



City of Madison

Meeting Minutes - Final

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Wednesday, December 13, 2006

5:30 PM

Boys & Girls Club, 4705 Jenewein Rd.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Richard Berling.

II. Roll Call

Present: Paul J. Van Rooy, Lauren Cnare, Michael F. Ely, Joanne E. Brown, Lina Trivedi, Mary Czyszczak-Lyne, Richard C. Berling, Celia M. Jackson and David Wandel

Absent: Stephen A. Small

Staff Present: Dorothy Conniff, Leslie McAllister, Mary O'Donnell, Lorri Wendorf, Enis Ragland, Janet Pirano

III. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 8, 2006

Motion to approve the minutes of November 8, 2006 by Cnare/Ely. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Appearances

Diana Shinall, Executive Director of T.J.'s Support Brokerage Firm appeared to thank the Community Services Commission for all of its support of the MAP program and to thank the City for its continuation funding. Many Commissioners thanked Ms. Shinall for all her hard work and the effectiveness of the MAP program.

V. Discussion of Reorganization of the Department of Planning and Development

Mary Czyszczak-Lyne indicated she attended the CDBG Commission meeting when this topic was on the agenda. She reported that there was little discussion and Ald. Bruer suggested CDBG Commissioners send any comments via email to Enis. It remains unclear their position or questions on the reorganization.

Janet Pirano provided an overview of the Planning & Development reorganization. She indicated the Mayor asked her to look at the department with the questions of function, efficiencies and whether customers could receive better service. The Mayor had these goals; 1) protect the healthy economy; 2) protect neighborhoods; 3) better coordinate social services/human services/neighborhood services; 4) improve the redevelopment approval process; 5) improve communication.

For each of the goals, internal staff teams were created to make recommendations to a steering committee.

Regarding Economic Development - it can be pro-business and progressive, it doesn't have to be mutually exclusive. It should include business development, job creation, quality of life issues, workforce, housing and transportation. The Mayor wants all of these to be folded together thus he put Tax Incremental Financing Policy Ad Hoc Committee, Real Estate, Community Development Block Grant, Community Economic Development, Office of Community Services, Senior Center and Office of Business

Resources together in one unit with one director. The result should be a better set of economic development tools.

On the Office of Community Service side, there are four important recommendations: create a pilot project for 20 families for coordinated service between child care and housing assistance. They recognize that the City also needs to look at other partners such as Dane County Human Services, MMSD and United Way to fully provide wrap-around services. The plan is to take 2007 to build the project for implementation in 2008

The Mayor wants to improve the timeliness of loan processing through Community Development Block Grant and Community Economic Development. He also wants to study consolidation of commissions (Community Service Commission, Community Development Block Grant Commission, Early Child Care Education Board, Senior Citizen Advisory Committee) and would like that done early next year.

The Mayor would also like to improve the delivery of services to neighborhoods. Ms. Pirano indicated that the staff team began mapping out the City services to neighborhoods but did not complete the project. Another recommendation was to synchronize the various grants the department provides to neighborhoods. The Mayor would also like the City to develop an early warning system to identify neighborhoods that are in trouble. There is an additional City Planner position in the 2007 budget to assist with this.

Another team looked at the idea of a "one-stop-shop" for development proposals and the 2007 budget helps move this forward with an enterprise permitting software system.

The Mayor looked at the question of keeping everything in one department or splitting it into two departments. He left it as one department for cost savings with supplies and administrative staffing.

Ms. Pirano went on to discuss the next steps.

- 1. New positions and new funding are included in the 2007 budget.*
- 2. Restructuring of the department is contingent upon Council having opportunity to review.*
- 3. Have provided opportunity for Commission to have input. So far it's gone to CDBG and now, tonight, to OCS.*
- 4. There was a public hearing in November for the community to have input.*
- 5. Other committees, like the Plan Commission will be reviewing.*
- 6. Mayor's office is in the process of developing the job description for the new director position and will likely have someone hired in May.*

Mary Czyszczak-Lyne indicated that it appears the most concrete recommendations are with regard to the "one-stop-shop". She is concerned about the merger of the committees as it will be an overwhelming workload and it will lose the expertise that is currently on the committees because no one will have in depth knowledge about all the issues those committees cover. She also expressed concern that the OCS office and its work will be eroded. Ms. Pirano indicated that the workload and structure are up for a lot of discussion. It's not a forgone conclusion.

Ald. Van Rooy indicated it would be difficult to find one group of people to deal with all the issues. No one group will have the interest or expertise. He believes merger of the committees is not a good idea.

David Wandel indicated that the Community Services Commission wants to actively participate in the process to discuss the potential merger. He echoed the concerns expressed by Mary and Paul.

