



Meeting Minutes

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Community & Economic Revitalization Committee (CERC)

Information: 360.753.8447

Monday, June 22, 2015

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Special Meeting of the Council to Conduct Business of the CERC

1. ROLL CALL

Present: 3 - Chair Nathaniel Jones, Councilmember Jim Cooper and Councilmember Julie Hankins

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Stephen Buxbaum
Community Planning & Development Director Keith Stahley

2. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Jones called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 3.A [15-0641](#) Approval of June 1, 2015 Community and Economic Revitalization Committee Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 4.A [15-0640](#) Review the Community Renewal Area Request for Proposal Document

The Committee reviewed the request for proposal.

Discussion:

- Requests were made to alter or clarify wording and specifications, such as specific buildings.
- In regards to City property, the goal is to provide the maximum amount of flexibility.
- Encourage developers to complement and potentially accommodate existing businesses and the tone of the area.
- Discourage developers from taking patronage from other parts of town.

The recommendation was approved as amended and forwarded to the City Council for consideration at the July 7 Council meeting under File 15-0657.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Although we do not want to lose Traditions, it may be too limiting to ask a developer to try to make a space that would be available to their business at their current rate.
- The desire to keep the frame around the fountain block could be accomplished with vegetation instead of keeping buildings there and space could be added to the park.
- The CRA process was conceived to deal with blighted area, but has been moved to development. The community has expressed disapproval of this. Stick to situations that more closely comply with the common definition of blight.
- Don't ignore the original intent for the fountain area to be park space and take care of it as a unit.
- Start small, then move on to bigger things later.

4.B [15-0642](#) ORAL REPORT - Status Report and Updates

Mr. Stahley provided an update.

- Griswold's block as a CRA area is dependent on lease rights.
- Leasing is going well at the 123 4th Avenue building.
- A memorandum has been provided about using Section 108 to pursue Griswold's.
- Mr. Lee has expressed interest in selling his property, but its worth will need to be appraised before negotiation.

The report was received.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.