

her that he wants Frisbee golf in the Westland Park area. Director Styron also stated he had BIG plans for Boyd Park. Commissioner Barbeau asked the commission why we aren't working together with the PRCA. Commissioner Barbeau is excited about the Frisbee Golf Course idea, but would really like to be working with the Parks Department and finds it very frustrating that entities that want the same thing are not working together. She posed the question: shall we invite Director Styron back to share his vision for Boyd Park? The Commissioner's were all in agreement that YES, definitely, they would like to meet and discuss options and hear what Director Styron has in mind for Boyd Park. The MRA Commission needs to have a discussion with the PRCA so that we are working together. The MRA Commission has been given jurisdiction/authority by City Council over the MRA. The MRA Commission will ask the PRCA to be briefed and included in any discussion(s) for areas inside the MRA.

Commissioner Barbeau commented that the PRCA sent out requests to the public asking for their input. The surveys are available on-line. It allows the public to comment on the idea, but is not a two-way discussion of ideas. They also had meetings set up at various times for open discussion. Senior Planner Lopez thought that once the information has been compiled the consultants should be coming back with initial ideas for the City. The PRCA Master Plan should be ready in March; Cindy will invite Director Styron to attend our meeting so it can be discussed then.

3. GATEWAY KICK-OFF REVIEW OF MEETING WITH DHM CONSULTANTS:

DHM has requested to meet with the commissioners to go over initial design ideas for the Gateway Project. It was decided that DHM would be invited to attend the regularly scheduled meeting on the 19th of December. The MRA will also invite the Gateway Group Members Director Styron, Jim Henrie, and Roger Drayer (all with the Parks and Recreation Department to attend). The MRA can call a special meeting if necessary, but it will have to be advertised ahead of time. Commissioner Polston and Commissioner Kaynor thought the previous meeting with DHM went very well. The Commission gave the consultants lots of ideas. During the walking tour, a suggestion was made for placement of a fingerpost in front of Orchard Park so it's more visible. The summarization of the cultural heritage sights still needs to be done before the Gateway Group meets with DHM.

5. REVIEW OF MRA BUDGET

Senior Planner Lopez in response to Commissioners Barbeau's questions about the MRA budget at the last MRA meeting; stated that Teresa Emrich, the City of Farmington's Budget Officer maintains the MRA budget. It is separated out from other items in the budget. Mary Holton is watching the budget closely. As of October 2013, we have \$500,000 still in the account. There is not a time frame for the money to be spent; the balance is set up to automatically roll over from year to year. MRA Funds that are committed to date are \$75,000 of the \$135,000 for the Downtown Gateway signage project; the first \$30,000 will come from CDBG funds. \$25,000 has been earmarked for the Complete Streets Traffic study. In summary \$100,000 has been spoken for, but nothing has been spent.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Elizabeth Isenberg from the Downtown Group stated that the Turkey Trot Gobble Wobble is this Saturday at 9AM; it's a 5K run and 2 mile walk that starts and ends in Orchard Park. The Holiday Art Walk is Friday, Dec 13th from 5-9PM. The Reindeer Romp and North Pole Stroll is another 5K run and 2 mile walk on Saturday December 21st. On December 13th there is a Christmas musical taking place at the TOTAH Theater. There has been talk of a group of artists interested in opening up a co-op in downtown if the price is right.

Julie Baird stated that the City of Farmington will be closing on the Culpepper Property the first week in December. It will then be transferred to the City. They will be looking for items to display very soon. One of the stipulations of the gift is that the main rooms *must* remain as a museum and the back room will be renamed the "Culpepper Room". The section facing Behrend and the upstairs can be used for anything. Senior Planner Lopez asked about the structure of the building, what kind of shape is the building in? Julie replied that the first floor is in very good shape and the roof is pretty new. It will not take much to move some businesses in there.

Commissioner Barbeau stated that her husband spoke with Gloria Lehmer last night and the Lehmers are definitely NOT pursuing their Sports Bar. Someone needs to see if the College is still interested in the old M. Moose building as a business incubator. A new Request for Proposals needs to go out. Commissioner Polston asked if there was a floor plan available. Can it be arranged so the MRA Commissioners can view both buildings? Elizabeth answered yes. It is possible in January to have a mobile meeting. Cindy will put it on the agenda.

Commissioner Barbeau is looking for ideas to direct people down to the river. Can something be tied in with Director Styron's Master Plan? We have the money that Director Styron needs to develop the park, what about placing the Frisbee Golf there now and move it out when Director Styron's plan comes through?

7. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIR: None

8. BUSINESS FROM THE MEMBERS: None

9. BUSINESS FROM THE STAFF:


a. Senior Planner Cindy Lopez expressed to the Board that staff needs help with the agenda – Cindy asked to be contacted if the members want something particular on the agenda for the next meeting.

b. Commissioner Polston was re-appointed by the Mayor for a five year term. He mentioned that he has moved into the City of Farmington.

c. New member John McNeill was appointed by Mayor Roberts starting in December. Senior Planner Lopez will invite him to the next meeting, hopefully he can make it.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm. Motion was made by Commissioner Kaynor and seconded by Commissioner Barbeau.



Carletta Thompson, M.D., Chairman



Kathleen Banks, Secretary