

MEETING MINUTES for LAND USE 02/02:

Attendance: Roger, Bob, Karen, Starke, Chris Courtney, Regan, Reid, Kathryn

GUESTS: Angie Pierach - Local Restaurant Owner and Britta Belden from Capital Watershed

- I. Starke Mueller is new co-Chair, already on Council.
- II. The committee voted unanimously to accept Reid as a new member! Welcome Reid!
- III. Kathryn is requesting volunteers to join Jessica in organizing an opening celebration for the new Westgate Park. The first meeting on the Westgate Park Celebration Planning meeting is Thursday, February 16th at 3:30pm here's the link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7169469028?pwd=V3NURzIqOU1uUS9lTVVFcUQ0Q2lhQT09>

- IV. Good neighbor Fund - Should we propose something for the new Westgate Park?

<https://government-relations.umn.edu/good-neighbor-fund>

March 30 - Applications due by 5pm

- V. Angie Pierach joined us to request support for a Class N License for their new restaurant at Herbst Eatery & Market (779, 781 and 783 Raymond). The committee voted unanimously to request that the Council write a letter of support for the license.
- VI. D/O Architects and Film North in SOS Furniture Building are beginning renovation and are looking for tenants to share the space (2441 University)
- VII. Updates on Cleveland Project received from Pat Thompson: County is unwilling to alter plans for tree removal. **On *Feb 7 open house, 5-7, at the Student Center.**
- VIII. Updates on project at 2285 Hampden Ave: Exeter is working with StP Planning and Econ Development to decide on variances or zoning changes to request. Will provide more updates soon.
- IX. New Building at Saint Thomas, can anyone go find out more at this meeting?

Forum Date: Monday, February 13, 2023

Time: 6:00PM - 7:30PM

Location: Merriam Park Library([1831 Marshall Avenue, St. Paul](https://www.merriamparklibrary.org/)),

Key Concerns: The already overburdened Cretin/Summit/Grand Avenue corridor cannot reasonably sustain the level of traffic associated with this kind of facility. Keep in mind that the facility will likely be used for many activities on multiple days/evenings per week year-round. Already it is difficult to cross Cretin Avenue given disregard for speed limits and crosswalks – the traffic jams resulting from events at the facility will make Cretin unbearable.

X. Projects we need updates on:

- North Campus Redevelopment from UofMN
- New Health Partners building on Como
- Seminary / Breck Woods Plans
- Addition of Underwater Storage System below Ag fields
- Metro Metals Retention Pond and Drainage into Mississippi
- Southeast Hennepin Area Groundwater & Vapor Superfund site.

XI. Future Visitors? Karen reaching out to Towerside for March, any other ideas?

XII. **New Goals for 2023: Please review our revised list of goals before our next meeting.**

XIII. Discussion of ways to add more pollinator plants check out:

Abundance London: <https://abundancelondon.com/>

100 trees project: <https://www.creativeenterprisezone.org/100-trees-initiative>

Mississippi Watershed Management Org (great description of local projects):

<https://www.mwmo.org/projects/>

XIII. Wonderful presentation by Britta Belden of Capital Watershed to tell us about the challenges and also new hope for Como Lake. Much has been done to improve water quality over the past two years. We are in the Como Lake Watershed! More work on native plants around the lake will take place this summer.