

SAPCC Land Use Committee Meeting – 7-1-2021

Committee/staff: Karen Nelson, Ray Bryan, Amanda Longley, Roger Purdey, Chris Courtney, Bob Straughn, Regan Golden

Visitors: Shelly Dailey (Studio Distilling, managing partner)

Initial comments and agenda items:

-liquor license thing from Studio Distilling at 2380 Wycliff

-Announcement about Fusion Learning opportunity

Don't know if there is any reports for any of that work?

-Karen emailed Parks requesting an update on the park at Westgate because it is nearing July and we have not received any notifications about further action/updates on the park.

-Anything else need discussing or desire topics?

-Walker Johnston has left the committee - she's going to grad school out of state now

-Introductions given by committee members, staff, and guest

Westgate Park

-Westgate park – they've been held up on some construction things, haven't been able to take bids, so Kathryn expects it'll probably be until next year before construction starts

-Kathryn: pleased with how the process took shape

-Betty Wheeler got us in touch with two representatives from tribes (Dakota? Seven Tribes?), one is a professor with the U of M, the other does consulting and things like that related to these types of projects. They are also both working with other land things, and building the traditional housing up north that the council supported recently. They gave a wonderful presentation, talking about some of the ancient native history related to the area, gave ideas for names based on that history. Check-pa (spelling?) is the name that stood out – it can be spelled phonetically or traditionally, either is fine and won't insult anyone, they would actually suggest the phonetic spelling.

-a resolution was made and sent to the parks dept. But process for the city requires signatures for by the people we consulted with; but they didn't see a need for credit for it necessarily, however have signed on.

-the name talks about the connection between the sky and the earth. Also relates to where SAP is. Some ties to mother earth and father sky being tied together, interesting symbology.

-we were able to get signatures and resubmit proposal – city did allow for some extra time, to allow the people we spoke with to get an ok from their elders

-Chepka or Cépka is the proposed name (both spellings are valid)

-Roger: Was there discussion about marking that with a plaque or such? Kathryn – yes, they recently did that with a park in highland park, actually

-Kathryn – one thing would also be to incorporate native symbolism into the sign.

-one thing we continued to push off due to timing was seeking out funds with a good neighbor fund, perhaps for plantings – we had suggestions on plantings from Env. Committee previously. Env. Is continuing to stay on top of this, follow up about it.

-Roger: there was one mention of that particular parcel being near to where a trail would come through?

- Karen – not exactly there; Bob – from what he’s seen it was closer to Pelham, but Steven Mastey had said that maps the MN Historical Society had weren’t that precise, he was looking for more detailed info; but the old oxcart trail is right there even over the park
- Kathryn – that was another association that was being considered though we didn’t put a name out as a suggestion, perhaps relating the name to the oxcart trail; there was also railroad storage, other things perhaps from the industrial era that would’ve made for names
- Kathryn: There were also some further details about soil quality, we’re expecting an email from Liz (from Parks) with additional information.
- Roger: will there be a Bugle story on this? Karen – yes; Kathryn – we had one she thinks in the last edition, and we’ll have a more detailed one once things are fully approved. We certainly had something in the newsletter.

Meeting minutes

Meeting minutes were sent from two months ago; we didn’t meet last month; any comments?

- motion and second to approve the minutes; all in favor
- we haven’t had someone volunteer to be secretary to take minutes; **Amanda volunteers to do it tonight**

Studio Distilling

Shelly Dailey – Studio Distilling

- Distillery right next to the Hampden Park Co-op; been there quite a while but open to the public for 3 years
- they sell small numbers of bottles in packages, don’t have a cocktail area yet, were planning on opening one but then the public hit
- they’ve had a permit from the city for an event to do an outdoor tasting a while ago, that went well
- now planning another one, they’re submitting another permit – likely less than 150 people, they’ll give small samples. Legally they’re only allowed to give food, so on one will be getting drunk or such. Small grassy knoll, food truck.
- Ray: Not allowed to have music or other disturbance outdoors? Shelly – can have music as long as it doesn’t reach 65 decibels – which is very quiet; at a launch 3-4 years ago had a keyboard, quiet, have asked them if they’d like to do it again but haven’t heard. If they do do something it’ll be very quiet, certainly don’t want to cause disturbance.
- Roger moves, Ray seconds, to send letter of support. All in favor.**
- Amanda will let Kathryn know**
- Shelly will forward the invite/info to Kathryn
- even is **Friday, July 16, 4-7pm**

