



CITY OF WAUWATOSA
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MINUTES • MAY 9, 2017

Regular Meeting

Common Council Chambers

7:30 PM

7725 West North Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53213

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kathleen Causier	Alderwoman	Present	
Tim Hanson	Alderman	Present	
Bobby Pantuso	Alderman	Present	
Cheryl Berdan	Alderwoman	Present	
Jason Wilke	Alderman	Present	
Matthew Stippich	Alderman	Present	
Michael Walsh	Alderman	Present	
Kelly Rifelj	Alderwoman	Excused	
James Archambo	City Administrator	Present	
Alan Kesner	City Attorney	Present	

1. Memo from the City Administrator pertaining to the draft Life Sciences District Master Plan

Mr. Archambo continued discussion from the May 2, 2017 meeting which addressed issues related to the proposed Life Sciences District (LSD); the Committee has expressed reluctance to proceed unless additional information were available. Mr. Archambo's recommendation is to place this proposal on file and cease the process until this information becomes available.

The following members of the public commented:

Peter Abbot, 855 N. 60th Street, chaired the County Grounds Coalition, and is a representative of Wauwatosa citizens who are against any more development on the County grounds natural areas. He supports the proposal to put all further consideration of this project on hold.

Barb Schoenherr, 1324 N. 74th Street, applauds the Committee for considering placing the LSD on hold for there are far too many unanswered questions.

Tom Genack, 509 Elm Spring, supports the motion to place the LSD on hold.

John Kastl, 2112 Crestview Court, doesn't think any development should occur north of Watertown Plank Road. The City does not need apartments, it need green space.

Charlie Mitchell, 7525 Oak Hill Avenue, is not against this plan, but it does not respect the environmental district. He wants a green area there, not a parkway. A plan needs to be done for that environmental area and save the green space.

Robert Phelps, 8202 Portland Avenue, informed the Committee of an apartment building project that was recently unable to get financing.

Pete Gaveras, 1244 N. 86th Street, wants it to be known that he is a property owner north of the Watertown Plank Road area.

Rita Reinke, 1848 Ludington Avenue, stated that Wauwatosa will become a city of apartments rather than ownership because over 50% of units will be rental units. Ms. Reinke asked the Committee what is the next step to save this land from development.

Ed Sternberg, 2527 N. Lefebber Avenue, would like the Mayor and the Council to enter into the public record their opposition to any development inconsistent to the northeast quadrant master plan adopted by the Council in 2004.

Don Birschel, 1225 North 122nd Street, would like to see a conservancy district created for the woods.

Dennis Hughes is not a Wauwatosa resident but feels this is a greater Milwaukee issue. Milwaukee County does not make any decisions regarding this issue, it is the County Executive.

Dain Maddox, 105 North 88th Street, is in favor of placing this project on hold. The plan as presented does not consider the option of no new development in the northeast quadrant.

Nicki Bender, 9820 Mariposa Lane, spoke about an article she read regarding taking public lands, environmental spaces, and developing those parcels and using the proceeds for scholarships. Ms. Bender asked the Committee to please do what they can to take this natural area and take it off the table for any possibility for further development.

Lane Hall, 6437 Upper Parkway North, would like to have green spaces protected from any development.

Steve Ostrenga, 1190 Kavanaugh Place, requested that an independent environmental study and a financial impact study be done on this project.

David Budde, 2449 N. Swan Boulevard, thanked the Committee for considering all these issues and would like careful thought be put into this area.

It was moved by Ald. Berdan, seconded by Ald. Pantuso to hold the Life Sciences District Master Plan until such time as the SEWRPC report is received and until such time as Milwaukee County brings forth their zoning proposal and/or their conclusion of exploration of impediments to development in the UWM Innovation Campus and the Research Park. Ayes: 7

Ald. Wilke requested a friendly amendment to the motion until such time the existing natural areas of land commonly referred to as County Grounds Park, Sanctuary Woods, and DNR Forest north and west of Swan Boulevard be permanently preserved in perpetuity. Amendment not accepted.

