Penn Avenue Reconstruction Committee

Thursday, February 7, 2019 @ 11:00 a.m.

BGC's Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Avenue

MEETING MINS

Attendees: Nina Gibbs, Jeffree N.V., Terence Olesniewicz, Heather McElwee, Amber Epps, Kevin Fisher, Emily Gaspich, Karen Loysen, Henry Horn Pyatt, Jeanette Coleman, Eileen Kraus-Dobratz.

Amber Epps called to order at 11:08

I. Welcome/Introductions

II. Previous Meeting Minutes

Henry approves the meeting mins and Emily seconds but with one small addition to the mins. Emily requests that the sidewalk moratorium is for 5 years but emergency situations will be taken into consideration. Nina will make the update to the mins.

III. Preliminary Engineering Update/Review Prelim. Engineering Schedule

Emily gave an update. Only 4 people have vaults that need inspected. Sub-surface investigation using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) may reveal vaults that have been covered by sidewalk. Emily explained that this is a huge federal project with budget to 3-4 million. Engineering, construction, inspection approval all have check points due to this federal funds. They have finished the survey. Started geotechnical investigation. They are researching if there are contaminants so that there is a plan for materials when they are dug up. Utility coordination is happening. The city has reached out to all of them so they are involved early on.

Jeffry N.V asked about the process with PWSA and contacting residents. Henry also expressed that it's important that the information be gotten in the hands of each property owner. Nina reviewed that a general about the Penn Ave Reconstruction written by the city has gone out to affected owners and that the information has also been reported in the bulletin as meetings happen. Nina is going to contact PWSA and work on a FAQ sheet about the PSWA lines during Phase II. Henry suggests putting it on each door and doing a mailing. Jeffry N.V would like to know exactly how many properties are affected and how many are owner occupied. Emily has a full list of the properties but it is not indicated by owner occupied vs. rented. Nina has a list that compares business owners vs. property owners of some of the properties. Henry said that URA has products for laterals. Nina says she will contact the URA and see if they can be at the community meeting that Emily has planed in June.

a. Public Meeting – Tentative 06/05/19

10 to 20% drawings will be ready for the 1st week of June. This is will show what has to be there and allow the community to give feed back on the design for the other 80%. There will be a community meeting that will have elected officials, Penn Ave property owners, reps from The City, and then the general public are also allowed to attend.

b. Property Owners Meetings – 06/07/19 – 06/17/19

Individual one on one with businesses. The City is working on business impact and mitigation plans with business. Access for businesses and planning will be very important issues. These meetings will be in the end of July. The city reps will go to the actual business. Emily will provide ads and flier for the public meeting and property owner one on one meetings.

c. Begin Final Design – 05/2020

Once the public meeting and one on one meetings are done feed back will be compiled and preliminary design will be ready by May 2020 hen move to final design in early 2021, with breaking ground in 2021.

Henry asks about how we can direct traffic to businesses with district wide detour signs. Specifically with business names on it. Trans Associates says that this can be done but that the more names the larger and unwieldy the sign becomes. Emily indicates that they will explore a mix of messages for drivers and pedestrians.

The city wants to make sure businesses are telling their customers in advance a plan with recommendations. The dog groomer in Phase I did a great job of planning with customers and Henry suggests we have that business at a meeting to talk to businesses about things that worked. Henry suggests that the city design a postcard for businesses in a digital and hard copy form that they can share. Henry poses approaching parking lots. Emily says the city does have funds to lease parking lots or spaces in lots. Nina will put together a list of lots in the area and contact information. Emily will reach out to them it could be several spots in a lot after hours of that business or a full lot.

IV. Other Issues / Items

Jeffry asked about gas line coordination. Emily has contacted the utility companies and coordination is happening but it is up the utility company to decide how they want to proceed.

Nina asked about the light poles. Phase I lights are not LED. It was discussed that if they were to be LED lights at the time of Phase I that there would have been a need for more poles to make sure there was enough light. Phase II will probably have LED bulbs. It is possible that phase II will have double the amount of poles or brighter bulbs. The city will do an analysis to see if bulbs can be swapped in Phase I to keep the color of light the same. However, this would have to be done outside of Phase II work due to contract constraints.

Adjourned at Noon

Date for next meeting: May 2, 2019