CHAMBERLIN NEIGHBORHOOD-AIRPORT PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES June 25 2015

The Chamberlin Neighborhood-Airport Planning Committee held a regular meeting on Thursday, 25 June 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the Large Conference Room, City Hall, 575 Dorset Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tracey Harrington, Pat Nowak, Walden Rooney, Greg Severance, Linda Brakel, Marc Companion, Lisa LaRock, Carmine Sargent, George Maille, Kim Robison, John Simson, Patrick Clemins

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: David Hartnett, Karsten Schlenter

ALSO PRESENT: Paul Conner, Director of Planning & Zoning; Cathyann LaRose, City Planner; Lee Krohn, CCRPC Senior Planner; Christine Forde, CCRPC Senior Transportation Planner; Bob Chamberlin, RSG; additional residents.

1. Call to Order; Changes to the Agenda

Approval of minutes was moved to the beginning of the meeting.

Questions were raised about the format of the community forum, the consultant selection process, and the scope of work. It was agreed that sharing information was permissible, but that anything further should be publicly warned. Mr. Simson moved to add a brief, informational presentation on the consultant selection process and scope of work; seconded by Mr. Maille, and approved unanimously.

Staff gave a brief history of the City Council charge, RFP, interview process, results, and timeline. The scope of work based on Council's directive had been distributed previously, and should be on the project website. Discussion followed, including the project timeline from this point forward.

2. Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of April 8: Ms. Nowak moved to accept; seconded by Ms. Harrington and approved unanimously.

Minutes of May 20: Corrections were made to spelling and members present. In response to a question about who submitted the minutes, it is the City's practice not to list a person, as once approved, they belong to the committee. Ms. Nowak moved to accept the minutes as corrected; seconded by Ms. Harrington and approved unanimously.

3. Public Comment Period on Items not on the Agenda

A question was raised about the agenda. The warned agenda controls; projected on screen was a more detailed outline to facilitate discussion.

4. Review/Analysis of themes from the community forum; next steps-

A summary was presented of the community forum, questions asked, and emerging themes. The Chair suggested small group discussion of the four forum questions and the emerging themes. Others felt the Committee should discuss matters as a whole, not as small groups. After much further discussion, it was agreed to hold two additional meetings, each to focus on two of the four themes (affordability/community, mobility, noise, and land use). Staff will facilitate these meetings, to be held on Tuesday, July 7 and Monday, July 13 at 6:30 P.M., location to be determined. The rest of the meeting focused on process and eventual, possible outcomes. One approach is to prioritize improvements based on relative value and cost; another is to categorize these based on achievability in short-, medium-, and long-term timeframes.

Concerns were raised about the potential scenario of an expanded Noise Land whereby the 'noise line' moves to encompass a significant number of homes in the study area. Will this committee's study properly account for that possibility? Many residents have questions about what an expanded Noise Land might mean to the livability of their homes and to their property values, which comprise a very major aspect of their retirement nest egg. For example, it would be helpful for residents who find themselves in an expanded Noise Land to have more information on potential options, such as whether their homes might be purchased by the airport or if there is the potential for funding assistance to make noise mitigation improvements to their homes. It was suggested that an important role of this committee is to identify community planning needs that also help residents get answers to such questions so they gain a better understanding of how to prepare for a potentially significant impact to their future.

Staff responded that these questions are always challenging. As with all studies, there is uncertainty with variables that may change. The best we can do is to plan with known scenarios, anticipate and adjust to any changes, and recommend options that will improve the neighborhood no matter where the 'noise line' may be.

The committee member agreed and suggested that this committee pay at least as much attention to future Noise Land scenarios as it does to possible Airport Drive scenarios. Both have uncertainties and variables that may change, and both have significant implications for the neighborhood.

Noise mitigation remains key in this study, but funding is uncertain and the City's zoning will control what's permissible. The Chair asked the Committee to support the long-discussed Airport Drive extension, and to proceed with as much planning as can be done with what is known now.

5. Staff Update on Neighborhood Projects

Updates were offered on the school master visioning/planning committee report and the proposed expansion to Pillsbury Manor on Williston Road.

6. Adjourn

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 P.M.