

Planning Commission Work Session

JANUARY 18, 2011

6:32 PM – 7:34 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM

FACILITATOR	Chairman Kenneth Hellewell
NOTE TAKER	Judy Merrill
ATTENDEES	Kenneth Hellewell, Gary Pratt, Tyler Bodrero, Braxton Schenk, T.J. Jensen, and Troy Moyes

ITEM 1: COMMITTEE REPORTS

Gary reported on the Antelope Drive Planning Committee, stating that they would be meeting the next evening. Troy was preparing some maps for marketing and a blow up of the zoning corridor from the City center to 1000 West. Mike Eggett planned to attend as well as others. They would be involving Clinton and Layton in respect to development along that street as far as contractors they already considered and rejected so that Syracuse did not stumble over the same groups. He sent out an email blast to City staff and the Commission Chairman to keep everyone updated.

Chairman Hellewell reported on the 200 South Planning Committee, stating that they finished the proposed language for a business-park zone. Thursday, at 6:30 p.m., their Committee would review the language and prepare it for presentation, along with some details relating to an overlay zone specific to the 200 South development area. Beyond that, he received no new updates from UDOT regarding their plans for construction this spring. Troy advised him that UDOT was still working on drawings and that they would probably not go out to bid until May. Troy was also working on the RFP for a consultant.

Braxton reported on the Transportation Committee, stating that they had a series of meetings in which they tried to come up with some recommendations for optional routes that would stay west of Jensen Park as much as possible. He believed they came up with some great ideas. T.J. hooked up a laptop computer and showed the different routes to commissioners and others in attendance. Their Committee planned to put these ideas down on paper and present them to UDOT as alternate routes, although they all agreed that the favored route was still Bluff Road. These new options would provide more ways to avoid Jensen Park, along with other advantages as well. Kenneth explained that the City intentionally developed Jensen Park that close to the Legacy corridor, with the trail within it, as a means of preserving the corridor. The City planned the park so that the corridor would only eliminate the parking lot and the front trail but would not impact the pond. UDOT would then build a new entrance on the other side. Braxton explained that their Committee took that into consideration. These alternate routes not only saved the park but rerouted a portion of the corridor off of Bluff Road and preserved some good land for commercial uses while protecting a large source of income for the City. The alternatives would save the golf course as well. T.J. went over the three new routes and stated that their Committee would also be looking at updating the master trail plan and designating minor collector and major and minor arterials in order to figure out how to tie them into the corridor. They planned to discuss these alternative routes with City Council at their next work session and asked commissioners to provide feedback for incorporation into their presentation.

Kenneth advised Braxton and T.J. that the Commission held the responsibility to forward items on to City Council and that their Committee needed to finalize recommendations and present them to commissioners for approval first before taking it to Council. The Commission organized these planning subcommittees to report back to the Commission rather than Council. Braxton believed they were already following that procedure by presenting their recommendations to commissioners under this agenda item. Kenneth disagreed, stating that he wanted them to present formal recommendations of various options with preferred routes. He believed they still had more work to do in order to provide a polished presentation with alternates that included rationale for each one by listing the pros and cons. He asked them to remember possible impacts as the corridor crossed 1700 South, because the City also looked at that intersection as another commercial district. He advised them that their Committee could have a discussion with City Council but not give a presentation. TJ explained that they were simply following the process recommended by former Commission Chairman Robert Whiteley and that the only alternative UDOT did not already have was the 3000 West route the Committee created. Braxton explained how Councilman Shingleton attended all of their Committee meetings, and he was the person who put this item on the City Council agenda. It was not going to be a presentation that came from the Committee chairs, it was simply a part of Councilman Shingleton's report on his activities with the Transportation Committee. Braxton did not even plan to attend the Council meeting. Kenneth accepted Braxton's explanation and said he was fine with Councilman Shingleton discussing the matter with Council if the Mayor wanted it on the Council agenda.

ITEM 2: DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Kenneth reminded commissioners of the UDOT open houses. The first would be February 8 in West Point.

Gary reported on the last City Council meeting. He then stated that the Council assigned a new Councilman to his Antelope Drive Committee, so they had representation once again.

Kenneth advised commissioners that Eric Hazen resigned from the Commission on January 11, so they would be getting two and possibly three more commissioners by hopefully the first part of February, with one of them serving as an alternate.