

## HIGHLAND REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

### STUDY SESSION MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

Members of the Highland Redevelopment Commission (RC Commission) met in person at Town Hall on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The Study session was called to order at 6:31 pm by President Sean Conley.

**Present:** Commissioners Sean Conley, Alex Robertson, George Georgeff and Tom Black were present in person at Town Hall.

**Additional Officials Present:** Susan Hale, Assistant Redevelopment Director; Maria Becerra, Redevelopment Director; Non-Voting Commissioner & School Town Representative Pat Krull; John Reed, Attorney

**Also Present:** Jean Bernius, Cathy Perrin, and Mary Hackett of Highland Neighbors for Sustainability

### General Substance and Discussion

1. Community Garden Native Plant Strip Update – Cathy Perrin from Highland Neighbors for Sustainability provided a map/handout and explained the spacing for this new garden bed. She let the Commission know that the existing beds have been winterized. She expressed that they would need to put cardboard down soon as long as the Commission is approving of this, to ensure the location is ready for planting in Spring of next year. [no real resolution or follow up]
2. Tmobile Grant – Jean Bernius from Highland Neighbors for Sustainability explained to the Commission what this grant is, and told them about the meeting she had with Director Maria Becerra and Assistant Director Susan Hale where they put the initial application together. She explained that they are finishing up some final touches, including getting some letters of support before submitting the application. Commissioner Robertson asked that if this project is not funded through the grant, could the Commission find funding for it, as it is an important project. President Conley pointed out that this area is located within a TIF district.
3. Website Design Proposal – Director Maria Becerra explained to the Commission that the Parks Department has their own website and they have someone who does their website for them, and that she had reached out to see what they would charge for our website. He did quote Redevelopment the same price that he charges the Parks Department. The Commission was also presented with both websites for review. The Commission also expressed that they are interested in seeing pricing for if they were to manage the entire Town of Highland website. Commissioner Robertson asked for more examples of this individual's work. Representative Krull asked if the Commission would be able to pay for this now and be reimbursed by the other departments to share costs for the website. The Commission asked Director Becerra to look into how much the Town currently pays Idea Factory, and to reach out to Chris, who does the Parks Department's website, to see if he would come speak with the Commission at their next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by President Sean Conley at 7:05 pm.