyer then inquired regarding Agenda item 34. Mr. Archer responded that the matter is scheduled for postponement pending additional technical information from the Applicant and City technical sources.

Chairperson Tocher then announced that there will be a pizza party on the evening of October 27th at the home of Commissioner Goodwin to recognize and thank the outgoing Commission members, and to welcome the new Commissioners. She also announced that MPC's Staff/Commissioner Christmas party is scheduled for December 13 at the conclusion of the regular monthly meeting. Commissioners Bustin, Clancy, III and Roth are responsible for the organization and budget. It was specifically pointed out that the cash contributions for the party expenses should to be delivered to Commissioner Bustin, but surely should not be delivered to Commissioner Clancy, III.

Mr. Green announced that he will be sending out an email seeking input on scheduling a workshop on ReCode Knoxville, and he encouraged the Commissioners to provide any suggested revisions to MPC staff at their earliest convenience.

There being no further business, the Agenda Review meeting was duly adjourned.

This 9th day of October, 2018.

Recording Secretary