

Minutes of Meeting
Advisory Board on Washington University
Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 6:30pm

Members in Attendance: Kristin Sobotka, David Whiteman, Stephen Selipsky, Greg Pace, Kevin Taylor, Caryn St. Clair, Stephen Stone, Councilmember Paulette Carr

Members Excused: Gary Nelling, Jack Breier

Members Absent: Robyn Williams, Todd Swanstrom, Christine Albinson, Mae Weston, Raheem Adegboye, Councilmember Stephen Kraft

Others in Attendance: Keith Cole

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Selipsky at 7:08pm.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Pace to approve the agenda and seconded by Mr. Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Pace to approve the August 28, 2014, minutes and seconded by Ms. St. Clair. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Discussion from meeting with Wash U Representatives: Discussed getting the figures of how much property tax revenue will be received from the new Delmar buildings. 34% of Phase I square footage is University City. An email will be sent to pin down square footage calculation and ask where the 85% number came from.

It was decided to provide both numbers for how much tax revenue was lost by the destruction of the residential properties in place prior to the Wash U Development and also a figure without those numbers to appease both points of view and let the policy makers draw their own conclusions from them.

The discussion was then turned to each Sub-Committee to give an update on their progress of study.

Sub-Committee #1: John “Jack” Breier, Stephen Selipsky, and Steven Stone

Topic of discussion was using the non-tax valuation method on University City properties owned by Washington University. This committee is working on fine tuning the property value.

Sub-Committee #2: Greg Pace and Kevin Taylor

Topic of discussion was recapping the measurement of revenue generated from Washington University.

Sub-Committee #3: Christine Albinson and Caryn St. Clair

Topic of discussion was listing out the intangibles and in-kind services that are provided to University City by Washington University. An addition to the discussion prior to the meeting, the University has approved the Library as part of the work study program so the Library can hire two students part-time to assist patrons with the MOREnet program. Ms. St. Clair explained that hard figures cannot be given for these projects because neither the school nor the City breaks down the costs by including employee work-time.

Sub-Committee #4: Kristin Sobotka and David Whiteman

Topic of discussion was what types of agreements other cities have with comparable universities who have large tax exempt property holdings.

Sub-Committee #5: Stephen Selipsky and Todd Swanstrom

Topic of discussion was the members are continuing to find the best way to quantify the amount of demand on City services that results from Washington University's ownership of tax exempt properties. It was determined there should be a methodology can be just straight multiplication and a second methodology can be property the tax weighted the percentage of the City budget spent on. Also, because all citizens pay the tax that counts that they are already paying. Also, all citizens are paying for schools so they should pay in the school budget.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:34pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 6:30pm at Heman Park Community Center.