

Center of the City Meeting

01/08/2020

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Public Comment**

Don D: lives in Sloane plaza, law professor, started mediation clinic at UM Law, conflict resolution, expand range of options that can be discussed. Encourages us to more fully discuss the WHOLE block as well as the library. Thinks it's a mistake to not utilize the infrastructure of the parking lot.

Steve Kaplan: part of citizens advisory council: entertained questions of what happens with credit union and library. Lots of unknowns, while understands that we have a scope to this task force, asks us to expand our purview and explore some more unorthodox options.

**Approval of Minutes**

Alan: concern about documents that are not included in minutes that were presented to us at the meeting. Wants to make these documents accessible.

**Approval of Notes**

Link documents to notes instead of just mentioning them

**Review Ground Rules and Purpose**

**Information Sharing**

Norman: neighborhood subgroup: met with first martin and Susan P and others

Carolyn: is there a public comment period provided at the working sessions?

Heather: agenda hasn't been developed yet, but there can be an opportunity for speaking.

**Work Sessions**

Meghan: work sessions purpose: read through recommendations that were sent to Heather, and consolidate a list of recommendations that can be discussed at open house. We're not finalizing recommendations over the weekend

Alan: this is to look at various responses to goals and objectives. Are we clarifying or synthesizing information/recommendations. Where does the data come in?

Meghan: to Jeff and Chip: what would be most helpful as council members to receive as a part of the recommendations

Chip: have to be very clear about the importance of partnerships and private property acquisitions. Prioritize recommendations.

## **Goals and Objectives Homework**

### **Visual concepts plan**

Meghan: what shape do our recommendations come in

Ann: have been working to put things in the decadome for people to respond to. Pulled 9 images to put in the Decadome. Lots of comments about people wanting to have some sort of development to bring in revenue.

[image]

First Martin meeting: looking at connections between parking lot area and liberty plaza. What is their perspective? It's their property and liberty is an important street to be on, they see an opportunity for them to expand backwards. Not interested in an at or above grade passageway.

Importance of liberty plaza

Norman: bad: didn't get any direction of what they think should be done. Good: they listened to us. Difference between a 1 park solution to a 2 park solution. Norm prefers a 1 park solution.

Met with Susan Pollay of DDA: produced an evaluation chart for 17 different schemes. Suggested different kinds of funding opportunities: DDA, Parks, Bonds, grants, donations. Feels that Liberty Plaza is best place for center of the city.

John: Decadome: visual concepts were taken to decadome. The drawings are too overwhelming and complex. Simplify decadome experience by asking a few questions.

Heather: document conversations that you have had.

Would like to print and post and vision/idea bubbles

Alan: would like to alter the visuals to make it easier for people to orient themselves

## **January 15 Open House**

### **Decadome**

### **Notifications**

Heather: the mailers went out, its in the observer, email, social media blast.

### **Structure and materials**

Meghan: sent draft strategy

Wrap up of event does need to be around 8.

What are we having people respond to? And how are we running the group conversations?

Carolyn: document that Heather sent out is too much to ask people to provide feedback on

Multiple group conversations: should recruit people.

Meghan: we haven't asked much about funding and governance. Is a gap that should be addressed.

Norman: three discussions should be funding/governance, visual concepts, and

Ann: if it could be worked in, discussion on prioritization

Chip: it would be helpful to know people's deal breakers. Tradeoffs should be addressed

Carolyn: there are controversial and non-controversial topics and hard to achieve and easy to achieve topics

Alan: asked Susan Pollay about resolution from City Council, said resolution was presumptuous of city council to make provisions for library lot interim use. Funding source that came from DDA is assumed by city council

### **Refreshments**

Ordering from Panera again

### **Plan Framework**

Heather: made a very preliminary draft for the task force report

### **Other**

Meeting at library on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor

Hannah: send out final spreadsheet on data

### **Develop Next meeting agenda**

Review comments from open house

Talk about final report

Possibly extend meeting to include more public comment

### **Public comment**

Frank Wilhelm: 2 part problem: 1) activation of space, 2) long term vision for the whole block. Recognizes that it's a difficult task to create a center for the center of this great city. What is required: a compelling vision and plan. Requires a plan that carries beyond the deadline. Funding: can rely on the community, and public-private partnerships. Private funding sources are going to be integral but will not emerge before a solid vision is formed.

### **Adjournment**