

Trees and Trails- January 23, 2018

Present: Fabini, Dover, Koch, Rennwald, Hukriede, (5)

Absent: Hogfeldt, Passe (2)

Commissioner Dover called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Motion to approve the agenda made by Koch, Hukriede. *Motion approved by all members present and voting.*

Motion to approve the November 29th Meeting Minutes made by Koch, Fabini. *Motion approved by all members present and voting.*

Public Discussion- None

Commission Business

- a. **Two Harbors Transportation Plan: Preliminary Plan Review-** Otsea gave a summarized version of the presentation provided by CJ Fernandez, AFLA for the Two Harbors Transportation Plan meeting which was held the night before. Otsea highlighted the design options for the East and west corridors of 7th avenue, as well as the entire stretch of Waterfront Drive, terminating at the waterfront in Van Hoven Park. Otsea facilitated conversation to develop feedback for the landscape architect to use while refining the design before the next meeting. Discussion and feedback summarized below:
 - 7th Ave-West Corridor
 - a. Agreed there's a need for a gateway at the entrance.
 - b. Appreciated bringing the trees back into design
 - c. Combined facilities on the south side is adequate.
 - d. Can mid-block crossings be considered?
 - e. Try and find the previous study of the north side sidewalk project completed in the past.
 - 7th Avenue-East Corridor
 - a. Sided with option of bike trail on 6th avenue.
 - b. Would rather have trees on both sides for aesthetic, balanced look.
 - c. Oversized vehicles (RV, trailer, boats, etc.) should be accommodated.
 - d. A 6th Avenue connection to the campground/Burlington Bay should be considered.
 - Waterfront Drive
 - a. Appreciated connection to the waterfront.
 - b. Would like to see the trees kept if possible.
 - c. Concerns on parking for Thomas Owens park, especially with expected additional programming in the future.

Otsea stated that he'd provide this feedback to the consultant for influence on the revised design option. He'd update the Commission when the next meeting was set and encouraged all to attend if possible. He also mentioned that the overall Transportation Plan update would be a new chapter for the comprehensive plan and would review the relevant sections with the Trees and Trails Commission.

- b. Wayfinding Improvements Project-** Otsea referenced the Commission members to the new map created to outline the points of pedestrian wayfinding signage and asked for feedback regarding the points. He also noted that he'd tie in this information to the ongoing Transportation Plan update and have additional information available at next month's meeting.

Staff and Commission Reports:

- a. Staff- Bicycle friendly community Workshop application-** Otsea informed the Commission that the workshop has been awarded. He'll continue to work with SHIP coordinator Tracy Gilsvik T&T once date is set for additional details/logistics. Hopes some members can attend.

Solar Lights- Otsea mentioned he's connecting with City Electrician Blake Prince regarding options for installing solar lighting on the lighthouse point area. He expected to have additional information at the next meeting.

Tree City- The City is still awaiting confirmation of the tree city designation and expects approval. Staff turnover has caused delays, Otsea mentioned he had been informed that January 31st was an internal deadline from the state.

Two Harbors Area Fund- Otsea informed the Commission that a letter of intent was submitted and approved. A full application is expected to be submitted by early next week with a Feb. 1st deadline.

GLRI Grant- Otsea outlined an opportunity that he'd been contacted about regarding City participation in a USFS study set to identify Hydrological impacts on Urban Forest- in U.S. Cities. Two Harbors was the only Minnesota City to be selected.

- b. Commission- Hukriede –** Terry outlined that he's become a board member for the GGTA and was happy to announce that the Two Harbors to Flood bay segment is next priority section the GGTA is targeting for implementation.

Fabini- Announced that they were able to grind all the stumps in Lakeview park as requested by the commission. Estimated over a dozen were completed.

c. **Next Meeting Date-** The next T&T meeting date was set for **Thursday, February 21st, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.**

There being no more business, a motion to adjourn was made by Koch, Hukriede. *Motion approved by all present and voting*

Adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Recorded and submitted by Justin Otsea, City Planner