

MINUTES
Agenda Review Meeting
Tuesday, July 7, 2015
City – County Building

The Knoxville/Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission Convened on Tuesday, July 7, 2015, 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, Len Johnson, Janice Tocher, Rebecca Longmire, Chair of MPC, Herb Anders, Jeff Roth, Rev. Charles Lomax, Jr., Elizabeth Eason, Art Clancy and Michael Kane. Also in attendance were: (i) the newly appointed Executive Director of MPC, Gerald Green; (ii) the immediate past Interim Executive Director of MPC, Jeff Welch; and (iii) and various MPC staff members.

Mr. Welch called the meeting to order at 12:08 o'clock p.m. and introduced Mr. Green to the Commission and welcomed him. Mr. Welch then reminded the Commissioners of the workshop on cell towers scheduled for Thursday, July 30, at 4:00 o'clock p.m., which will be led by MPC's consultant engineer, Larry Perry. Mr. Welch also reminded the Commissioners that the oft-debated and much dreaded Sign Ordinance is on the City Council Agenda for later in the day, with a final resolution hopefully being obtained. This news was met with murmurs of relief and approval. Mr. Welch also spoke briefly of the land use activities of the City Council and the County Commission since the last Agenda Review Meeting.

Mr. Green then introduced himself to the Commissioners, provided a brief description of his professional career, and advised of his pleasure being back in Knoxville and having an opportunity to work with the Commission.

Michael Brusseau of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 40 as set forth in the July Agenda, and responded to Commissioners' questions regarding options available to the developer. Local attorney, John King, who was seated in the audience, meekly raised his hand to obtain the Commission's attention only to announce his representation of the applicant, but advised that he would not take the opportunity to speak to the matter since he had a cookie in his mouth. The cookie was reportedly of the chocolate chip variety.

Mr. Brusseau then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 42.

Mr. Brusseau then explained the request for a postponement for Agenda Item 43 and the need for Commission to act on the Item since an automatic postponement is not an opportunity.

Mr. Brusseau, continuing to dominate the meeting, then reported on the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 44. Commissioner Kane asked about recently concluded litigation regarding the deed restrictions on the property at issue and asked that

a copy of the appellate opinion be provided. Mr. Brusseau agreed to make the opinion available to all Commissioners. There followed a general discussion about the history of arguments over the deed restrictions.

Taylor Forrester of the Knoxville Bar then rose to advise of his involvement as counsel in the deed restriction litigation, and provided a short explanation of the status of the case and the status of the deed restrictions.

Daniel Smith, the applicant and also one of the lawyers involved in the litigation, then rose to explain the need for, and viability of, a road cut on Broadway to access the property at issue in Agenda Item 44.

Commissioner Laura Cole joined the meeting at this time.

Tom Brechko of MPC Staff then advised the Commissioners that two of the pending cell tower applications have been postponed, to be heard over the next couple of months, but that Agenda Item 47 regarding the cell tower application on Blue Grass Road is scheduled to be heard at the July Meeting. Mr. Brechko provided the Staff recommendation.

Commissioner Kane then inquired of Mr. Brusseau the advantages and disadvantages of "bird cage" mounting of antenna in contrast with flush mounting on cell towers, and Mr. Brusseau responded. Mr. Kane then announced his desire that the Staff recommendation and, in particular, the engineering report provided by Larry Perry on cell towers, contain additional detail and analysis. There followed a general discussion among Commissioners about cell tower applications and the information provided.

Commissioner Tocher inquired whether the recommendation on Agenda Item 47 includes a required minimum number of arrays on the tower and was advised that the application includes such provisions.

Commissioner Kane restated his desire for more detail and analysis in the Staff reports on cell towers.

There followed a general discussion among Commissioners of various topics that could be addressed at the workshop on July 30.

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

This 7th day of July, 2015.

Recording Secretary