



Land Use Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
DuPage County Conference Room
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present:

Mark Avery, Committee Chair; Judy Beck, Ken Marabella (for Jerry Conrad), Lisa DiChiera, Colin Duesing (for David Dubois), David Galowich, Karen Stonehouse, Heather Tabbert, Kai Tarum, Nathaniel Werner. *Kristi DeLaurentiis participated by teleconference for a portion of the meeting.*

Members Absent:

Robert Cole, Roger Dahlstrom, Jim LaBelle, Ed Paesel, Robert Palmer, Dennis Sandquist, Heather Smith

Staff Present:

Erin Aleman, Hala Ahmed, Tim Loftus, DRU Williams-Clark, Sean Glowacz. Bob Dean and Stephen Ostrander were present for a portion.

Others Present:

Eleanor Roemer, Friends of the Parks; Robert Munson, CMAP Citizen Advisory Committee; Ryan Richter, Metra; Mike Walczak, Northwest Municipal Conference

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Mark Avery said Items 6.0 and 7.0 on the agenda would be reversed. He also relayed that the Board had deferred the DRI action until June.

3.0 Approval of Meeting Notes – April 15, 2009

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 15 meeting was made by Nathaniel Werner and seconded by Karen Stonehouse. All in favor, the motion carried.

4.0 Legislative Update

Mark relayed that there are two bills (House and Senate) restoring about \$5 million in the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund. CMAP found two sponsors to carry this bill. Karen Stonehouse indicated that the Illinois American Planning Association sent a letter in support.

5.0 Future Leaders in Planning

DRU Williams-Clark announced that applications were open for participants in next year's "Future Leaders in Planning" program. The inaugural year was a huge success, culminating in an event at the Adler Planetarium. Applications are due to be postmarked June 26. Mark and Ty both reiterated the importance and success of the program, and congratulated the responsible CMAP staff.

7.0 The Last Four Miles: Completing Chicago's Lakefront

(switched in order with Item 6.0)

Eleanor Roemer from Friends of the Parks gave an overview of the plan for "The Last Four Miles," the goal of which is to complete the two mile gap on the north and south ends of Chicago's 30-mile lakefront, which they believe is in keeping with the 1909 *Plan of Chicago* and of timely import with this year's Burnham Centennial Celebration.

The CitySpace plan in 1988 showed that 55 of 77 Chicago communities did not even meet 2 acres of parks per 1000 population, while the National Park Association standard is 10 acres/1000. Eleanor then took the committee through the north and south gaps in the lakefront and the prospects and challenges inherent in continuing the lakeshore.

Judy Beck said Lake Michigan is back up 13 inches, though still a foot below the median. The lakeshore cannot really be drawn by a line, but is a living thing, while others are concerned about the hard edge. She stressed the importance of working with nature.

Eleanor said they have worked with the State Geological Survey, and there has been a large grant for an engineering report, helping them to identify where to promote and sustain habitat and sustain the shoreline generally.

Judy expounded that more open land will help in garnering Federal dollars, and will help with tourism, global recognition, etc.

6.0 Regional Water Supply Planning

Dr. Timothy Loftus gave the Committee an overview of Regional Water Supply Planning efforts and the work of the Regional Water Supply Planning Group.

Three-quarters of the region relies on lake water. 80% of water use is public supply. A report published last June relayed three scenarios:

1. Current trends/reference – trends that approximate recent history
2. Less resource-intensive – reducing water demand (which will only occur with intervention)
3. More resource-intensive – increase in water demand

The Illinois State Water Survey's Groundwater Study made some important conclusions, including:

- Deep bedrock aquifers cannot be counted on for future demand,
- Shallow bedrock aquifers have consequences including interference drawdown including streamflow capture, and
- Road salts and water softeners (from private wells) are also affecting the water supply.

Fourteen Water Conservation Measures have been adopted, and the Group is on the fifth draft of the Regional Water Supply Plan, which will include a Chapter 3 concerning Land and Water, recognizing there is a feedback loop needed between water pollution/use/demand and land use policies. The chapter will need to look at density, dispersion, and open land preservation, and discuss tools connecting land use and water quality.

The Group has been hobbled by cuts in funding from the previous governor, but is on track to publish the Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Plan in December of 2009. The region wastes a lot of water, and efficiency will need to be tightened up.

Ken Mirabella discussed the current housing slump, and suggested a population or housing trend that builds off 2005 data, prior to the slump, may not give a good projection. Tim responded that 2005 was the last year water use data was available, and proportional demand should still hold true.

Dave Galowich said not a lot of water is put back into Lake Michigan. Judy added that the aquifers belong to a larger region than CMAP, including southeastern Wisconsin, and graphics are needed to help illustrate this. She said Lake Michigan, more than any other of the Great Lakes, is served by groundwater (that is, more water has spent time as groundwater before entering the lake), and so what we do with land use is critical, whether we continue to pave over without perviousness and send more water downstream.

Robert Munson asked if recent public-private partnership initiative legislation could apply here, to which Mark replied that that legislation was solely tied to transportation purposes.

8.0 *Go To 2040: Inventing the Future* Upcoming Workshops

Erin Aleman gave the Committee a summary of scenario activities for the summer for CMAP reaching out to communities for *GO TO 2040*. She said an email went out to all members concerning the partnership kickoff at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

There will be a permanent kiosk in Millennium Park, and traveling kiosks for which locations can still be suggested. The kiosk asks people two basic questions: (1) where should development happen? (2) How should people get around in the future? In addition to the kiosks, workshop, and online tools there will be focused stakeholder workshops on policy trade-offs. Also wrapping up are the Design Workshops which occurred in 13 communities across the region that will result in illustrations of the three main scenarios in a variety of community settings. These visualizations will be on display in the communities and online.

In response to a demonstration of the MetroQuest tool, Judy said she would've liked the question about road network investment to take into account better way to do road-building in concert with environmental concerns.

9.0 Next scheduled meeting: June 17, 2009

10.0 Other Business

Russell Pietrowiak updated the Committee on intentions for the school siting subcommittee formed at the last meeting, and said he would be crafting a memo for feedback that would give a clearer idea of what is to be accomplished by the subcommittee. In addition, he would like to integrate health concerns as related to land use decisions and bring those in health professions into the subcommittee to explore linkages with improving health. The Director of Public Health for Kane County has already agreed to be included. Ty said much of this grew from Kane County's recent growth conference, which focused on creating healthy communities.

Ty asked the committee to help publicize the 2009 Upper Midwest Planning Conference, September 24-26 in Chicago, and that representatives on the Land Use Committee are already heavily involved in its planning. Karen Stonehouse indicated the conference would be in a unique format.

11.0 Public Comment

There was no other public comment.

12.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by David Galowich and seconded by Judy Beck.
Meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ty Warner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ty Warner AICP
Staff Liaison to the Land Use Committee