

AGENDA # 8

City of Madison, Wisconsin

| | |
|---|---|
| REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION | PRESENTED: April 6, 2011 |
| TITLE: 2906 Traceway Drive – Public Building, Water Pump Station. 14 th Ald. Dist. (21524) | REFERRED: REREFERRED: REPORTED BACK: |
| AUTHOR: William A. Fruhling, Acting Secretary | ADOPTED: POF: |
| DATED: April 6, 2011 | ID NUMBER: |

Members present were: Marsha Rummel, Mark Smith, Dawn O’Kroley, Todd Barnett, Richard Slayton, John Harrington, R. Richard Wagner, Melissa Huggins, Jay Handy and Henry Lufler, Jr.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of April 6, 2011, the Urban Design Commission **RECEIVED AN INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** for a public water pump station building located at 2906 Traceway Drive. Appearing on behalf of the project were Al Larson, Eric Lirtes and Andy Mullendore, all representing Madison Water Utility. Mullendore and Urtes, both with Strand Associates, Inc. gave an overview of the new water utility pump station building and site issues, noting they have worked with the neighborhood and Park Board since it is in a park. The building is brick with a split-face concrete block base and a gable roof for a more residential appearance.

The Commission had the following comments:

- The architecture of the building was discussed, and a modern, “special” design approach was recommended so that it is also an asset to the park. It was noted a utilitarian building could be “special” without costing a lot. Using a flat roof or shed roof should be explored.
- It was suggested that a drinking fountain be added to the project.
- It was suggested that a shade tree could be added to the north side of the bike path, and it was noted that Catalpa is on the plant list, but is not being used.
- Metal landscape edging should be used instead of plastic.
- It was suggested that the area of the drive should be reduced and a pervious surface considered.

ACTION:

Since this was an **INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** no formal action was taken by the Commission.

After the Commission acts on an application, individual Commissioners rate the overall design on a scale of 1 to 10, including any changes required by the Commission. The ratings are for information only. They are not used to decide whether the project should be approved. The scale is 1 = complete failure; 2 = critically bad; 3 = very poor; 4 = poor; 5 = fair; 6 = good; 7 = very good; 8 = excellent; 9 = superior; and 10 = outstanding. The overall ratings for this project are 3, 5, 5 and 6.

URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION PROJECT RATING FOR: 2906 Traceway Drive

| | Site Plan | Architecture | Landscape Plan | Site Amenities, Lighting, Etc. | Signs | Circulation (Pedestrian, Vehicular) | Urban Context | Overall Rating |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Member Ratings | 5 | 4 | 5 | - | - | 6 | - | 5 |
| | - | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| | - | 5 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

General Comments:

- Public park should have architectural gem that offers some usable space for soccer field. Would like to see Water Utility come up with a prototype design for all new buildings that embrace the utilitarian and fundamental service of water.
- “Cut loose”...this should be an icon!
- Bad precedent-setting of taking parkland for City utilities. Building needs to reflect neighborhood houses instead of looking like an older park restroom building.
- Necessary infrastructure. Add a true shade tree. Bubbler? Stand alone OK.
- Architecture is way too complicated. Gable fascia; quoining details are not cohesive. Bubbler? Rotate building? Flat roof or go modern. Object in the park?