

MINUTES

**McLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, November 1st, 2017, 4:00 P.M.
GOVERNMENT CENTER, ROOM 404
115 EAST WASHINGTON STREET, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

Members Present:

Mary Jefferson, Chair; Michael Buragas, Vice Chair; Michael Gorman, Executive Committee Representative; Joseph Cleary; Glen Ludwig; Carl Teichman; Mary Kramp; Carl Olson; Mark Wylie; Linda Olson

Members Absent:

Tyler Wrezinski

Others Present:

McLean County Regional Planning Commission - Vasudha Pinnamaraju, Executive Director; Jennifer Sicks, Transportation Planner; Daniel Handel, Assistant Planner; Emily Lutz, Assistant Planner; Jordan Brown, Office Manager; Town of Normal – Taylor Long, Associate Planner; Mike McFarland, Planning Commissioner; City of Bloomington – Katie Simpson, Planner; McLean County – Philip Dick, Director of Building and Zoning; Public – Gretchen Monti, Observer for the League of Women Voters; Dennis Arnold, Mid Central Community Action; Jeremy Hayes, Bloomington Housing Authority; Stan Geison, Habitat for Humanity of McLean County; Noel Lucero, Habitat for Humanity of McLean County; Laura Furlong, MarcFirst; Angela Bolden, Greater Peoria LISC; Karen Davis, Greater Peoria LISC; Deborah White, Mid Central Community Action; Terry Lindberg, Mid Central Community Action; Mary Ann Webb, Sulaski & Webb, LLC.

Call To Order:

Ms. Jefferson called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and noted the presence of a quorum.

Public Comment:

None

Consent Agenda:

Ms. Jefferson call for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Gorman moved for approval. Mr. Cleary seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Regular Agenda:

Information Forum Subcommittee – Speaker Recommendation

Ms. Kramp gave a brief presentation about Bob Bennet, Chief Innovation Officer of Kansas City, MO and noted that the Subcommittee recommends him to be the speaker at the 2018 Information Forum. Ms. Pinnamaraju added that Mr. Bennett is in charge of their Smart Cities implementation and has agreed to do a tech talk the night before the forum. She then drew

attention to additional information in the packet and stated that April 11th, 2018 has been set as the date for the 2018 Information Forum. Mr. Teichman then explained that Kansas City, MO is the lead on the Smart Cities initiative.

Ms. Jefferson called for a motion to approve Mr. Bennet as the speaker for the 2018 Information Forum. Mr. Olson moved to approve. Ms. Olson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FY2017 Financial Audit

Ms. Webb from Sulaski & Webb, LLC presented an overview of the FY2017 financial audit they performed for MCRPC. Ms. Webb noted that due to GIS moving from MCRPC to the County, the audit does show a loss. Mr. Wylie questioned if there was anything in the audit that the commissioners needed to be concerned about. Ms. Webb responded that there was not anything of concern. Mr. Olson questioned if there were any proposed IMRF changes that the commissioners need to be concerned about. Ms. Webb responded that IMRF is constantly changing and as of right now she was not sure what was to come.

Ms. Jefferson called for a motion to approve the FY2017 Financial Audit. Mr. Teichman moved to approve. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Elections

Ms. Jefferson explained that during elections the chairperson cannot be in the chair position since it is one of the spots up for election. She stated that Mr. Buragas should fill the position since he is Vice Chairman.

Ms. Jefferson called for a motion to approve Mr. Buragas as the temporary Chairperson during the December meeting. Mr. Wylie moved to approve. Mr. Cleary seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Items of Information or Discussion:

Regional Housing Study Presentation

Ms. Pinnamaraju gave a brief introduction about the study and the speaker. She then passed it on to Robert Miller from AREA for his presentation. Mr. Miller briefly spoke about AREA and RATIO and their relevant experiences on this subject.

He then laid out the key findings of the Regional Housing Study: 1) loss of population and reduced demand for both single- and multi-family housing; 2) McLean County is generally overbuilt; 3) mismatch between new supply and household size; 4) relatively affordable compared to peer communities; 5) few housing opportunities exist for the homeless population; 6) variety of housing options for older persons with disabilities but limited facilities for person aged 18 to 64 with mobility limitations or other disabilities; 7) there are approximately 19,500 households that potentially qualify for an affordable unit.

Mr. Miller discussed multiple recommendations the study provides within 6 areas; 1) culture, community, and thinking; 2) responsive housing typologies; 3) density and transit-oriented development; 4) supportive and safe housing; 5) preservation of community character; 6) marketing and branding.

Mr. Miller provided clarification throughout the presentation as questions were raised.

Ms. Pinnamaraju explained that there is no formal adoption plan for this study. She hoped to bring a recommendation to establish a formal Housing Advisory Group to the Commission in February.

That which may arise

Ms. Jefferson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Ms. Olson stated that she thought the Town of Normal 2040 Comprehensive Plan presentation at the joint Normal Town Council and Normal Planning Commission meeting went very well and thanks the MCRPC staff again for their work.

Adjournment:

Ms. Jefferson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Kramp moved for adjournment. Mr. Teichman seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jordan Brown
Office Manager