

MINUTES
Agenda Review Meeting
Tuesday, December 10, 2013
City – County Building

The Knoxville/Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission convened on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at noon in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building, for the monthly Agenda Review Meeting. In attendance were Planning Commissioners Jack Sharp, Mac Goodwin, Elizabeth Eason, Janice Tocher, Bart Carey, Rebecca Longmire, Chair of MPC, Art Clancy, Brian Pierce, Rev. Charles Lomax, Jr., Herb Anders, Len Johnson and Michael Kane.

Also in attendance were MPC Executive Director Mark Donaldson, and various MPC staff members.

Mr. Donaldson called the meeting to order at 12:03 o'clock p.m. and introduced various Staff Members of the Knox County Health Department in attendance at the meeting to the Commission, including specifically Erin Reed. Ms. Reed rose to provide background on the Community Health Counsel and Together Healthy Knox, an initiative for health improvement. Ms. Reed introduced Ben Epperson, also of Knox County Health Department, who serves as Program Manager for Healthy Kids/Healthy Communities. Mr. Epperson provided the Commissioners with background on the development of a video entitled *Eat, Play, Live, a Kids View*, which was then aired for the Commissioners' benefit. Thereafter Mr. Epperson took questions from the Commissioners, and there followed a general discussion of ways to create healthy neighborhoods in Knox County.

Mr. Donaldson provided a summary of land use activity by the Knox County Commission and the Knoxville City Council since the last Agenda Review Meeting.

Mr. Donaldson explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 5 of the December Agenda and the recommendation to table the matter in order to allow time for the Sign Task Force to reconvene and address additional matters.

Mr. Donaldson then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 6. Upon inquiry from Commissioner Lomax, Christa Cuccaro of the City Law Department rose to explain the request of the City for the proposed revisions.

Mr. Donaldson then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 7 and responded to Commissioners' questions. There followed a general discussion of the types and nature of group living facilities that might be affected by the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Donaldson then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 8.

Michael Brusseau of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 15 and responded to questions regarding the requested right-of-way dedication. Reminiscent of the October 8, 2013, Agenda Review Meeting, Mr. Brusseau's presentation was briefly interrupted twice by lively Latin music, emanating from an unidentified Staff Member's cell phone.

Mr. Brusseau then explained the Staff recommendations for Agenda Item 22 and Agenda Item 30. There followed a discussion of the potential for limitations on the C-4 Zone to minimize the impact to neighboring properties, as applied to Agenda Item 30. John King of the Knox County Bar then rose to announce that he will be representing the applicant at the public hearing on Thursday.

Commissioner Johnson left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Brusseau then presented the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 31. There followed a discussion among Commissioners about the Technology Overlay Zone. Buz Johnson of MPC Staff then explained a history of the Technology Overlay Zone. Commissioner Johnson returned to the meeting at this time. Commissioner Lomax left the meeting at this time.

Buz Johnson continued his explanation of the role of TTCDA and the impact of its decisions on MPC's review of applications.

Dan Kelly of MPC Staff, and former Assistant Secretary for the Clinton High School Latin Music Lovers Club, then explained the Staff recommendations for Agenda Items 33 and 38. Commissioner Anders and Commissioner Kane left the meeting at this time.

There followed a general discussion among Commissioners and Staff about the various services that appear to be offered by the applicant on Agenda Item 38, at the property at issue.

Mr. Donaldson explained the Staff recommendations for Agenda Item 37 and Agenda Item 40. Commissioner Tocher posed a short series of questions about the proposed Employee Handbook, including a lack of definition of Division Manager, the process for amendment, and a few typographical errors. Commissioner Sharp left the meeting at this time.

Commissioner Goodwin pointed out additional typographical errors in the proposed Handbook. Commissioner Eason initiated a discussion about employee benefits for domestic partners.

Commissioners Johnson and Pierce left the meeting at this time.

Referencing Agenda Item 28, Commissioner Goodwin inquired of Staff as to provisions within ordinances or plans designed to protect farm land. Mr. Donaldson replied that various tools have been drafted and proposed for the preservation of agricultural soils and reported on the lack of success in having those tools adopted by legislative authorities. There followed a general discussion of the value of conservation easements and other tools available to incentivize the preservation of agricultural purposes in agricultural zoned parcels.

There being no further business to come before the Agenda Review Meeting, it was duly adjourned.

This 10th day of December, 2013.

Stephen R. Wise
Recording Secretary