**MINUTES OF THE Stormwater Commission**

**November 3, 2020**

1. Call to Order. The third meeting of the Stormwater Commission (Commission) was called to order at 6:31 PM by Chair Todd Thompson.
2. Attendance-Roll Call. The following Commission members were present via virtual meeting (Zoom): Garry Aronberg, Bob Criss, Mark Holly, Eric Karch, Eric Stein, Todd Thompson. Also in attendance were Tim Cusick, Councilman; Sinan Alpaslan, Director of Public Works; John Mulligan, City Attorney; and two guests: Janet Buchanan and Shawn Sullivan both from the US Army Corps of Engineers.
3. Agenda. The following agenda was accepted without objection: *Roll Call; Approval of Agenda; Approval of Minutes; Citizen Participation; New Business; Old Business; Subcommittee Reports, Miscellaneous Business; Council Liaison Comments; Adjournment.*
4. Minutes. The October minutes were approved.
5. Citizen Comments. There were no citizen comments.
6. New Business.
* *Flood Risk Management Study*. Ms. Janet Buchanan and Mr. Shawn Sullivan discussed the Upper River Des Peres Flood Risk Management Study that is now being prepared by the Corps of Engineers. The study will make recommendations for reducing life and safety risks in the 5900 acres of the River Des Peres (RDP) watershed that is in University City. The study is now in the hydrologic and hydraulic phase to identify the extent of inundation. Recommendations will consider climate change, economic benefits, environmental impacts, and cultural impacts. Structural and non-structural mitigation will be considered. “Green” alternatives will be among the structural and non-structural risk mitigation alternatives. More information is on the project web site: <https://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Programs-Project-Management/River-Des-Peres-University-City-General-Reevaluation-Report/>

The hydraulic model the Corps is using is FEMA’s unsteady state HEC-RAS prepared by Wood.

Mr. Stein offered to share with the Corps highwater elevation data he has collected along RDP. Mr. Karch has also communicated with Corps officials about the study and computation calibration. The City will try to accumulate dated photos of flood conditions to help calibrate the model.

The Corps plans to propose mitigation alternatives in the Fall of 2021.

* *Trash Trap Project*. The RDP cleanup service project, TrashTrap, will be rescheduled to avoid Covid-19 restrictions. The City is investigating grant opportunities connected with water quality.
1. Old Business
* *Bylaws*. The Commission and City representatives engaged in a general discussion of bylaws. Mr. Mulligan informed us of several aspects of law pertaining to municipal commission operation: upon the request of a commission, the City Council may investigate whether the a frequently absent member wishes to continue and contribute to the goals of a commission. The Council may remove members who are not contributing to a commission. Mr. Mulligan will offer suggestions for bylaws provisions related to non-participating members.

Other discussion involved flexibility in setting and changing the agenda and length of public comments.

No motion was made regarding bylaws, but the general sense of the discussion was that bylaws should be discussed at the next meeting.

* + *Early Warning.* The location of the Fogarty Park and Wilson Avenue rain gage poles have been selected. The Olivette location is to be determined. The City will engage soon a contractor for installation of the two poles.
	+ *Stormwater Complaints.* Mr. Holly has completed some informal topographic modeling of the Old Bonhomme site using LiDAR data.
	+ *Open Seat*. The Commission has one open seat. We should identify another member.
1. Subcommittee Reports. No new report.
2. Council Liaison. Councilman Cusick made the following comments:
	* *Leaf Pike-up* will be during the next four to six weeks. Bagged leaves will need no yard waste sticker.
	* *Political sign* recycling will be available at City Hall 9-10 AM and 3-4 PM
3. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM (motion and second by Messrs. Criss and Stein).
4. Minutes Preparation. Minutes were prepared by Garry Aronberg.

Approved by the Commission – 12-1-2020.

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