



EDC SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

Location: via Google Meet

May 25, 2023

MEMBERS:

T. Ziola, Chair
J. Mills, Vice Chair
D. Brown
N. LaMontagne

PRESENT:

J. Mills, Vice Chair
D. Brown
N. LaMontagne

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

A. Rowan, Urban Planning and Economy Department
P. Spearey, Urban Planning and Economy Department

A. CALL TO ORDER AND RELATED BUSINESS

A.1. CALL TO ORDER

J. Mills called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

A.2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: J. Mills

Motion to adopt the May 25, 2023 Agenda.

SECONDED: D. Brown

The motion passed unanimously.

A.3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION: J. Mills

Motion to adopt the April 20, 2023 meeting minutes.

SECONDED: D. Brown

The motion passed unanimously.

A.4. REQUESTS TO SPEAK

None.

B. OLD BUSINESS

B.1. 2023 Work Planning- General

- J. Mills asked the Subcommittee what they thought about the onboarding event. N. LaMontagne thought it went very well. Suggested we have in-person meetings more regularly. D. Brown agreed. **Info.**
- J. Mills asked if we need to develop some sort of package to give to future new members? Is there a way to improve this? D. Brown believes some looked at the package provided in detail, and they asked a lot of good questions. N. Lamontagne suggested that the informal aspect of the onboarding was more helpful than a more structured approach. He thought that using a prior project and providing the minutes and the synopsis document for new members to review was very useful. **Info.**
- J. Mills asked the Subcommittee if having another informal training opportunity with the new members in a few months would be helpful? It would be used to see how things are progressing, and if the new members have any other questions about the process, etc? If so, would it need to be a separate conversation, or part of a regular meeting? D. Brown suggested that a follow-up to the onboarding could be added to the end of a regular meeting. **Info.**
- J. Mills recommended that the Committee have a follow up conversation regarding onboarding and training at the first meeting in July. **Administration to add this to the July 4 Agenda.**
- J. Mills outlined the four outcomes listed under 2022/23 work planning: improved Onboarding and Training, reviewing the EDC principles of Urban Design, Industry Engagement, and the Councillor Luncheon. **Info.**

P. Spearey joined the meeting at 4:28p.m.

B.2 Warehouse Park Discussion

- J. Mills and D. Brown provided N. LaMontagne a summary of the motion of non-support for Warehouse Park from the regular EDC meeting on May 16, and discussed the concerns raised in the EDC letter. **Info.**
- D. Brown suggested that projects of this scale, presented by the City, should assign a local bridging consultant (similar to what the Province does when they hire consultants from outside of Edmonton). **Further discussion needed.**
- J. Mills suggested discussing the Warehouse Park project with the larger Committee at a future meeting. **Further discussion needed.**
- The Subcommittee discussed expectations around engagement, particularly with the Indigenous community. There needs to be some clarity around the process; for example, when this project came for the informal, there wasn't much discussion around this particular aspect of the work. J. Mills asked if the onus would be on the Committee to be asking these questions at the informal, or on the proponent/applicant to be bringing them forward? P. Spearey suggested that it would make sense for this to be the responsibility of the applicant. **Further discussion needed.**
- P. Spearey - the Subcommittee may want to put some thought into what we should be asking about projects, particularly city projects, at the informal stage. We may want to be a bit more intentional about what we are asking at the informal. **Further discussion needed.**
- D. Brown- when this project came the first time, it was dealing with very large scale problems, which were refined by the time they came back for the formal, but then there were elements added into the park that didn't fit the principles established at the get-go. Suggested that maybe projects of this scale should come to EDC for two informals, depending on how they're being staged and developed. **Further discussion needed.**
- P. Spearey- There is always a question of when EDC should be engaged in projects. What is the appropriate time to bring them for review? Maybe instead of bringing them at 90% prelim, they could have come at 30-50% prelim. **Further discussion needed.**
- N. LaMontagne mentioned that other cities use the informal as more of a work-shop. The way informal projects are presented and discussed may need to be revisited. P. Spearey- there has been a lack of clarity on EDC's role. There is an opportunity to clean up the way that City projects engage with EDC. J. Mills- would engagement with the City be required to move this forward? P. Spearey- Yes at some point, possibly at the end of the summer, we could revisit some of these things. **Further discussion needed.**
- J. Mills, we discussed doing engagement with industry in regards to the Standards and Procedures, is the City a stakeholder in that industry engagement? P. Spearey- the process can include whomever the Subcommittee desires; however, internal stakeholders are probably important to include as well. **Further discussion needed.**
- P. Spearey- we need to be mindful of when we want to do our engagement relative to other activities (e.g. Zoning Bylaw). **Administration will do some reaching out in the next few weeks to help determine when the best time would be to conduct engagement.**

- J. Mills- when do we want to start the discussion around the principles of urban design?
P. Spearey- the Standards and Procedures should take some priority. Engagement can be used to ask some questions about the principles, leading up to the more wholesome review. **Further discussion needed.**
- J. Mills- Counselor luncheon- do you need any support to organize this? P. Spearey-The fall is a good time to do this, as the Urban Design Awards are taking place in November. We will need management support for the budget for the luncheon. The luncheon should be booked as soon as possible. **Administration to follow up on this item.**

C. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:51 pm.

E. NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. located via Google Meet