

## Maple Grove Citizens Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2016

<b>Call to Order</b>	The meeting was called to order by CAC member Bob Joiner at 7:03 p.m.		
<b>Members Present</b>	Nkechi Anyamele Jon Burgard Steve Maas Joe Piket	John Beacham Bob Joiner Joan Masberg Don Skoglund	Leslie Bender Tim Klevar Meg Miller Stephanie Walvatne
<b>Members Absent</b>	Adam Bedard, Katie Cohen, Steve Gill, Lorraine Gresser, Harry Kennedy, Karen Nickolauson. Councilmember Erik Johnson was absent due to business travel.		
<b>Others Present</b>	CAC Staff Liaison Mike Opatz and Economic Development Manager Carie Fuhrman.		
<b>Minutes</b>	Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2016, meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee. Motion passed.		
<b>Area Reports</b>	<p>CAC Member Anyamele: Traffic issues on Weaver Lake Road west of I-94:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long delays at traffic lights</li><li>• Increase in traffic volume in recent weeks</li><li>• Has the County recently conducted any traffic light studies or updates on the light sequencing of that corridor?</li><li>• Are there any new plans for roadway or signalization improvements?</li></ul> <p>CAC Member Burgard: Burglaries in the northwest suburbs. Jon states he has been hearing more in the media recently about an increase in residential and car thefts and is wondering if Maple Grove is experiencing an increase in these crimes and what the response from our police has been.</p> <p>CAC Member Piket: Signage for the Children's Learning Adventure located at 13001 62nd Pl N. Joe is asking if the exterior facility signage for this property is in compliance with City code in terms of the amount, size, location, and lighting. Joe states the signage all seems excessive compared to what his business was allowed as the owner of Primrose Schools. Joe asks if Children Learning Adventure was granted any sort of signage variance during the City approval process.</p>		
<b>Economic Development Manager</b>	The Committee welcomed City of Maple Grove Economic Development Manager Carie Fuhrman. Ms. Fuhrman introduced herself and provided background on how this newly created position of Economic Development Manager came about. Ms. Fuhrman provided a handout of		

her PowerPoint presentation which detailed action items as part of her position. She has been in the position for two months.

Ms. Fuhrman spoke about outreach to businesses and establishing relationships. She talked about meeting with the Minnesota Department of Economic Development and Hennepin County as well several other organizations in the northwest metro area.

Ms. Fuhrman talked about Tax Increment Financing particularly related to the Gravel Mining Area. Questions and answers took place about the level of positions that will be created and long-term career rather than minimum wage positions being established. Ms. Fuhrman stated that companies involved with TIF submit annual reports to ensure they are meeting employment and wage requirements.

Ms. Fuhrman was asked about having a healthy balance in the use of TIF. She talked about protecting the tax base. She said Maple Grove has been conservative in using tax abatement and that TIF is a strong economic development tool.

Ms. Fuhrman talked about establishing a policy for use of incentives for expansion and recruitment, which is one of the action items. She was asked if the City has identified any particular industries or uses that they'd like to see in particular areas. She answered that things are pretty broad right now. Comprehensive plan committee meetings have just started so no specifics have been established.

Ms. Fuhrman stated that the organization Greater Minneapolis has identified both Maple Grove and Plymouth as med-tech. The impact of the hospital and the number of healthcare providers and businesses was discussed.

Ms. Fuhrman then went on to talk about the land use and zoning in the Gravel Mining Area and 610 corridor. When asked, she stated it is not expected that there will be large warehouses with a low number of employees in the GMA.

Ms. Fuhrman talked about creating marketing and communications plans for economic development which would include a logo/tagline, marketing materials and social media. She encouraged CAC members to follow the City via social media.

The question was asked if she envisioned adding more staff; she stated not at this time. She was asked about the Doran site at Elm Creek Boulevard and Hemlock Lane and if there were any funding issues as there seemed to be a delay. She stated that the development agreement was being finalized.

The residential and business development items in the CAC agenda packet were referenced. These are updated month by the Community Development Department and will be provided in future CAC agenda packets.

Ms. Fuhrman provided an update on Hy-Vee and discussion ensued on the proposed north and south Maple Grove locations.

The question was asked about how Maple Grove compares in cost per square foot. She stated that Maple Grove was comparable. She stated that office space is harder to fill.

Discussion took place about retail. People want independents but then need to support those businesses. Ms. Fuhrman stated that retail is changing, particularly with online shopping.

The following items were discussed:

- Menards expansion of their lumberyard
- Expansion of Parnassus School in Zachary Square Shopping Center
- Tile Shop and Five Below coming in the former Gander Mountain space
- Park Nicollet building in front of Target

The question was asked if Maple Grove Hospital was designed to add more floors. The consensus was yes but not sure how many levels. Mike Opatz stated he would check into.

The Mirabel development of single level residences was mentioned.

The Committee thanked Ms. Fuhrman for her time and stated they would appreciate updates monthly or so. Mike Opatz stated that he can share them with CAC.

**Youth Sports  
Subcommittee  
Final Report**

The subcommittee received the final report that afternoon, and Mike Opatz handed it out at the meeting. This report was intended to be the final report but it was uncertain if the comments from City Administrator Heidi Nelson were included. CAC members were reminded that any more comments could hinder moving forward. Everyone has one week to provide comments, and after that, no more input will be accepted.

Discussion ensued about if all comments received had been included in this current version. CAC Member Tim Klevar will confirm that all comments have been included.

It was stated the committee needs to decide about creating a concise course of action for the Council as requested by Councilmember Johnson. Each section in the executive summary has a call to action and recommendation.

The question was asked when the City will see initial feedback from the community survey and see if possibly the Youth Sports Report formal presentation to the Council will mesh up with the survey results.

Regarding the presentation to the Council of the Youth Sports Report, it was stated that it would be good to have all CAC members at the Council meeting. The date would probably be either November 7 or November 21. CAC members were asked if they would be willing to attend, and they said yes.

Discussion took place about sharing the report with the various athletic associations/organizations prior to the presentation to the City Council. It was decided that, when a date has been set for the Council presentation, the associations would be notified of that.

The suggestion was made to highlight/list the main action items at the front of the report, but that they also be kept in the body of the report.

The date the report will go on the Council agenda for CAC's presentation should be known shortly after CAC's final approval of the report at their meeting on October 12, 2016.

## **Other Matters**

**Community Survey:** 405 mailed responses have been received so far. The link to the online survey will be posted again on the City's social media platforms. The survey results will be tabulated in November with a final report received in late December 2016 or early January 2017.

**CAC reappointments:** Notification has been sent to those CAC members who are up for reappointment. The committee may wish to give consideration to filling any vacancies.

**Department presentations:** The following ideas were brought forth for updates to the Committee at upcoming meeting: City Assessor, Police, Fire and Engineering/Public Works. With regard to a Police presentation, one was given fairly recently, and the suggestion was made to wait until the community survey is done. An update on the land use/comprehensive plan progress would be good for a spring meeting.

The October CAC meeting will center on the Youth Sports Report.

## **Adjournment**

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the September 14, 2016, Citizens Advisory Committee. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Morris  
Minute Secretary