

UMKC

Neighborhood Advisory Council

April 4, 2018

6:00 p.m. Meeting

Administrative Center / Plaza Room

Facilitated by Dee Evans and Bob Simmons

NAC Members Present

Pat Gallagher
Martha Hogerty
Renee Neades
Ben Randall
Jim Wanser

NAC Members Absent

Doug Ghertner
Jason Pryor
Les Cline
Terry Rodeghier

UMKC Staff Present

Michael Bongartz
Troy Lillebo
Sharon Lindenbaum
Angela McDonald
Bob Simmons
Dee Evans

Public Present

Ken Spare
Keith Spare

Guests

Meghan Jansen, Parson + Associates
Tom Gerend, Executive Director KC Streetcar Authority

Meeting Convened at 6:06 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Dee open the meeting with introductions of those present.

Standard Reports

- March 7, 2018 Meeting Notes
- Campus Police Incident Report

The minutes and the police incident report were posted on the NAC website. Renee Neades stated that a correction was needed to the March 7 minutes; that the Rockhurst University parking garage is on Troost and not Rockhill Rd. The change was noted.

Old Business

Taken from the March meeting, Bob Simmons shared updates on (3) items.

Troost Development: Bob shared that the approval was received from the Board of Curators to move forward on the project with Troostworthy and/or the (CBC) CarrBaierCrandall/EPC teams.

We have provided the ground lease draft to both teams for their attorney's review. The project commencement has slowed by the development teams due to the sharp increases in construction costs experienced in the Kansas City area. Both teams are doing their due diligence with the proposal. There were no questions from the NAC members.

Graffiti appeared on the Miller Coach building that Natasha pointed out. There have been several locations along Troost with graffiti. The UMKC Homes service group removed the graffiti, cleaned up around the property, and removed bush.

Van Trust clean up: Bob reached out to Van Trust to inquire about cleaning the street. They cleaned out the storm sewer and used a street sweeper to clean the street. We have requested that they continue to be diligent about keeping the area clean of trash. There will be a lot more attention with the late spring opening. There were no questions from the NAC members

The meeting continued to new business agenda item giving Bob the opportunity to introduce the guest.

Mr. Keith Spare posed questions about the renovation of the Colonial Shops and access. He shared that the doors do not include any kind of handicap accessibility and are difficult to open.

Dee reminded everyone of the NAC Ground Rules and that public comments should be saved until the appropriate time on the agenda. Keith, stated "You know I don't recognize that rule, so you can make a note or not." Dee shared that public questions would be noted and repeated that public comments needed to be heard at the appropriate time. Keith responded, "I do not recognize that rule."

New Business

KC Streetcar Main Street Extension

Bob reminded the members that the Streetcar Authority and KCATA had been holding public meetings. Bob mentioned he has enjoyed working on the streetcar project on Main Street Extension. He has been on the advisory committee through the process. Bob invited Meghan Jansen, with Parson + Associates, and Tom Gerend, Executive Director KC Streetcar Authority to give updates on the project. (attached presentation)

Tom Gerend, started the presentation on how the streetcar would connect to the university. Tom and Meghan highlighted the following from the presentation:

- Purpose + Need
- The goal of this project phase is to stop locations, which lane (s), recommend connections and modification bus system, advance request for federal funding
- Project expansion time line
- Transit connections and modifications
- North – Mid – South Section criteria pros and cons
- Benefits of extending downtown starter line

Tom shared that the Streetcar Extension project is working closely with MainCor.

During the presentation, Mr. Spare asked questions of the guest speaker. Dee once again reminded everyone of the NAC Ground Rules. Mr. Spare continued to ask questions and make comments. After several questions/comments from Mr. Spare, Dee noticed that NAC members had questions and asked if there were any questions or comments from the NAC members. After Jim Wanser asked about potential property value increases, Mr. Spare once again asked a question of the guest speaker. Dee asked if there were any questions from the members. Mr. Spare again stated that he did not recognize the NAC Ground Rules.

NAC Member questions focused on the following:

- Parking at 51st Street and Brookside
- Crossing over Volker Boulevard and Brush Creek
- Clean streets
- Bicycle access
- Property value increase on TDD zone
- Affordable housing

Dee restated that the University and the Council supported the Ground Rules established when the NAC was created. In accordance with those ground rules, she would need to ask Mr. Spare to leave if he continued to disregard the ground rules. Mr. Spare responded, “I don’t care. I am not leaving; this is a meeting for the public.” Martha Hogerty asked him to hold his comments until the appropriate time, he told her to “shut up”.

The next Streetcar public meeting is, June 5, 2018 at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church 4:30 pm. Information is on the KC Main Streetcar website. Dee encouraged NAC members and guests to attend the public meetings for more information and progress.

Announcements

- Angela McDonald reminded NAC members of the annual neighborhood cleanup Saturday April 21 9:30 – noon.
- Jim Wanser inquired about any additional news on the downtown arts campus. Bob shared that the Interim Chancellor is looking at other options that are not downtown, options of being on Volker campus, academic alignment, the best financial situation that works for our students and what works for our community. With some conversation, it created the opportunity for faculty within the theater department to align forces with the Conservatory.
- Renee inquired about an update on the Oak Street apartments. Bob shared that with spring break they moved students out of the south building. There were some additional relocations. The two retail businesses continued to be open. Oak Nails and Pickleman’s is a separate building and we continue to monitor the air and water quality.

Public Comments

Mr. Spare expressed his concern that the new doors at the Colonial Shops were difficult to open, especially for people with mobility limitations.

Mr. Spare once again expressed his concern with the grounds rules of the NAC. As a NAC member and a member of the South Plaza neighborhood board, Martha Hogerty offered to share any questions or concerns on behalf of the neighborhood. Mr. Spare indicated to Martha that she did not represent the South Plaza neighborhood.

Ben Randall and some other members of the council expressed their concerns with the way Mr. Spare had conducted himself at this meeting and in the past. Although personal discussion continued, hearing no further public comments or conversation relevant to the agenda, Dee adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Submitted by Dee Evans