

MINUTES
Agenda Review Meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 2015
City – County Building

The Knoxville/Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission gathered for the monthly Agenda Review Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at Noon in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building. In attendance were Planning Commissioners Mac Goodwin, Elizabeth Eason, Scott Smith, Laura Cole, Rebecca Longmire, Chair of MPC, Art Clancy, Jeff Roth, Jim Wakefield, Herb Anders, Bart Carey, Michael Kane and Charles Lomax, Jr. Also in attendance were MPC Interim Executive Director, Jeff Welch, and various MPC staff members.

Ms. Longmire called the meeting to order at 12:04 o'clock p.m. sharp, at which time Mr. Welch announced that Gerald Green has been appointed by the City Mayor and the County Mayor as the next Executive Director of MPC, with his tenure to begin on July 1, 2015. An informal introduction of the Executive Director will be conducted in conjunction with the July Meeting of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Welch also announced that the U.S. Transportation Secretary, Anthony Foxx, attended a meeting with the TPO and other local officials earlier in the day at which time he spoke for the need for and importance of land use and transportation planning.

In light of the new requirements for Planning Commissioner training, Mr. Welch told of new opportunities for training and advised that further information will be made available.

Mr. Welch further reported that based upon the Budget processes with the City and the County, it appears that MPC will be receiving an increase in constituent funding for the first time in more than five years with a potential 8% increase in County funding and a 7% increase in City funding. All of the Budget planning is subject to the approval of the legislative bodies and the Commission will be updated periodically.

Mr. Welch then reported that Commissioner Bart Carey had been recently appointed to the City Historic Zoning Board; that Commissioner Scott Smith had been recently appointed to the County Historic Zoning Commission; and, that Rebecca Longmire and Laura Cole have been re-nominated for additional terms on the Planning Commission by the County Mayor.

Mr. Welch then reported on land-use activities of the City Council and the County Commission since the last Agenda Review Meeting, with a timely assist by MPC Staff member Dan Kelly.

Commissioner Anders inquired about the prospects for an affiliate U.L.I. Chapter being established in Knoxville and was advised about the status of those discussions.

Peter Aherns, the Director of Plans Review and Inspections with the City of Knoxville

then rose to explain the City's request as set forth in Agenda Item 6 of the May Agenda, and the need for the proposed revisions to the Form Based Codes and the proposed additional language. Mr. Aherns responded to questions from Commissioners.

Mr. Aherns then explained the proposed revisions to the fee schedule of MPC for Form Based Zoning applications as set forth in Agenda Item 37, and responded to Commissioners' questions.

Brian Blackmon, Project Manager for the City of Knoxville Office of Sustainability, then rose to explain the City's request set forth in Agenda Item 7 regarding urban agriculture within the City limits, and responded to a plethora of interested and interesting questions from the Commissioners.

Michael Brusseau of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 28. During the course of Mr. Brusseau's discourse, it was first noted by the Recording Secretary that the large, but handsome, oil painting of an Historical Recreation of the Founding of Knox County Depicting Governor William Blount Creating the Ordinance in his Office Before General John Sevier and surveyors Charles McClung and Alexander Outlaw by William Ross, dated January 1, 1992, is once again listing to the North.

Upon the conclusion of Mr. Brusseau's remarks, Ms. Longmire called upon Tom Brechko of MPC Staff to explain the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 34. Inexplicably, Mr. Brechko began talking about three cell tower applications that are not even on the May Agenda. At this point Mr. Brusseau left the meeting with a pained expression, perhaps out of embarrassment. After a lengthy discourse, Mr. Brechko eventually redirected his comments to the referenced Agenda Item 34. In the midst of his comments regarding the appropriate Agenda Item 34, Mr. Brusseau returned to the meeting, looking much relieved. Notwithstanding a request from Ms. Longmire, Mr. Kelly declined to weigh in on the discussion of Agenda Item 34.

Mr. Kelly then explained the Capital Improvements Program, as set forth in Agenda Item 35. There were no Commissioner questions.

Commissioner Kane then inquired regarding Agenda Item 24 whether any road access existed from the industrial parcel to Shangri-La Drive, and was advised that access does exist. Mr. Kane also inquired with regard to Agenda Item 27 how much land remains in the BP Zone available for technological uses. Mr. Brusseau responded somewhat vaguely that there is "still a lot."

Commissioner Longmire discussed the various changes in conditions and circumstances justifying a revision to the Sector Plan designation with regard to Agenda Item 27.

Commissioner Carey then inquired of the status of the City Sign Ordinance. Mr. Kelly reported that City Council considered the Ordinance last month and that the matter will come back before MPC on the June Agenda. Mr. Kelly outlined options available to

MPC and the instructions that have been given to parties interested in making comments regarding the proposed ordinance. Mr. Kelly advised that there are only three minor revisions in the consensus vote of City Council that must be considered by MPC. At the conclusion of his discourse, Mr. Kelly lapsed into a confusion of mixed metaphors involving deep water, shallow water, and moving upward and/or downward in the food chain. Commissioner Clancy, perhaps inspired by Mr. Kelly's metaphorical flourish, opined that it now appears that the elected bodies have at last "beaten the dragon into submission."

Commissioner Smith then inquired as to the status of revisions to the subdivision regulations, particularly with regard to potential narrower roadways. Mr. Brechko explained the proposed process for providing alternate standards and the review and approval of those standards.

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

This 12th day of May, 2015.

Recording Secretary