

Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission
Board of Commission Meeting
7:00PM, April 5, 2007
University of Nebraska - Omaha
Milo Bail Student Center – Chancellor’s Room
6001 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE.

Commissioner Attending: Mary Ann Borgeson, Inez Boyd, Rich Jansen, Marsha Babcock, Pete Kotsiopoulos, Jim Grotrain, John Plucknett, Marlin Petermann, Ron Melbye, Brenda Gunn, Tim Gilligan, Chuck Sigerson, Phil Mullin, David Potter – alternate.
Kathy McKillip – NIZC Executive Director

Members Excused: Ken Svoboda, Dave Nielsen, Jeff Weak

Visitors: Jack Stannard, Mike Siedschlag, Bruce Sackett, Katie Torpy, Randy Lenhoff, Paul Mullen, Leslie Peterson, Mark Obermyer, Dave Kotak, Jarel Vinduska, Kimberly Stuhr, Leslie Peterson,

Vice-Chair Brenda Gunn welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:10PM.

Kathy McKillip, NIZC Executive Director, then took the Commission roll call at 7:11PM.

Approval of the Agenda

Vice-Chair Gunn asked for approval of the agenda as distributed. *Motion made by Commissioner Boyd and 2nd by Commissioner Petermann to approve the agenda as distributed. Motion approved.*

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Gunn asked for approval of the 3/15/07 NIZC minutes as distributed. *Motion made by Commissioner Grotrain and 2nd by Commissioner Jensen to approve the minutes as distributed. Motioned approved.*

Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period opened at 8:02pm – Beginning Discussion of Phase 1.

At this time, NIZC – Alternate, David Potter, JEO Consulting, commented on the need to complete findings that develop best land use practices for land and create a mix use component.

Jarel Vinduska, Save the Hills, commented on the importance of the environmental impact and there should be discussion about the Department of Roads plan to connect the South By-Pass project.

Seeing no other public comments at this time; Vice-Chair Gunn closed the public comment period.

The Public Comment Period closed – 8:03 pm.

Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period opened at 8:15pm – Discussion of additional Phase's.

At this time, Mike Siedschlag, with HDR, commented that a Professional Service Contract, be required with any of the Phase Proposal's indicating what the budget will be.

Kimberly Stuhr, Save the Hills, suggested the NIZC committee's be included when reviewing the Phase's for study.

Seeing no public other comments at this time; Vice-Chair Gunn closed the public comment period.

Public Comment Period for Discussion of additional Phase's at 8:17pm.

Agenda Item; Discussion of Regional Comprehensive Plan, Draft Phases

Commissioner Plucknett expressed concerns over the lack of commercial focus in any of the phases.

Commissioner Babcock expressed support for streams, and layered Phase approach to assist in gathering in-kind support, for additional information that could be assembled into a Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Mullin, expressed concern over the lack of economic development focus, to which lead into full commission discussion regarding the definition of economic development in relationship to a regional comprehensive plan.

Motion made by Commissioner Plucknett, and 2nd by Commissioner Babcock, to create a Request For Proposal (RFP) review committee, (consisting of NIZC Chair, Vice-Chair, Committee Chairs, and NIZC Executive Director, to address all 3 draft phases, with priority on Phase 1, with modifications, if possible, and to bring the results to the May 3, full Commission meeting. Motion approved 11-0.

Executive Director Report

I hope everyone is receiving the emails. If there are additional correspondences that I need to be aware of and add to the list please let me know. Hard copies in the mail have been eliminated to only those specifically requesting them.

Remember, if you are a guest, please sign in and provide contact information so that the Commission can keep you updated and informed.

Agenda Item: NIZC Committee Reports

No committee reports at this time. Committee's did not meet.

Economic Development & Marketing Committee: Chair Mullin & Chairman Ken Svoboda

The next committee meeting date is undetermined at this time.

Tourism, Recreation and Environmental Committee: Chair Petermann

The next meeting for this committee is undetermined at this time.

Planning & Infrastructure Committee: Chair Sigerson

The next meeting for this committee is undetermined at this time

Transportation & Logistics: Commissioner Kotsiopoulos

The next meeting for this committee is undetermined at this time

Other Business

At this time, seeing that there was no other Commission business. *Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Grotrain and 2nd by Commissioner Sigerson. Motion approved by consent.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy McKillip
Executive Director - NIZC