

## **RCCA Board Meeting, October 9, 2014, Arbor Forest Common Room**

Board members present: Ruth Stump, Jim Dewitt, Marcie Schwarz, Linda Dunn, Liz Harrow, Heather Rivera,

Others present: Kathy Boyle, COEL; Amy van Antwerp, COEL; Venny Gore, MSU; Kierstin Sanch, CRC; Karl Gielarowski; Janet Lillie, MSU; Kathy Jacobs; Marcia Van Ness; Brendan Boyle; Jeff Friedle; Adrian Adjerio. ELPD

I. Agenda was rearranged to accommodate the needs of guest presenters. Dunn moved, Schwartz seconded. All in favor.

II. Presentation by Ginny Haas, who is retiring. She introduced her replacement, Janet Lillie, who will be the MSU vice president for community relations, and then presented Venny Gore, from MSU Residence Halls, to present plans on replacing Spartan village.

MSU has a commitment to student family housing. At beginning they housed 1500 families; today they have 200 family apartments. Big changes in community, in number of options outside MSU, needs for good 24 hour availability of internet, dining. It is important that the housing is affordable, that rents should fit a graduate student stipend.

The three sites considered include the 10-acre State Police site, the 34-acre Cherry Lane site, and the 80-acre Spartan Village site. He discussed the advantages of each site.

Spartan Village—a bit too isolated, but private location.

Cherry Lane—great location, close to campus, adequate size, next to undergrad population, but some issues regarding future campus growth being better suited there.

State Police site – proximity to campus, some issues with Brody parking, small area, in the 100 year flood plain. This is the site they chose, leaving the Cherry Lane site open to future academic development.

Gore presented preliminary site plan. There are currently 600 spaces used for Breslin parking. The new site will have approximately same number.

There will be 3 kinds of buildings: single student housing -- 3 to 4 stories high; single bedroom family apartments—3 to 4 stories high as well; and family housing-- 2 to 3 stories high.. The total number of beds in all three types of housing is expected to be 1218. Project must be self-supporting, affordable for student families.

Parking in floodplain is not allowed.

Some residents voiced objections to height of housing directly behind Marigold, and concern about numbers of people.

Spartan Village will close in June 2017, so new housing needs to be ready by September 2017. Projected life of buildings is 30 to 40 years, rather than something longer term, because student needs change.

There were questions about FRIB scientists, whether this area had been considered for housing for temporary visitors. The U is working out a master lease with private contractors.

It's hoped the project will be built all in one phase. The ideal scenario would be to start earth work in the fall of 2015, with schematics prepared by early winter.

The selected architect is Neumann Smith, who also did the Shaw Hall renovation. A group called Encore will do the housing, because MSU was so happy with their work on Case and Brody. Typically contractors are drawn from a 150 mile radius.

Gore said he'd come back to the committee with a design presentation in early winter.

III. Adrian Adjerio reported the good news that there is no more crime in East Lansing. Police crime-reporting website will be repaired soon.

The road surface on Harrison has been reclassified so that now Adjerio has the right to ticket overweight trucks.

Discussion of the noise on the morning of the UofM game. early tailgating? Band practice? There are homeless people living at underpass; a neighbor spoke to township police to have them moved out.

Adjerio missed ice cream social because of email mistake, but will be there for Pumpkins in the Park, on October 19th, 2 to 4.

IV. Amy van Antwerp announced that there will be a Park District workshop Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. City staff will be there to answer questions from 5 to 7 pm in the Hannah ballroom.

COEL is getting a new website with new navigation prompts. This will be pertinent soon for our webmaster Jan Eschbach. Liz Harrow will ask Joanne what she used to have Jan E post to website.

V. Kathy Boyle wanted to touch on two topics.

One was the early morning noise; she has been trying to track it down.

The other was the property sale proposal on the ballot. Part of the proposed development includes 3 city parking lots. The city must ask for permission to sell these lots. Current proposal includes an office building at the corner of Abbott and Grand River and an apartment building, housing for older residents. COEL has changed its ordinance to allow senior restricted housing. The final development might be different from the current proposal. If the lots don't sell, their sale can't be voted on again until Nov 2015.

Some residents had questions about the Trowbridge tif reallocation that was approved at the last city council meeting. She explained her vote and the issue.

VI. Kierstin Sanch said that the CRC will be doing a neighborhood cleanup on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

For Pumpkins in the Park event, she needs help with printing. Karen Hoene offered to design flier, but if she can't, Ruth Stump will complete it, email it to Linda. Who will print? Linda Dunn, will deliver to Kierstin. Riveras family will deliver in Ivanhoe. Karen Hoene is buying the pumpkins?

VII Jim Dewitt attended the Construction Junction meeting at MSU, which is held at 8 am on the second Thursday of every month.

Impressive number of projects on campus this year.. – 94 projects—some invisible. Discussed 11 of those projects, FRIB, MSU power plant in long term process of converting to natural gas. Natural gas line up from Mt Hope to power plant, and a multi-stage process of separating bicycle and pedestrian traffic.

New more efficient chiller for engineering complex on campus.

VIII Marcia Van Ness told us that she recently learned that Rich Pugh at the school board office is in charge of maintenance questions at Red Cedar School.

IX Harrow moved Dunn second, approval of minutes as submitted. All in favor.

X Next meeting November 13<sup>th</sup>. We'll keep date scheduled, but cancel if there is no scheduled business.

Perhaps at our next meeting we will ask for a report from Joanne Russell and Maria Chisholm on the work of the committee to reform rental rules.

XI Dunn moved, Schwartz seconded, adjournment at 9:09 pm. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.