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## **STREETSCAPE & ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Committee Date: Monday, December 4, 2023  
Present: Vice-Chair Ald. Michael Curiale, Shashwat Baxi, Steve Mikos,  
Nick Luciana left at 7:45pm, Mike Melone arrived at 7:06pm  
Absent: Chairperson Ald. Peter Jakab, Paula Masilotti  
Also Present: Andy Koterias, Planner, Gosia Pociecha, Senior Planner  
Meeting Convened at: 6:30 PM

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice Chairperson Ald. Curiale called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS:**

#### A. Approval Of the Minutes

Vice Ald. Curiale motioned to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2023 meeting, seconded by Mr. Mikos. The minutes were unanimously approved via voice vote.

#### B. Community Park / Vision Plan Overview

Planner Koterias provided an overview of the Community Park / Vision Plan. The plan was developed in 2013 with Uhler Consulting with main objectives to address the lack of identity and sense of place in the City center. The concept site plan for the Community Park included a public garden, pavilion, festival space, barn, adventure park and existing water park. Planner Koterias provided an in depth description of the site plan's components. A question was raised if the proposed festival space could host the Prairie Fest.

Other recent ideas of park elements were also presented. These included a bandshell with sunken plaza and seating area, or a covered all-season pavilion which could be used as an ice ring during the winter or as a concert and event venue during the warmer months. It was also recognized that there may not be enough businesses activity near the site to support creation of a city center space similar to the all-season pavilion example in Reston, VA. It was also brought up that Addison has a successful space by City hall that has multiple events throughout the summer. The commercial parcel at the

south-east corner of Commercial and Wood Dale Rd was also discussed, and it was clarified that is intended for commercial redevelopment.

Mr. Mikos asked if the Pavilion could be an enclosed building that could potentially open up. Mr. Luciana noted that he has seen multi-use flex spaces, which would be ideal for the pavilion. SEEC members are interested in making the Pavilion a space that could be open and closed.

It was also suggested that the community garden could have garden plots that could be rented out for residents to grow vegetables. It was also suggested that making the Pavilion bigger and the Community Garden smaller should be considered. It was also suggested that the Pavilion be moved further west, to create more open space for festivals/events.

Ald, Curiale asked if lights would be added, but most likely that would be part of the more detailed design/construction plans. Parking was raised up; which could potentially use the Pool parking lot, or some of the previously commercial properties to the south of Commercial, City Hall parking lot, Front Street or the Metra Station.

Mr. Baxi noted that making the space family friendly is a priority. Mr. Luciana suggested that having space for food trucks and family space would be ideal during the summertime. It would also be ideal to bring more eating / retail options into the area.

SEEC members agreed that the first priority is the Pavilion that can be opened, the second priority would be the adventure park, and third the community garden. SEEC agrees that the historic Barn is not a high priority, but should be kept on the list for now. SEEC does not believe that moving the barn would be feasible.

Senior Planner Pociеча noted that the next topic of discussion would be the Pavilion, but asked the SEEC members to start thinking about what components/ideas they would like to see. Staff will look into examples of other existing pavilions that function as indoor/outdoor spaces by opening up.

### C. Future Projects Master List

Planner Koteras presented an overview of the last discussion of the bench ideas including benches with public art. Presented was a list of types of benches that are available. The most common type of bench on the market is made of recycled plastic “polywood” which is the most durable. However, these cannot be painted. If

incorporating public art is a priority, then a wooden bench may be utilized. These could be painted and sealed. However, wooden benches are not recommended by PW due to maintenance in the long run. The third potential for a bench would be a semi-custom bench, either resin or metal with a City name/logo, however, there are limitations on the detail that can be added. For the composite benches, metal frame would be preferred. It would be ideal to add a sponsor, add text or a plaque.

Possible locations were also presented including the Metra Station, the Clock Tower, City Hall and the Wood Dale Library. However, the City Hall and Library have existing benches.

SEEC noted that inclusion of public art component is not a priority. Instead of public art, the sponsorship idea was suggested. There is also a preference for the recycled composite bench with metal frame. Color to match City signage including dark gray/black, however, Staff noted that there are limited products available on the market. Therefore, SEEC expressed their preference for the "Silhouette Bench." Installation should be chosen by whatever is the safest to the public but should include concrete pads. Staff will bring a quote and details on installation to a future meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Chairperson Ald. Curiale and seconded by Mr. Mikos; it carried unanimously by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

*Minutes taken by Gosia Pociecha*

*Approved on February 5, 2024*