

PAYNE PHALEN DISTRICT FIVE PLANNING COUNCIL

STRONG  SAFE  WELCOMING  CONNECTED  NEIGHBORHOODS

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Community Planning and Economic Development Committee (CPED)

DRAFT CPED MINUTES FEBRUARY 2011

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 1, 2011

6:30 p.m.

722 Payne Avenue, Saint Paul

CHAIR: David Syers Cped@paynephalen.org

1. Chair David Syers welcomed the community and led a round of introductions.
2. Chair Syers asked the Committee to review the Agenda which was approved. The January 4, 2011 DRAFT CPED Minutes were approved.
3. Mr. Brian Tourtelotte was introduced from Saint Paul Parks and Recreation. He presented plans regarding the proposed installation of two tennis courts and a racquetball court at Phalen Keller Regional Park. This installation falls under the Annual Court Renovation Project (a CIB funded initiative to restore all St. Paul Tennis Courts in a ranked priority system). The previous site of tennis courts rested on wetlands and peat soil which shifted. The new site is across Johnson Parkway from Burnquist Avenue. Hours of access, lighting and the final site plan are still undetermined. Total costs are roughly \$120,000.
Discussion Points:
District Five has longstanding support for more tennis courts and the community has lobbied for more courts on the Eastside. Regina Rippel noted the sport is a lifelong sport and she noted the high number of youth interested in tennis. She expressed concern at the net loss of two courts as four courts had previously been available. "We need a minimum of four courts to replace the four that were removed".
Concerns were expressed about maintenance of new courts when current rec centers suffer from budget cuts and a history of poor maintenance.
Mr. Tourtelotte said that four courts on the available site would be difficult given that storm water runoff requirements would not be met with four courts.
"The Community would like to be given back what has been taken away."
Lighting needs are tied to hours of access. Metered lights are possible. Ed Davis asked for new "green" lighting options. Syers suggested looking to CUB for examples.
Mr. Tourtelotte said that racquetball is popular with those who play and there are only four courts in the City. The Department does not have a clear way to track user hours in non-staffed recreation sites.

CPED noted that a previous study of the location of tennis courts showed that the Eastside has fewer than other parts of Saint Paul, yet we have a more youth in Payne Phalen. Youth have advocated for more courts on the Eastside.

Ryan Kapaun moved that CPED strongly urge Saint Paul Parks and Recreation to install and maintain four tennis courts, two racquetball courts and a tennis practice wall at the Phalen Keller Regional Park. This would effectively replace the eight tennis courts and two racquetball courts that were lost to the Payne Phalen community by the development of the CUB store and Phalen Village. The courts and the area should have quality energy efficient lighting and should be well-maintained. Seconded. Passed by vote.
4. A presentation was made by Michael Buelow of BB Housing Associates, LLC regarding proposed plans to rehab three registered vacant and foreclosed upon properties in Rail Road Island. D5 staff noted only one property was discussed which was 765 Edgerton. Mr. Buelow added 500 Hopkins and 599 Reaney. BB Housing expects to work on three properties and requests a letter of support from District Five. The group has rehabbed several duplexes in District Six with good success. They will maintain and manage the properties for at least 15 years after the rehab. They have managed other properties in the City. This acquisition and rehab would be part of NSP2. They would set up an escrow account with tenants as an incentive to encourage long term tenancy. Longstanding tenants with good histories would be able to collect the funds after a two year period of time. He said this would \$600 a year and \$1200 for the two year rental period. His LLC has a good track record of working with women and minority owned contracting services. They are working with NEC to test the

energy efficiency of their homes – had good results. They are committed to becoming part of the neighborhood and community.

They currently manage six properties in Saint Paul and have 20 years of experience. Ryan Kapaun moved to offer support to the application of BB Housing Associates LLC for the proposed rehab projects in Rail Road Island on the condition that RRITF meeting on February 17, 2011 supported the projects. Ed Davis seconded. Passed by vote.

5. Leslie spoke about meetings regarding the Neighborhood Stabilization Program – Phase 3 (NSP3) funds to acquire and rehabilitate and market vacant properties in District Five – specifically Orange to Wells and Payne to Arcade. CPED discussed their intent in asking for off duty officers to provide security at 390 Maryland and 1146 Payne SuperAmerica, with new owners Northern Tier LLC. Leslie will again repeat this intent to city staff. A new option exists for CPED to stay up to date and engage in land use issues. The office has purchased Basecamp Suite, collaborative software. Members will soon receive an invitation to join the website.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS were discussed:

I-35E Cayuga Interchange – Scope of work and timelines. Role of community and public.

Letter regarding ESR and Duluth Case – reference Board action of 1-25-2011.

CPED REFERENCE SHEET – Commonly Used Acronyms

CPED REFERENCE SHEET – Near East Side Area Zoning Study Proposed\

CPED REFERENCE – Preliminary Plat for Beacon Business Center North (In District 5)

CPED REFERENCE – Zoning Committee response to Heffner re-establishment of Non-conforming use for duplex at 1133

Payne

CPED REFERENCE – OS Staff have followed up on 627 Bush – Woller snow drop off site.

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