

Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission
Board of Commission Meeting
July 16, 2009
Quarry Oaks Golf Course – Club House
Ashland, NE.

Draft

Commissioner Attending: Tom DeLong, David Potter(alternate), Marlin Petermann, John Plucknett, Jon Camp, Ernie Abariotes, Brad Stauffer, Mark Stursma(alternate), Mary Ann Borgeson, Rich Jansen, Jeff Weak, Brenda Gunn, Pete Festersen, Kathy McKillip – NIZC Director, Richard Baier, NDED Director, Patty Wood, NDED Marketing Director

Members Excused: Phil Mullin, Dr. Jack Huck, Kyle Hutchings, Pete Kotsiopoulos

Visitors: Mark Wayne, Doug Whitehead, Jack Stannard, Rand Lenhoff, George Schuler, Donna Lyman, Kevin Anderson.

NIZC Chair, Brenda Gunn, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM.

Kathy McKillip, NIZC Executive Director, then took the Commission roll call at 11:35AM. A new Commission roster was distributed to update and correct any outdated information. Ms. Gunn welcomed newly appointed Commissioner, Pete Festersen – representing Omaha City Council, and replacing Chuck Sigerson.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Gunn asked for approval of the agenda as distributed. *Motion made by Commissioner Jansen and 2nd by Commissioner Abariotes, to approve the agenda as distributed. Motion approved by consent.*

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gunn asked for approval of the minutes from May 7, 2009. *Motion made by Commissioner Jansen and 2nd by Commissioner Weak to approve the June 4, 2009 minutes. Motion approved by consent.*

Public Comment Period

The was no schedule Public Comment Period at this meeting.

Executive Director Report

If there are additional correspondences that McKillip needs to be aware of and add to the list please let her 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.

Ms. McKillip presented 2 dates for the 2010 NIZC Senators Luncheon to select from; Jan. 7th – second day of session, same room available at the Capitol, however, due to another event, would not be on the Senators calendar if we selected this date, it is however, the first Thurs of the month and we could also hold the NIZC monthly meeting. Other date is Jan. 19th – Tues, after a holiday. It was consensus of the Commissioners to go ahead and host the event on Jan. 7th, 2010. Information was provided regarding the NDOR grant application for Federal Funds for road projects within the NIZC area. Registration forms were provided for Commissioners to register for the Federal Fly-Back event (Aug. 20th, 2009).

Ms. McKillip presented a “draft” of a Memorandum of Support (MOS) that could possibly be used to unveil at the Federal Fly-Back event, demonstrating, documented voluntary participation from cities and counties in support of the final draft of the Model Design Guidelines. Commissioners, suggested taking the “draft MOS” back to their representatives for review and suggestions.

Meeting dates have been set for the Commission through Feb. 2010 – please see the agenda for those dates. Every monthly agenda lists the upcoming NIZC meeting dates for at least 6 months out at a time.

Thanks to the efforts of Brad Stauffer and Tom DeLong, Ms. McKillip presented updated information to the Greenwood Village Board on July 14, 2009.

Marketing Update

Patty Wood, NDED, presented an update to the Commission regarding the challenge and task of developing a marketing process for NIZC, as charged by LB 546. Patty released a RFD (Request for Designs) and interest has been coming in. The RFD was distributed to nineteen agencies listed on the State contractors list. The closing date for the RFD is July 30, 2009. All information will be presented to the Commission for discussion and approval. In addition, NIZC is moving forward with SnitilyCarr to produce a marketing video that emphasis on the potential of the area as a targeted region for growth and economic development. SnitilyCarr will develop a 12-14 minute video for communities to use and NIZC will have a 3-4 minute stream fed piece on the NIZC website for additional access. The website version will obviously be condensed. It is anticipated that all marketing work should be completed by Sept. 30, 2009.

Commission Discussion & Olsson Associates Presentation/Consultant Update

Steve Miller presented the Commission with an outline of the change request to the Model Design Standard from the June NIZC meeting. In addition, Mr. Miller also addressed the topic of view sheds within the corridor as requested by community members from the NIZC meetings held during the informational gathering process. As presented, the goals of the Model Design Guidelines is to have the standards be as adoptable as needed. Commissioners went through page-by-page with concerns and addressing the updates/revisions. New request made:

- ✓ Insert the correct exist number to read “exit 405” (not 409) - Exit 440.
- ✓ Request made to make sure that the exit number is correct on the west border – such as along Hwy 77.
- ✓ Request made to show Hwy 66 all the way across on the View Shed map if possible, at this point the way it looks is a little deceiving, like the Hwy does not go all the way through – and it is very much an active Hwy.
- ✓ When preparing the test cases, the model needs to provide opportunities for projects with limited staff and also address how this can happen. Possibly that could be part of the service that a the new corridor association offers. The new association should be a composite of the trade areas (such as; landscape architects, realtors, planners, etc.) to be able to address such questions and define the realistic needs when using and implementing the standards.
- ✓ Suggestion from Commissioners to Mr. Miller to have the view shed be based on the topography not the foliage view.

Motion made by Commissioner Petermann, and second by Commissioner Jansen, to recommend prohibiting advertising billboards along I-80 or within the defined area of the Model Design Guidelines from exit 426 (Mahoney) to 432 (Flying J) exit. Motion approved by consent.

Motion made by Commissioner De Long, and second by Commissioner Weak to reconsider the Petermann motion. Motion approved by consent.

Discussion began regarding the motion and the restrictions of bill boards in relationship to those already in existing, and the additional restrictions from NDRO regarding bill boards.

Motion made by Commissioner Stauffer and second by Commissioner Petermann to recommend to discourage the use of advertising bill boards with the corridor Model Design Guidelines targeted area. Motion approved by vote 12 ays – O-nays – alternate Stursma not voting per NIZC by-laws.

Motion made by Commissioner Petermann and second by Commissioner DeLong, to approve the July 2009 draft of the Model Design Guidelines and to incorporate the Commission’s comments and adjustments into the final document to be approved at the Aug. 6th NIZC monthly meeting. Motion

approved by vote, 12 ays – O- nays – alternate Stursma not voting per NIZC by-laws.

Closing Comments

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

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy McKillip
Executive Director - NIZC