



# CITY OF TOPEKA

# TOPEKA PLANNING COMMISSION

## MINUTES

Monday, January 22, 2018

6:00PM – Municipal Building, 214 SE 8<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Council Chambers

**Members present:** Brian Armstrong, Corliss Lawson, Marc Fried, Dennis Haugh, Carole Jordan, Wiley Kannarr, Katrina Ringler, Matt Werner (8)

**Members Absent:** Ariane Messina (1)

**Staff Present:** Bill Fiander, Planning Director; Dan Warner, Planner III; Tim Esparza, Planner I; Kris Wagers, Administrative Officer

**Roll Call – Chairperson Wiley Kannarr called the meeting to order and called roll;** eight members present for a quorum.

### Approval of Minutes from December 18, 2017

**Motion** to approve as typed; moved by Mr. Haugh, second by Ms. Jordan. **APPROVED** (5-0-3 – Abstaining were Fried, Kannarr, Lawson)

### Election of 2018 Chair and Vice Chair –

Mr. Fiander reviewed the process for electing a new Chair and Vice-Chair and explained that Mr. Kannarr, 2017 Chairperson, does not wish to be nominated to serve as 2018 Chair.

Mr. Werner nominated Ms. Ringler to serve as Chair and she agreed to serve; second by Ms. Jordan. With no other nominations, a paper ballot was taken electing Ms. Ringler to serve as 2018 Chair of the Topeka Planning Commission (8-0).

The gavel moved to 2018 Chairperson Katrina Ringler.

Ms. Ringler called for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Kannarr explained that he would be willing to serve as Vice Chair and was nominated by Ms. Jordan. Mr. Fiander suggested that Co-Vice chairs might be appropriate and Ms. Ringler nominated Mr. Armstrong. With no further nominations, a paper ballot was taken and Mr. Wiley and Mr. Armstrong were elected to serve as Co-Vice Chairs of the Topeka Planning Commission (8-0-0).

### Action Items

#### CU18/01 by Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library (TSCPL)

Mr. Fiander explained that this case has been deferred to the February 19, 2018 Planning Commission meeting.

### Discussion Items

#### CPA17/01 - Quinton Heights-Steele Neighborhood Plan

Dan Warner explained the process for a Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA), stating that the Planning Commission recommends approval to the Governing Body, who ultimately approves (or denies) the proposed

APPROVED

amendment. Mr. Warner also stated that the current version of the plan will be presented at the Quinton Heights Neighborhood Meeting scheduled for 1/23/18.

Mr. Esparza presented the Quinto Heights-Steele Neighborhood Plan. He noted that part of the neighborhood lies within a flood plain and explained that federal dollars cannot be used on homes in flood plains. This affects the project choices made in the Neighborhood Plan.

Mr. Exparza explained that Shawnee County Parks & Recreation have verbally agreed to make improvements to the Shunga Glen Park, planning improvements in 2018 and implementing in 2019.

In regard to non-Sort projects, Mr. Armstrong asked for confirmation that these are projects not covered by SORT dollars. Mr. Esparza gave confirmation and added that it is a "wish list", and including it in the plan may prove helpful if the neighborhood applies for other neighborhood improvement grants (i.e. an empowerment grant).

Mr. Armstrong inquired about the proposed chicanes to be used as a traffic calming method. It was explained that it was a proposal from the COT Traffic Engineer after a small traffic study was done. It was also noted that the street is part of a Bike Route and there are no sidewalks. Mr. Fiander added that Planning has recommended Complete Streets funds be used for 27<sup>th</sup> Street improvements

Mr. Haugh inquired about the health trends and stated that property values have been increasing (Appendix A). Mr. Fiander noted that health determination has to do with the *rate* of increase and Mr. Esparza explained that inflation is taken into account when determining health categories.

Mr. Kannarr noted that substantial funds are going toward the public park and wondered how park development is projected or expected to help reduce the neighborhood crime rate.

#### **Communications to Commission**

Mr. Fiander announced that the Governing Body voted on Aqua Blast, amending the hours to 1:00AM-10:PM by a vote of 6-4 and approving the amended plan 10-0. The Planning Department has not yet heard from the applicant to know whether they intend to move forward.

Mr. Fiander welcomed Ms. Lawson to the Planning Commission.

**With no further agenda items, meeting was adjourned at 6:53PM.**