Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

June 14, 2018

Location: Heman Park Community Center

Attendees Present: John Solodar (Acting Chairperson), Adam Staudt, Mary Gorman, Tim Cusick (Council Liaison), Adam Brown (acting Staff Liaison)

Absent: Jonathan Stitleman (Chairperson), Kathy Straatman, Barbara Brain, Timothy Dugan

1. Meeting Called to Order – Roll call at 5:34pm

Special Guests:

Rosalind Williams, acting Director of Community Development – Olive/170 Development

Gene Foster, Laura Jones, Regent Power – EV Charging Stations and Kiosks

2. Opening Round:

Mr. Solodar gave a brief report on cities that are using electric vehicles for policing.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. 5/10/18 minutes were approved as written

4. Special Presentations

a. Rosalind Williams, Acting Director of Community Development, described the proposed development at Olive and 170 by Novus. Noted several opportunities for green practices in the design. These included incorporation of permeable paving, possible zoning changes to reduce parking requirements, connection to Ruth Woods Park, and continuation of the Great Rivers Greenway Centennial Trail.

Mr. Cusick updated the Commission on the MSD project, noting that an independent engineering firm was hired by the City to study the various options presented.

Lois Sechrist, 7153 Pershing Ave, listed a series of considerations for the development which could be recommended as green practices. These included site protection during construction, storm water mitigation, landscaping, renewable energy potential, lighting, walkability, trash/recycling for tenants, recommendations on construction materials, and energy and water efficiency. She said LEED would be ideal, and that the long-term returns would be greater than the initial costs.
b. Gene Foster, Laura Jones, Regent Power, discussed the possibility of their company installing battery storage stations for EV recharging station in University City. Noted the advantages of battery storage for protecting from large draws on the grid and decreasing charging times. They also discussed the economic benefits to an area that has EV charging station.

5. Commission Reports

   a. Council Liaison Update: Mr. Cusick discussed the TIF Commission and the need to have TIF approved before moving forward with the development at Olive/170. He stated that no eminent domain would be used on homeowner-occupied housing, and that revenue would be used to invest in neighborhoods north of Olive and along the Olive Blvd corridor.

   b. Quarterly Report – Adam Staudt: Energy, Mr. Staudt reported on the installation of EV Charging Stations in Elgin Illinois, funded by Tesla.

6. Closing Round

7. Adjournment at 6:45pm