

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota



Special Concurrent City Council, Housing and Redevelopment Authority, and Planning Commission Work Session

March 14, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The concurrent work session was called to order by Council Member/HRA Commissioner Elliott at 6:02 p.m. in the Bartholomew Room.

Council Members Present: Pat Elliott.

Council Members Absent: Michael Howard, Mayor Pro Tempore; Edwina Garcia; and Maria Regan Gonzalez.

HRA Members Present: Doris Rubenstein; and Pat Elliott.

HRA Members Absent: Mary Supple, Chair; and Michael Howard.

Planning Commission Members Present: Erin Vrieze Daniels, Chair; and Bryan Pynn.

Planning Commission Members Absent: Sean Hayford Oleary; Alysen Hoberg; Daniel Kitzberger; Susan Rosenberg; and Gordon Vizecky.

Staff Present: Steven L. Devich, City Manager/Executive Director; John Stark, Community Development Director; and Jared Voto, Executive Aide/Analyst.

Item #1

UPDATE ON THE SOUTHDALE LIBRARY SITE FROM THE CITY OF EDINA AND HENNEPIN COUNTY (COUNCIL MEMO NO. 26/HRA MEMO NO. 7)

Community Development Director John Stark gave a brief background on the project and process and introduced Bill Neuendorf, Economic Development Manager for the City of Edina.

Neuendorf presented an overview of the planning process; the City of Edina's guiding principles for new development; a "top ten list" from public open houses in December 2016; key themes to January 2017 workshop; and a summary of the market area of the site.

Neuendorf introduced Victor Pechaty, Design Principal for HGA. Pechaty presented the four key elements to success: (1) regional library; (2) shared outdoor commons for all; (3) mixed-use elements; and (4) connections to surrounding neighborhoods. He also presented two concepts of the project site and asked for feedback.

Council Member and Commissioners discussed the concepts and gave preference for Concept #2. They shared concerns about the height of the buildings on Xerxes that are across the street from single family homes in Richfield; however, they felt Concept #2, with the library on Xerxes and 70th could fit in with the neighborhood better, even at a larger height, as it would be a

neighborhood amenity. Commissioner Vrieze Daniels also read comments provided by Commissioner Hayford O'Leary, who was unable to attend, and preferred Concept #2.

Pechaty summarized the feedback that was received from the Council Member and Commissioners and they agreed with his summary. Neuendorf thanked the attendees for their feedback.

The concurrent work session was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:24 p.m.

Date Approved: March 28, 2017

Pat Elliott
Mayor

Jared Voto
Executive Aide/Analyst

Steven L. Devich
City Manager