PPA Planning and Land Use Minutes June 10th, 2021

Attendees (via Zoom):

John Wicks (Chair), Eric Amel, Kory Andersen, Sally Bell, Denny Carlson, Eddie Estrin, David Frank, Dick Gilyard, John Kari, Ron McCoy, Vera Marshall, Kate Needlemen, Laura Preus, Jere Purple, Donna Schneider, Matt Seltzer, Kari Simonson, Jane Stockman, Julie Wallace, Lynn Von Korff, Aloida Zaragoza

The main item discussed was PP2020's feasibility study showing a six-story building on the North side of University Avenue between Malcom and Bedford.

First, the 2040 Built Form map was presented to provide background and context. In 2018, Prospect Park Association successfully requested that the stretch of University Ave on the same block as 4th street be designated "Corridor 4" instead of Transit 10" so 4th street residents would not be surrounded by a tunnel of ten story buildings. In other words, between Malcom and Bedford on the North side of University Avenue it's designated "Corridor 4" (up to four stories). Across the street on University Avenue, it's Transit 10 (2 to 10 stories) until University Avenue West of Malcom Avenue it's Transit 30.

Next, PP2020 gave a brief recap of PP2020's "Arts and Cultural Facilities" report, previously presented at the April Land Use meeting. The report explored the financial feasibility of locating an art organization at various locations along University Avenue with rental units to support purchase, development, and property maintenance.

Residents reported that they had not been aware or engaged in the feasibility study until after it was published on PP2020's website site. Many expressed deep concern that the study shows a six-story building at that site and that the study is being shared with developers as a possibility, given it does not conform to the 2040 Built Form Map or to PPA's Board action.

Motion: We support approaches to bring arts & culture to development in Prospect Park, but we will respect the built form map as illustrated in the Minneapolis 2040 plan. The motion passed.

The committee also discussed whether to resume in-person meetings: PPUMC has opened to the public and the Land Use Committee could resume in-person meetings again. There wasn't sufficient time to fully discuss the issue so Land Use will continue to meet virtually for the time being. The committee can bring it up again at its next meeting on July 8th.