Ms. Pirano indicated the goal is to figure out a way to work more closely with other Commissions.

Joanne Brown indicated that she doesn't see a problem of overlap or lack of communication. She believes there is only one area of overlap with CDBG and there are other ways to deal with that issue in a less drastic way. She indicated that the perception that there is a great deal of overlap is incorrect.

Ms. Pirano indicated that the Mayor doesn't necessarily see OCS and CDBG getting in each other's way. She discussed the example of the Department of Civil Rights and Affirmative Action where the two units were kept separate but cross-pollinated.

Ald. Cnare indicated that much more study is needed and suggested a joint meeting of OCS and CDBG commissions in early 2007 to share each other's priorities.

Enis Ragland clarified that the Mayor is referring to the offices not necessarily the Commissions. Ms. Pirano added that the Mayor doesn't necessarily see overlap as bad or "dirty word" and that it may be useful and necessary.

Joanne indicated a concern about the new name of the unit as well. She believes the name defines the offices and is concerned about the term economic and not including community in the name.

Richard Berling suggested that maybe we need a business representative on the CSC.

Mr. Ragland poised the question of how the City, County and other partners are addressing the issue of poverty.

Celia Jackson expressed that if institutions are going to have a conversation about an issue like poverty, it must include those people living in poverty and effected by the issue.

Lina Trivedi wondered if members of the CSC have enough information to speak to specific issues.

Ms. Pirano and Mr. Ragland thanked the CSC for the opportunity to present the issue to them and for their input. The Mayor hopes they will vote to move the reorganization forward.

Mary Czyszczak-Lyne asked staff if Planning Councils would stay in the Office of Community Services. Lorri Wendorf indicated that they are in the Office of Community Services in the 2007 budget.

Joanne Brown indicated that the old language of Day Care Advisory Board was still being used and it should be Early Childhood Care and Education Board.

Ms. Brown also asked what the impact of the reorganization would have on staffing. Ms. Pirano indicated that there are no lay-offs but in fact staff positions were added.

Motion to approve the proposal to reorganize the Department of Planning & Development with the underlying concerns of the merger of the Committees and the name noted during the discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Appoint Subcommittee to Review Alternative Transportation Proposals

The Commission selected a subcommittee to review the proposals that will include Mary, Lina and Celia.

VII. Discussion of Allied Drive Alternatives

Lorri Wendorf reviewed what has taken place with the Allied Drive redevelopment thus far. She discussed the Community Design Process held this past summer. From that, three proposals for the redevelopment of the City-owned property emerged. The Allied Area Task Force requested that the three designs be forwarded to a variety of City of Madison and City of Fitchburg Committees for comment, but not up-or-down approval. Copies of those three designs along with a summary of what the AIA heard from residents were proved to the CSC at an earlier meeting. In addition, a copy of the City staff criteria to rate the proposals along with a summary of the criteria for the Move Forward Not Out Coalition were handed out to CSC members.

Dorothy Conniff indicated that she thought it would be useful for the CSC to focus its comments on aspects that effect the work we do since our CSC members are not experts in physical design.

Lina indicated that she and Leslie went door-to-door before the Community Design Process and her spreadsheet of data from that outreach indicated that 65%-70% of residents were interested in home-ownership. Leslie clarified that during that outreach work she didn't recall that question being asked and she doesn't believe that question was asked of everyone. The primary reason for outreach was to encourage residents to participate in the Community Design Process. Leslie also indicated she has never seen the spreadsheet Lina referred to but would like a copy.

David indicated that the City really needs to look at the issue of affordability and what that means for the current residents of the neighborhood. He also indicated the need for neighborhood-based services and a severe lack of accessible transportation for the neighborhood.

Lina indicated a need for a more mixed-income neighborhood.

Given a lack of time for the CSC to fully discuss the issue, they agreed to establish a subcommittee to discuss it and come back to the next CSC meeting with some conclusions and recommendations. The subcommittee will include Lina, Joanne and David. Richard asked that the announcement go to all CSC members and anybody else interested in attending should.

VIII. Presentation from Boys and Girls Club

Wyolanda Singleton from the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County made a presentation to the CSC on the new Allied Drive Boys & Girls Club. She provided an overview of the various programs they provide and other services offered in the building.

IX. Tour of Boys and Girls Club

A tour of the Allied Boys & Girls Club was provided for all CSC members who wished to participate.

X. Announcements

Davie Wandel indicated that as the CSC representative to the Martin Luther King Jr. Award Committee he was very impressed with all the nominations and that everyone

should watch for the announcement of the winners of the award.

XI. Adjournment

The Community Services Commission meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lorri Wendorf
Recording Secretary*