

North East Spokane

Public Development Authority

January 13, 2017

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Minutes – Approved

Attendance

NEPDA Members present: Anthony Carollo, Nicole Hydzik, Craig Riley, Joe Tortorelli, Richard Burris, Cheryl Stewart

Staff present: Melissa Owen, Mike Tresidder, Louis Meuler, Rick Romero

Consultants present: none

Guests present: Mike Malsam (Spokane Public Schools), Peter Rayner (Beacon Hill)

1:00 pm to 1:05 pm **Welcome and Introductions**

Discussion Items:

Approval of November 2016 Minutes motion by Craig Riley, M/S by Joe Tortorelli, all in favor with minor edits to misspellings.

LINK Update – Louis Meuler

LINK process is part of larger process to update the City's Comprehensive Plan Transportation Chapter 4 which completed in 2001. The update process included reviewing and updating the vision, goals and polices. Spokane is working to integrate infrastructure planning into transportation and land use. In addition the city is working to right-size capital projects. A public meeting regarding the transportation chapter is expected in late February.

Louis provided a snapshot of the evaluation/selection matrix that was utilized to development the City's Capital Improvement Plan. There are ongoing efforts to develop a process for identifying "roadways of significance" for streets like Freya that are critical community priorities, but do not score well under the current criteria. Wellesley is currently in the City's 6-year capital plan as the City has work to conduct in addition to that which WSDOT has planned as part of the NSC.

1:30 pm to 1:50 pm **Funding PDA's – Rick Romero**

Rick shared that the City needs to bring the PDA's into a new level of integration and decision making for the city's public development authorities to be successful. To date the City's two PDA's have not yet been addressed at the leadership level. As a new approach with PDA's move forward, Rick would like all PDAs to look more consistent (governance, staff and funding).

The City Council has approved a strategic investment fund witch affords \$50,000.00 to each PDA for three years to help support the PDA's transition. The intent of these funds was to assist PDA's in hiring an executive director that would provide greater assistance then the current level offered via City staff. In the case of the PDA the Director's role would include coordinating planning and infrastructure/capital within the YARD.

Rick suggested to the Board that the PDA could benefit from a more direct connection to City Leadership and requested that the board consider adding two new appointees to the board resulting in Council and Cabinet-level representation on the board. Melissa will review the U-District Board bylaws and bring suggested language for an ordinance change back to the NEPDA for their approval.

Funding mechanisms utilized for development in the City should elevate projects in the YARD based on the areas priority as a PDA/Target area. One possible source of funding is Community Revitalization Funding (CRF) including a Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District.

Pete Rayner has found that unrated TIF bonds have a market. Pete, Cheryl and other NEPDA board members are reviewing the LIFT statute (another CRF tool) to evaluate the merits of working to restore this CRF option for funding street and other infrastructure improvements in The YARD. A renewal of the program or its pilot would require legislative action. Pete and Cheryl feel that they already have support of local/state legislators to move this forward and asked that the NEPDA board support the effort via a letter of support/commitment.

Richard made motion, Cheryl m/s for staff to assist in drafting a NEPDA letter of support regarding changes to the LIFT statute. After short discussion re: timing of infrastructure projects and how sales tax was calculated the motion was passed, all in favor.

Grant Updates

Area-wide plan draft received. Melissa will send this out to all NEPDA board members to review for the next meeting on January 27, 2017

Workshop Items Cont.

Melissa reminded all members to turn in the 2016 NEPDA Board Self-evaluation. New member orientation checklist provided to all members. Melissa will use feedback from orientation items to begin additional board trainings for the NEPDA as a whole. Melissa also requested that members forward their contact information including cell numbers to Melissa so that she can create a new contact list for board member and staff use.

Meeting Adjourned 2:47