

## **Minutes for PLAY**

2/12/09 - 7:35 AM

**Present:** Saxen, Voss, Fitzgibbons, Nygren, Sina, Robinson, Bowers, Bruns, Kraayenbrink, Loskill, Harrington, Long, and Schultz

Jeff forwarded an email to Tom on Williams Architect (WA) anticipated efforts on the EDA (Economic Development Administration) Pre-Application, which was shared with PLAY. Direction from Mike Sable (of City Manager's Office) listed who should be responsible for which sections of the Pre-App (apparently WA took on a couple more items than what Sable had originally anticipated).

The City is awaiting the cost estimate from WA, but it is anticipated that this will be approximately \$18K including a "charrette" meeting (deleted from follow-on feasibility contract and added to this contract for approx \$8K).

**The deadline for the EDA Pre-App is March 20, 2009.**

A review of the original contract deliverables, with PLAY comments, and WA's responses was shared with PLAY. WA's Tom Poulus sent an email to Jeff saying that they are still working on contract items. Tom Saxen mentioned that earlier (provided a contract addendum is reached by the City) WA was to have a conceptual design completed by Dec 20, which did not happen. It is conjecture whether we can get the information by March 20.

The original "ala carte" feasibility study contract addendum from WA came in at \$127K, which was not acceptable. WA then came down to \$69.5K, without the EDA Pre App. Julie is concerned about where the money will come from for all of this including the \$39K left on the original contract.

Julie needs to understand the exact scope of WA's follow-on contract because that money has been ear-marked from Hotel-Motel tax (no Hotel-Motel tax can be used for the EDA Pre App). With the addition of the \$8K for the Charrette effort added into the WA EDA Pre-App contract, Julie does not believe she has the funds to cover the WA EDA Pre App contract for \$18K.

Tom reminded the group that the feasibility study was to get the public input (presumably what the Charrette would do as well) as to what the community wanted to be built.

Robin asked what WA's grant writing experience actually is. Should we perhaps look at hiring a grant writer or soliciting a volunteer grant writer from within the community?

Julie asked how quickly a review can take place of what has already been done as far as the information required for the EDA Pre-App. Myrt said that since this is a federal grant, it may be quite detailed. We have 30 days to get this done.

Robin, Myrt, and Gayle will contact different grant writers in the community to see who may be available to help.

We need to determine what information the city has that is boiler plate that we can use to fill in and then determine what information WA has/should have that we need and when they can get it to us.

Tom Saxen said representatives from the County, City Council, and Business leaders (including Alan Witt) went to DC in the prior week for Congressional lobbying, including a discussion of an EDA application. Previously, Alan Witt had asked WA for information on 6 questions; their responses were shared with PLAY Executive Team. Mary Day reported (in phone call to Tom) that pointed questions were asked and the presentation could have gone better. Fortunately, Mary was able to provide some answers.

Dave Roberts (former city consultant, now with EPRC) is swamped with other projects, but PLAY is reported to be #3 on the EDA priority list. Doug Neumann was thinking the EDA Pre-App is moving forward.

Gayle said that we need to keep the City Council informed of any Grant Applications submitted.

### **Observations from Neighborhood Meetings:**

Sasaki is leaning toward an area in the North Area (Time Check, Swiss Valley Farms) as a primary area with satellites in neighborhoods for PLAY. Also, some talk about co-location satellite sites in an area of Wiley and 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N.W, Bever Avenue and Noelridge Park.

Generally speaking, residents want more recreation facilities and places to meet;  
Neighborhoods want to have self-contained centers;  
Neighborhoods want a small community with a city-wide feel;  
Downtown should be mixed use with trails and walk-able areas;  
Community centers with community services, green space, and trails supported;  
Each neighborhood would like its own community center like the neighborhood swimming pools;  
Neighborhoods also want visibility of law enforcement;  
Want local neighborhood parks with rotating representatives from Parks and Rec coming to the neighborhoods;  
Central building “hub” with outreach centers;

### **Future Role of PLAY in Neighborhood Meetings:**

Gayle - In talking with Sasaki, there is no specific talk about the PLAY initiative at this time. March meetings may lend more focus as the meetings break from general discussions to more specific area discussions about what the neighborhoods need/want. It is thought that WA is not needed for this role at this time. Info will come from the meetings and will roll out to the consultants.

### **Other:**

Robin and Tom and Early Childhood (EC) have met with the Empowerment Board. Robin has talked to Kirkwood and the EC/PLAY relationship. Empowerment Board is a group of citizens, faith-based groups, business people interested in 15 in 5 and Marion's Imagine 8 initiatives.

Youth Baseball and Softball with Jack Roeder of Kernels and Minor League Baseball are looking into construction of Baseball/Softball fields. Kellogg's Foundation has grants available, and the City is working with Kellogg's/Kernels to get necessary numbers.

### **Action Items before Next Meeting:**

- Look into who can help with Grant Writing (Myrt, Gayle, Robin);
- Approach WA with a T&M Contract for the EDA Pre-App;
- Determine exactly what WA would need to be called on to do and set a deadline;
- Determine exactly who might have the information that is needed for the EDA Pre-App;
- Determine how much a design for a Community/Rec Center would be based on visits to other sites (WA supposedly has an extensive library of plans and should be able to cost different attributes);
- Tom to get answers from Alan Witt on how the 6 questions he asked of WA were to be used in the DC presentation;
- Determine who might be on the Red Review team to review the EDA grant Pre-App.

**Next Meeting:** March 12, 42<sup>nd</sup> St. Parks/Rec Office

Meeting adjourned 9:45AM