

University District Zoning and Planning Regulatory Review Task Force Meeting #1

Tuesday, August 26, 2008
12 Morrill Hall
100 Church St SE
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

MEETING NOTES

Task force members present: Bill Dane, Nancy Rose-Pribyl, Merrie Benasutti, Katie Fournier, Jo Radzwill, Jim Ruiz, Skott Johnson, Doug Carlson, Florence Littman, Ron Lischeid

Others present: Peg Wolff, Haila Maze, Robert Clarksen, Joe Bernard, Jessica Thesing, Dick Poppele, Brian Swanson, Mary Meller, Diane Hofstede, Jan Morlock

Welcome and Introductions

- Task force members and other attendees introduced themselves
- Name tags will be available at subsequent meetings

Meeting Time and Location

- The task force will meet every two weeks through the holidays, in order to get things accomplished in a timely manner – including a report for the legislature due in early January 2009
- Meetings will be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 8 AM – 9:30 AM, at 12 Morrill Hall
- Notification of meetings will generally be by email, unless otherwise requested

Project Scope and Objectives

- Discussion of scope, objectives, and general timeline as presented in handouts
- Needs to be more clear that, between identifying priority issues and developing implementation steps, study and analysis is needed
- Consult with LASR-CC as a model for district level cooperation
- Build on shared vision work done through impact report process

Background on Major Issues

- Discussion of major issues as identified in handout
- Need to develop a problem statement to place issues in context, for those who are less familiar with what the conditions are facing district neighborhoods
- Need to include direction for business districts and associations, not just residential areas; they are facing pressures as well (for instance, night clubs in Dinkytown) – may want to revisit zoning in these areas
- Design is a very important issue, including architectural integrity, quality construction, and compatibility with surrounding areas
- Need to address administrative review process directly

- Examine implications for new policies on sober houses and reasonable accommodation
- Consider option of overlay district, not just changes to base zoning
- Need to identify which areas zoning will be examined – not entire district
- Look into “relative homestead” issue, where parents buy homesteaded property for children, but effectively functions as rental property
- Occupancy issues are common target in university communities; however complicated when also dealing with large immigrant households
- Look into prohibition on upholstered furniture in porches and yards
- Potential issue: U’s plans for expansion and redevelopment
- Ensure that process aligns well with Alliance sponsored design framework discussion

Next Steps

- Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 9, same time and place
- Possible source for information: student legal services listserv
- Other groups which need to be targeted for involvement on some level (level to be determined at upcoming meetings):
 - Dormitory managers
 - University Housing and Residential Life
 - Developers – Opus, Doran, etc.
 - Landlords – possibly from loose association in area
 - Associations of homeowners, including condos, townhomes, co-ops
 - Religious organizations, such as Interfaith Campus Coalition
 - Inter-fraternity Council
 - Immigrant communities, possibly through mosques
 - Industrial businesses and property owners
 - Other business associations: Old St Anthony Main, SE Business Association, SEED
 - Fairview Hospital
 - Augsburg College
 - Central Corridor LRT project
 - Schools and libraries, including report on status
 - Arts and cultural community
 - Students, including MSA and GAPSA
 - St Paul, including St Anthony Park neighborhood