

CITY OF AURORA
OHIO
Master Plan Review Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2017

The Master Plan Review Commission met in a rescheduled meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, in Council Chambers of City Hall. Laura Stith, Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present:	Shannon Keibler Dale Moravec, Vice Chairman Jennifer Stanley Laura Stith, Chairman Joan Tomko Evan Webster
Absent:	Nick Austin Matt Gilmore Lucy Zmary
Also Present:	Denise Januska, Director of Planning, Zoning, & Building Division Meredith Davis, Asst. Director of Planning, Zoning, & Building Division Jack Burge, Economic & Entrepreneurial Development John Trew, Director of Public Services James Kraus, Director of Parks & Recreation Marie Lawrie, Secretary

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

There was a correction on page 5, under the heading of Sharing of Homework – Review of 2013 Plan: Goals & Objectives.

The sentence read, *“The Commission hopes the Ad Hoc Recreational Committee will investigate the feasibility on constructing such a facility.”*

The sentence will now read, *“Some members of the Commission suggest the Ad Hoc Recreational Committee investigate the feasibility on constructing such a facility.”*

Motion: To adopt the minutes of the July 11, 2017 meeting, as corrected

Ms. Tomko moved; Ms. Stanley seconded and the motion carried, 5-0-1, on a voice vote.

Yeas: Ms. Tomko, Ms. Stanley, Ms. Stith, Mr. Moravec, Ms. Keibler

Nays: None

Abstentions: Mr. Webster

Law Director

Dean DePiero, Law Director for the City of Aurora was unable to attend the meeting.

OVERVIEW OF APPROVAL PROCESS & REVIEW OF NEXT STEPS (PLANNING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL APPROVALS):

Mr. Liszniansky stated that discussion would take place based on the draft that the members have been reviewing. He further stated that at the end of the meeting, if the members were comfortable with the document, that they would make a motion to approve it with stipulations, if necessary. The next step for the document is review by the Planning Commission. That membership would have the opportunity to make amendments to the document before forwarding a positive recommendation to City Council. The document will likely be in front of City Council three times before action is taken. Input from City Council is expected.

SUMMARY OF MASTER PLAN FORMAT & THEMES

Mr. Liszniansky explained that the detailed implementation summary included in the last Master Plan document was removed in the current document. The focus will be directed more toward goals and allow City Council and Administration to assign responsibilities. The 4 major themes were Historic Preservation, Connectivity, Recreation, and Economic Development.

There was a discussion pertaining to the feasibility study for a recreation center. There was a request that a definition be added to explain what would be included in such a study. There was an opposing view that a definition should not be necessary, as a feasibility study is the assessment of the practicality of a project.

There was a request to add verbiage to the document to reinforce the idea that when proposed projects will affect our infrastructure, that the benefits to the residents of the City of Aurora should be the primary focus. Ms. Januska stated that the Master Plan is a document of recommendations and not a policy setting document.

It was confirmed that the library is a city-owned property. That misprint will be corrected.

There was a discussion about page 76, LU/Z-1B, which states "Target the SR 82/SR 306 intersection (Aurora Inn area) as a key quadrant and priority redevelopment area." It was stated that redevelopment did not mean replacing historical structures in this area, but pertained more to streetscaping, enhancing, and creating a sense of place in that area.

There was a discussion about page 78, CF-1A, which states “Continue to support, foster, and build upon the cooperative relationship with the Aurora City School District.” It was stated that currently the city and schools have a great relationship, however that can change with different administrations. It was further stated that this is simply a common sense statement in the plan. Mr. Liszniansky stated that not all cities and schools have the relationship present in Aurora and he would like to see that statement stay in the document to encourage the continuation of this relationship.

There was a discussion about page 77, LU/1F, which states “Work with Aurora Historical Society and Landmark Commission to support and promote historic preservation.” There was a question about how signage is approved within the historic districts. Ms. Januska explained the processes a sign application goes through for approval. The Aurora Inn sign was mentioned as inappropriate for its location.

Page 49 lists “Other, Quasi-Public, and Private Facilities (not city-owned unless noted.)” It was mentioned that Rotary Club of Aurora was on the list, but not Aurora Study Club, which is the oldest club in Aurora. It was suggested to either remove Rotary Club or add Aurora Study Club. Because Rotary Club does not have a building, and this list was to include buildings, it will likely be removed.

REVIEW DISCUSSION:

Mr. Liszniansky stated that 2 main stipulations came to light in the conversation including adding supporting verbiage to the feasibility study portion of the document and to edit the language pertaining to the SR 82/SR 306 intersection to convey a desire for streetscaping and enhancement.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mark Demyan, 357 Chatham Rd made public comment. He asked to see a copy of the draft. Ms. Januska stated that she would like to wait until the plan is adopted by the Master Plan Review Commission and Planning Commission to make copies available. Mr. Demyan agreed to wait.

APPROVAL OF DRAFT:

MOTION: To approve the draft, with the changes noted

Ms. Stanley moved; Ms. Keibler seconded and the motion carried, 6-0, on a roll call vote.

Yeas: Ms. Stanley, Ms. Keibler, Ms. Stith, Mr. Moravec, Ms. Tomko, Mr. Webster

Nays: None

The members were thanked for their time and effort in this endeavor. The consultants were thanked for their assistance and leadership through the process. Ms. Januska invited members to attend the Planning Commission meetings.

The question was asked where to send recommendations that would benefit the next group of citizens appointed to review the document 5 years from now. The answer was to please send them to the Mayor.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Tomko moved to adjourn; Mr. Moravec seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.

Laura Stith, Chairman

Marie Lawrie, Secretary