Territorial easement notification, various licenses

- notification of easement, on Territorial – seems to just be a property line adjustment, same development that’s already been going on
- seems just to be a small thing, not something to really discuss or that we need to talk to them about

-the project there seems to continue to be going well, pavement removed by Xcel to do work; lots going on in SSAP with several different developments

-city licenses

-we got a spreadsheet of license renewals – it's just a mass list of people applying for renewed licenses, for the whole city; just to keep us aware

-take a look at it if you'd like, if there are any surprises we can bring it up with the board that's in charge of that

-Ray mentions that Doreen is asking for a license for Succotash, he thought their store was moving to Snelling Area? It still has Raymond Ave address there? Karen says perhaps we could get more info from Kathryn from the city.

Home ownership

-Regan – perhaps something to discuss in future: Article on Home Ownership in the Twin Cities: <https://www.startribune.com/racial-homeownership-gap-in-the-twin-cities-highest-in-the-nation/600072649/>

-about racial discrepancies in home ownership in the cities, very dramatic difference; percent of whites who are homeowners vs. percent of blacks

-what can we do to encourage home ownership in a diverse group of people in our neighborhood?

-what would the makeup of people in our area be?

-perhaps read the article, see what you think about it, see what actions we might take; perhaps there's not anything, perhaps there is?

-Karen: think we can make this a general topic for next month

-when she was younger, cities were less popular and less expensive to buy in cities; then since the Great Recession they've been more popular, and we're far behind on supply vs. demand, that's why investors have done this – make lots of homes that used to be owned to rented – that's what the article was saying, after 2010 lots of homes became rental; Regan – article says they're doing it under smaller

Agenda items from last week

-Roger – no movement really at all from Mitra and Anton, he's followed up 3 times; he got final copy of standards from the group that is writing it last week, and will send it by pdf to everyone, it looks nice and it does focus on

-it does have a percent that's 50, 40, 30% area median income; he thinks it's absolutely essential we have that in neighborhood plans

-Regan – the other tenants in the furniture buildings

-the other main partner in there has just left, in D/O architects; no one really seemed to know what was going on there that she talked to, but it might that that was not the one we spoke with

-Karen – hasn't reached out to other district councils, but can follow up with that, about their interest in a green line overlay district

-Nick was going to ask Kathryn to follow up with other exec directors of other councils about that, but she can

-Westgate park – not much that she’s been involved with, but Steven has heard a lot, he’s probably the person to follow up with

-Michael on the Env. Committee has been concerned about the soil, worried it might not be right to plant things, would like to make sure

-Roger – hasn’t heard anything on Luther (Sherm was to give update but isn’t here); his concern continues to be that if they get a group to be doing infrastructure that’ll mean we have to talk to each new developer separately, which isn’t ideal

-Regan – she did send an email to Kathryn for an update to the Park Bugle of what we’ve been doing; the email got missed though, so didn’t get in that Bugle that month, but she thinks Kathryn got it in the next issue.

-She’ll also write up something about this meeting and get it to Kathryn

Other News

-Walker is officially off the committee now, so that does change our quorum?

-Roger – he’s also part of the building committee for the Playwright’s center, kitty-corner from Dual Citizen. They’ve got schematic design done, it’s an exciting building, exciting project. At some point they’ll come to present their plans to us. They’re great people, great idea, looking forward to having them as part of the neighborhood.

-it’ll have a nice outdoor space, looks like right now it’ll have a glass atrium, for play reading, some classroom activities to get kids involved, they really understand reaching out to the committee. Energize that part of the neighborhood.

-Roger mentions he had dinner from Hmong? Kitchen recently, very good; Regan agrees, she’s been eating there frequently. Fried chicken Regan mentions, Roger mentions eggplants with jalapeno. They don’t have a place to sit yet, just take-out, though sounds like they’re trying to get together funds to have a place to sit down in that area.

-Regan mentions - New CEZ Chromazone event, July 24th, 10-2pm

<https://www.chromazone.net/programming/2021-chroma-zone-midsummer-happening-event-2417-university-avenue-saint-paul>

Motion to adjourn, second, all in favor

-adjourned about 7:58pm