It was moved by Ald. Wilke, seconded by Ald. Hanson to amend the motion to include until such time Milwaukee County preserve the natural areas of land commonly known as County Grounds Park, Sanctuary Woods, and DNR Forest land north and west of Swan Boulevard is permanently preserved in perpetuity. Ayes: 7

RESULT:	HELD [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Cheryl Berdan, Alderwoman
SECONDER:	Bobby Pantuso, Alderman
AYES:	Causier, Hanson, Pantuso, Berdan, Wilke, Stippich, Walsh
EXCUSED:	Rifelj

- 2. Memo from the Assistant Fire Chief attaching a proposed Ordinance modifying outdoor burning as it relates to fire pits

Assistant Chief Case is requesting two modifications to the Fire Prevention Code, Title 14. The first proposed change is to remove the section of the code that specifically lists each of the adopted National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and codes that are used to perform fire prevention tasks and replace it with the language to use the code sets that have been adopted by the State of Wisconsin Department of Safety and Public Services.

The second change states that any outdoor burning must occur further than 25 feet from structures or other combustible material and also stated that any approved burning must occur in an appropriate container. The NFPA language already has language that addresses outdoor burning, proper containers, and distance from structures. This gives the Fire Department as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) to approve or disapprove requests. The Fire Department will develop an informational pamphlet with instructions on what is allowed, types of approved containers, etc.

It was moved by Ald. Stippich seconded by Ald. Wilke to recommend to Council introduction of an Ordinance to modify outdoor burning as it relates to fire pits. Ayes: 7

RESULT:	RECOMMENDED FOR INTRODUCTION [UNANIMOUS] Next: 5/16/2017 7:30 PM
TO:	Common Council
MOVER:	Matthew Stippich, Alderman
SECONDER:	Jason Wilke, Alderman
AYES:	Causier, Hanson, Pantuso, Berdan, Wilke, Stippich, Walsh
EXCUSED:	Rifelj

- 3. Continued from the meeting of March 28, establishment of options for City's historical commemorative dates

The Committee discussed plans for the celebration for the City's historical commemorative dates, specifically the 125th Anniversary. May 20, 2017 is the City's 120th Anniversary, which should be acknowledged, but with some information sent out to the public about the possibility of a large event celebrating the 125th Anniversary. The Committee discussed possibilities of Proclamations, financing, and ideas and parades for the celebration.

Ald. Walsh stated that the Civic Celebration Commission is interested in planning for the 125th Anniversary and may request that funds be budgeted for this purpose.

RESULT:	INFORMATION ONLY
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- 4. Discussion of possible creation of a City policy concerning group solar buys

The Committee discussed the proposal concerning solar group buys and the benefits associated with a group RFP for homeowners purchasing solar panels, whose cost could be significantly reduced with group

buys.

Jill McClellan, 2361 N. 68th Street, is looking for the City's support for this concept to help add credibility.

Peter Murphy, 347 N. Newhall, Milwaukee, works for the Midwest Renewable Energy Association which puts together education and solar group purchasing programs. He asked permission to use the City logo.

Steven Ostrenga, 1190 Kavanaugh Place, spoke of the benefits of solar panels on residents' property values, and on electric bills.

Elizabeth Hittman a Milwaukee resident at 2855 N. 79th Street, runs the Milwaukee Shine Program. She spoke about the Midwest Renewable Energy Association and their positive relationship with the City of Milwaukee.

Michael Arney, 1447 St. Charles Street, spoke as a concerned citizen who feels the need for more solar panels.

The Committee asked the City Attorney about the City's policy in using the City's logo. Mr. Kesner stated that the City retains intellectual property control over the use of the logo and he recommends having staff involved in authorizing the use of the City's endorsement to protect the City's interest. Mr. Kesner will draft a proposed document for the Committee's consideration concerning use of the logo.

RESULT:	REPORT BACK, NO MOTION	Next: 5/30/2017 8:00 PM
TO:	Community Affairs Committee	

Carla A. Ledesma, CMC, City Clerk