

MINUTES OF GPA GENERAL MEETING OF SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021

Call to Order/Attendance – taken from Zoom meeting roster by Bob Keck.

Treasurer's Report – Rick McGrath reported that the GPA account balance is \$6,282.16.

Committee Reports

Beautification – Pam DiPaola reported that the Committee will meet in April for planning the neighborhood pot plantings.

Membership – Kim Russell reported that the Committee is being revived with new members – Kim, Jill Orbach, Megan DiFranco, Josh Doolittle. They will review membership recruitment, communications, and social activities. More volunteers are encouraged.

Art Committee– Roz Goldman reported that Suzanne Mayer contacted City Hall to find materials for flower pots. Fifteen are required and they are expensive. RIT recommended that the City should help but their response is slow, so there won't be pots this year. Roz will contact our representative, Michael Patterson for assistance.

Development Committee – Bob Keck reported (Richard Rosen was absent). The Committee is studying the areas surrounding Grove Place for the City's Zoning Alignment Project (ZAP) input. There have been no additions to the City's ZAP website. There is no way for the GPA to provide its input.

Public Safety -Pam DiPaola attended the last meeting of the Police Citizen Interaction Committee (PCIC). The Mayor, Lovely Warren, and the City Council have proposed changes in the way Rochester City police handle accusations of police misconduct and oversight. A comparison of these proposals is at this link:

<https://www.rochestercitynewspaper.com/rochester/rochesters-big-decision-on-police-oversight/Content?oid=10064810>

The main issues include: (1) the duty to intervene; (2) chokeholds are banned (with some exceptions); (3) the Attorney General's office will be in charge of investigating any killing by the police beginning April 1st; (4) A City PIC Team (Persons in Crisis) has been created. It will have 30 non-law enforcement response team members who will operate 24/7 for mental health, substance abuse, and other related calls; (5) the City police will address

community relationships and institute bike patrols for the Unity residents in the 19th Ward Clinton section to alleviate their fear of policing.

More details about the PIC program are at: <https://www.rochesterfirst.com/news/local-news/city-of-rochester-launches-24-7-person-in-crisis-team-for-mental-health-assistance/> and <https://www.cityofrochester.gov/crisisintervention/>

Main Agenda Item:

Members were emailed two proposed resolutions prior to today's meeting, for consideration and vote today. These are directed to the GPA's potential response to the City's proposed Inner Loop Infill (ILN) project.

Resolution #1: Motion by Kimberly Russell. Seconded by Suzanne Mayer:

This purpose of Resolution #1 is to notify the City of Rochester and Bergmann & Associates, Engineer consultants, of GPA's interests, concerns and desires to provide input with respect to the ILN project. It does not express a position for or against the project. The full text is attached as Attachment 1.

After discussion, a vote by Zoom poll was taken.

Results: The motion for Resolution #1 passed by 85% of the votes cast either in person or by proxy.

Resolution #2: Motion by Robert DiPaola. Seconded by Josh Doolittle:

The purpose of Resolution #2 is to express a position against filling in the ILN. The full text is attached as Attachment 2.

After discussion, a vote by Zoom poll was taken.

Results: The motion for Resolution #2 received a 37% For vote of the votes cast either in person or by proxy, which fell short of the 75% required to pass.

Upon finishing the voting, the agenda was completed.

Sandy Mayer moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:35pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Loeb, Secretary

ATTACHMENT #1 – RESOLUTION #1 - PASSED

The Grove Place Association represents center city residents in the area bounded by East Ave. to the South, the Inner Loop North and East to the North, Chestnut Street to the West and Union Street to the East. We are homeowners, renters and business owners committed to maintaining downtown as a vital place to live, work and play. We have a history of strong community engagement and make every effort to educate and inform residents within our boundaries. The topic of the Inner Loop North has been the subject of many of our meetings over the last two years. It is the sense of the Grove Place Association that any project to alter or remove the Inner Loop North should incorporate the following:

1. The traffic along University Avenue between Chestnut St. and E. Main Street should not increase significantly above current levels. Changes should be made to this section of University Ave to promote traffic calming, improve walkability and enhance bicycle safety.
2. All streets within the project area should emphasize walkability, bicycle friendliness and should be designed for traffic calming. All street design should take into account the fact that snow is a significant issue in the winter time, and should ensure that sidewalks remain usable all 12 months of the year. Any bridges that are kept should also be revamped to be consistent with these guidelines.
3. Walkways should be designed for 8 to 80 not just the walking well, so benches and other amenities that allow for people to rest should be incorporated. They should be able to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers. Surfaces that become slippery in inclement weather should be avoided.
4. More smaller streets are preferred over a few large boulevards that become speedways and are impediments to walking. One-way streets should be avoided.
5. Zoning within the project area should be form based with the allowed forms chosen to reflect the forms that currently exist on the North and South sides of the project. It would be anticipated that the allowed forms would vary from East to West along the project area. Once satisfactory zoning is developed, it should be enforced.
6. Development of the Inner Loop North area should embrace urban beautification principles including incorporating public art and providing ample trash receptacles.

7. Green space is a key to quality of life so areas of designated green space should be part of the project plan.
8. The association would be supportive of a recreational area that could be shared by School 58 and the surrounding neighborhoods.
9. The project should be forward looking with respect to accommodating climate change, sustainability, racial equity, and to decrease the wealth gap of our Black and Brown neighbors.
10. Anderson Park and the section of the inner loop ramp between Union and E. Main should be evaluated as a possible natural park.
11. The project should knit the city together. Ideally, when completed, it should not be apparent that the inner loop ever existed.
12. The association expects to be involved as the project evolves.

ATTACHMENT #2 – PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2 – NOT PASSED

Resolved:

It is sense of the Grove Place Association (GPA) that the Inner Loop North (ILN) must be maintained as a transportation corridor and not be Infilled.

The ILN serves the GPA, many other city residents, other non-residents and visitors as an efficient and rapid transportation corridor through the City which must be maintained.