



Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board



204 Administration Building
50 Sherburne Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155
Phone: 651.757.1500
Web: www.mn.gov/CAAPB
TTY: 800.627.3529

Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board Meeting January 27th, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **DRAFT** Minutes

Board Members

Present: Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan, Dana Badgerow, Dr. Kate Beane, Alicia Belton, Hannah Hills, Rep. Ginny Klevorn, James McClean, Daniel Yang

Absent: James Garrett Jr., Sen. Sandra Pappas, Sen. Carla Nelson

Quorum present? Yes.

Proceedings

Meeting Kick-Off

- Board member roll call
- Overview of Agenda

Board Members and Officers

Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan welcomed new Board members Hannah Hills and Rep. Ginny Klevorn.

Executive Committee Proposal

Lt. Gov. Flanagan discussed the selection of members for the Executive Committee, which is a smaller group of Board members that staff can consult between meetings on operational issues. In MN Statute 15B, the CAAP Board is allowed (not required) to elect a Vice Chair who may preside in the Board Chair's absence. The Executive Secretary recommended electing a Vice Chair and two other Board members to the Executive Committee.

Board member Dana Badgerow expressed interest in becoming Vice Chair of the Executive Committee.

Board member James McClean volunteered to be a committee member.

Action Item: Resolution Appointing Executive Committee Members

Following a motion to appoint Ms. Badgerow and Mr. McClean, a vote took place. All eight votes were in favor, with Ms. Badgerow appointed as Vice Chair and Mr. McClean as a member of the Executive Committee.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT): New Stations

CAAPB Principal Planner & Zoning Administrator Peter Musty introduced Frank Alarcon of Metro Transit. Frank Alarcon gave an overview of Bus Rapid Transit project updates. The project proposes a network of twelve (12) Bus Rapid Transit lines by 2030 and ties into the 2040 Metro Network Plan.

The Board was asked to approve the design of the new station upgrade on John Ireland Blvd. and the location of two Purple Line stations.

Action Item: Approvals of B-Line station design and Purple Line station location, Letter of Board Support

Board member Hannah Hills asked whether there was, or would be, coordinated planning with state or city agencies to address homelessness as it relates to transit. Lt. Gov. Flanagan responded that \$1.5 billion was recently dedicated by the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness to housing and homelessness and to emergency service providers.

Rep. Klevorn inquired about support for visually impaired users of the new stations. Frank Alarcon stated that a number of accessibility features have been included in the stations.

Board member James McClean asked about the possibility of public art being part of the stations. Mr. Musty clarified that public art is not able to be included in federally funded transit projects. Exec. Sec. Clapp-Smith added that if funding were to come from an independent source, there is a possibility of adding public art.

There was a motion to approve the design of the proposed B Line Station at Marshall Avenue and John Ireland Boulevard. The motion was passed with 8 votes in favor.

There was a motion to approve the location of the two proposed Purple Line Stations. The motion was passed with 8 votes in favor.

There was a motion to approve the Statement of Support for Bus Rapid Transit in the Capitol Area. The motion was passed with 8 votes in favor.

State Office Building

Project status

Exec. Sec. Clapp-Smith talked through the timeline leading to the present-day State Office Building project status. Ms. Clapp-Smith discussed language in the CAAPB's Comprehensive Plan which identifies Leif Erickson Park as an important area for planned park enhancements and consistent with this intent, it is zoned as G-2 (open space). For the State Office Building addition to extend into Leif Erickson Park, the project must be found to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, and be rezoned from G-2 (open space) to G-1 (government structures), which is done through a rulemaking process.

A list of possible next steps for the project was presented to the Board.

Board member Badgerow asked whether the statue of Leif Erickson would be able to remain in its current location if the state office building was expanded. Exec. Sec. Clapp-Smith replied in the affirmative, although there would be less green space around the statue.

Rep. Klevorn expressed a desire for the park to become a truly public space. Exec. Sec. Clapp-Smith stated CAAPB's hope that there would be many opportunities for conversation about this issue in the future.

Commemorative Works

Adopted rules, application forms, and review process

Exec. Sec. Clapp-Smith provided an update on the Commemorative Works application pathways including requests for modification or removal of existing works or the addition of new ones.

Initial outreach by prospective applicants

The CAAPB has had several early inquiry consultation meetings with prospective applicants and anticipates receiving one or more applications in the future.

A Year in Review

Exec. Sec. Clapp-Smith discussed the many highlights of 2022 for the CAAPB including the unveiling of the Nellie Stone Johnson memorial, the dedication of the Minnesota Medal of Honor Memorial, the commemorative works rulemaking process, maintenance in the Capitol Building, zoning and design review for the new mental health hospital at the former Bethesda hospital site, collaboration with Capitol Region Watershed District, and CAAPB's staff strategic planning retreat. The Executive Secretary thanked Board members for their contributions to making the year a success.

2023 Work Plan and Biennial Budget Request

Exec. Sec. Clapp-Smith talked through a breakdown of CAAPB's budget and an overview of the 2023 workplan. Items of special note included paper & digital filing before an expected office

move, the Zoning & Design Rules update, the Capitol Mall Design Framework update, and Commemorative Work application reviews.

Conditional Use Permit

Mr. Musty gave an overview of the solar panels on the roof of Saint Paul City School and recommended that the Board approve the conditional use permit for the panels.

Action Item: Approve CUP

There was a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit. The motion was passed with 7 votes in favor.

Other Planning and Project Updates

Mr. Musty briefly discussed other planning and project updates such as the Sears Site and former Bethesda Hospital and asked for questions from the Board.

Board member Dana Badgerow noted her difficulty in finding the real estate listing for the Sears site, and Mr. Musty replied that he would research it.

CAAPB Board Minutes

The Board moved to delay approval of the August 24, 2022, minutes until the next meeting due to lack of quorum.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.