

imagine KUTZKY

* Building on the past * Planning for the future *

Citizens Council Meeting Minutes

5/18/05

Present: Dave Edmonson, Dan Ellenbaum, Kris Hebring, Scott Hebring, Sister Mary Eliot Crowley, Kellie Threinen, Jennifer Mulvihill, Marcia Marcoux; staff, Andy Masterpole, Stephanie Kilen, Sean Allen

Not Present: Chris Flood

Imagine Kutzky/KPNA Partnership:

Stephanie updated the group as to discussions between Stephanie, Andy and Dave about the relationship between Imagine Kutzky and the KPNA. A formal structure of a partnership between First Homes and the KPNA to make up Imagine Kutzky and the Citizens Council was approved by the KPNA Executive Committee. The partnership will operate on the basis that the Citizens Council is making implementation decisions. The Citizens Council is comprised of membership from the KPNA. Andy Masterpole is the official liason between Imagine Kutzky and the KPNA. He will bring updates to the KPNA membership about Imagine Kutzky's activities and progress. Dave emphasized the importance of making it clear that the Imagine Kutzky Citizens Council is 'staffed' by members of the KPNA. The general consensus among the group was that this was a good solution to the question of the relationship between Imagine Kutzky and the KPNA.

Budget/Finance:

Stephanie updated the group that THINK Credit Union made a contribution of \$2,500 to Imagine Kutzky. This was significantly less than had been hoped for. Therefore, a funding gap remains of \$12,500. As staff identifies funding sources to meet the budget, we are able to continue uninterrupted to do the \$20,000 contribution from First Homes in March.

Meetings/Presentations:

Stephanie and Andy updated the group on presentations made to the community since the April meeting. The Committee of the Whole: meeting went well, and IK was generally well received. Major question surrounded the relationship between IK and KPNA. P & Z Commission: Initiated a Land Use Plan Amendment that Stephanie and Andy will be working with Jeff Ellerbush from the Planning Dept on. Lourdes Building Committee: Dave Edmonson attended with Andy and Stephanie and voiced the intention of the KPNA to work with Lourdes in developing a common vision for expansion should they decide to stay in Kutzky Park. IK Advisory Board meeting: At this meeting the Marcia expressed that there is an opportunity for the Downtown redevelopment group and IK to work together on zoning and special district issues. A member of the Downtown Alliance, Doug Knott, is on our advisory board and may be a good connection for that. United Way Executive Board: When telling the group Andy and I would be meeting with the UW to discuss property improvements they could make, discussion arose as to the contractual commitment the UW may have made with the School Board when the UW was sold the property for \$1. Dave recollected that there may have been a charter for the use of the building that it should remain community oriented and be a benefit to the neighborhood. Stephanie will look into it and have an update for the June Citizens Council meeting.

Special Districts/Overlay Zones/Ordinance Amendments:

Andy explained the terminology and differences in these solutions to zoning issues. As Imagine Kutzky proceeds with implementation of zoning solutions, we will need to make a decision about which of these options to pursue. Currently, IK staff would propose a change from current zoning in Kutzky to a Special District. However, the planning staff is very reluctant because it is such a complicated process when zoning already exists. Andy and Stephanie will be meeting with them to sort out the concerns, decipher the needs of the neighborhood and what is the best solution. There will be more information on this at the June meeting.

Two Way Traffic Trial:

Stephanie presented parking a report from Chris Flood who walked 1st Street SW, and counted rental units, legal on-street parking spaces, and off-street parking spaces. A clear shortage of off-street parking exists.

The group discussed whether or not to include parking changes and recommendations with the proposal to change direction of traffic from one-way to two-way. After much discussion, the group unanimously decided that these are two separate issues, and that they would support the original recommendation: Change traffic to two way, parking remains the same on 1st Street SW from 11th to 6th Avenues, parking moves from South side to North side between 11th and 16th Avenues with a painted bike lane on the South side of the street. This avoids controversy with landlords who will be against removing street parking spaces in the high-density sections of 1st Street SW. Residents can pursue a change in parking, but it would have to be done through a petition and public hearing process. Marcia will confirm the process and timeline for changing streets to two-way with Public Works.

Neighborhood Dog Park:

Andy and Stephanie needed an official recommendation from the Citizens Council as to whether or not to pursue the idea of a dog park with the Parks Dept. Concerns included aesthetics, especially the possibility of a chain link fence. The idea was proposed that Parks could contribute the amount normally used for the fence, and Kutzky could do fundraising to pay the extra cost of upgrading to a decorative iron-gate style fence. Added traffic volumes into the park was discussed, but the group felt that the scale of a dog park in Kutzky would be smaller than the existing dog park in the city, so it would be most widely used by neighborhood residents walking to the park. The group decided unanimously to pursue the options for a dog park, and Stephanie and Andy would report back at the next meeting with more information.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.