

# Minutes for May 27, 2014

## 2020 Partners Membership Meeting

HGA, Ford Center

Meeting Minutes – *Approved by the 2020 Partners on July 22, 2014*

Attendees: Michael Ahern, Dave Albersman, Kathleen Anderson, Mike Christenson, Matt Clark, Aaron Corcoran, Tom Crowley, Daniel Defoster, Raymond Dehn, Alice Eichholz, Brent Erickson, Sandy Forberg, Jamil Ford, David Frank, Jacob Frey, Brad Henry, Linda Higgins, George Holden, Denise Holt, Bob Iwaskeayez, Ted Johnson, Dan Kenney, Nick Koch, Dave Laidig, Bruce Lambrecht, Chuck Leer, David Loehr, Peter McLaughlin, Dan Mehls, Kelly Nelson, Mark Oyaas, Duane Petersen, Robert Pfefferle, Neil Reardon, Peter Roos, Karen Rosar, LJ Rotman, Carl Runck, Bob Salmen, Marcy Schulte, Dave St. Peter, Mark Stenglein, Ralph Strangis, Albert Swintek, Gene Tierney, Marsha Wagner, Brent Webb

**1. Welcome and Introductions** – Nick Koch, Host, and Chuck Leer, Chair

**2. Approval of Minutes** from 2020 Partners Meeting on March 25, 2014

Minutes were approved and have been posted on The 2020 Partners website.

**3. Transit Development Updates** – Peter McLaughlin, Hennepin County Commissioner

a. Green Line Opening June 14 – Festivities will take place at 10 different stations, with main events taking place at Target Field and Union Depot Stations. Community events will take place along the line, with an emphasis on reaching out to the neighborhoods.

b. Target Field Station: Opening day (May 17) went great, with perfect weather, dads playing catch with their kids, and a wedding party in attendance.

c. Southwest Corridor: Members were invited to advocate for the Southwest LRT at a public hearing on May 29 at the Hennepin County Government Center, with an open house preceding it on the public service level.

When queried about how long he has been working on the Green Line (Central Corridor), Commissioner McLaughlin said since the early 90s, about 25 years. He's hoping

subsequent lines don't take that long. Commissioner McLaughlin added his thanks to the Twins, Target, Minnesota Ballpark Authority, United Properties and "North Loopers" for forwarding plans to develop Target Field Station ("TFS"), a dynamic public gathering space.

The 2020 Partners has been asked to assist with activating/programming TFS. The Steering Committee will discuss this at its June 19 meeting, and welcomes ideas and concepts.

#### **4. The Workforce Case for Southwest Light Rail** – Mike Christenson, Minneapolis Community and Technical College [[PPT Presentation](#)]

Mr. Christenson began by offering his congratulations on the successful opening of TFS, adding that since 2010 it has been Commissioner McLaughlin's vision and grasp for the obvious that made it happen. He also introduced, Aaron Corcoran, MCTCWorks Pathways Lead at Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC), who is developing a software tool to help MCTC download and track daily job postings.

In his presentation, Mr. Christenson discussed the value of a credential, comparing the value of a high school diploma with an associate degree in earnings potential. He showed current job openings requiring an associate degree at companies located along the Southwest LRT route, from Minneapolis, through St. Louis Park and Minnetonka, to Eden Prairie. He said that SWLRT would be used to fuel career paths of students at MCTC and others.

#### **5. Creating Connections** – Chuck Leer; Mark Oyaas, Neerland & Oyaas, Inc.

Mary deLaittre, Groundworks, worked with Chuck Leer and Mark Oyaas on a [PowerPoint](#) presentation focused on city building and creating connections, which has always been the focus of our organization. It will be presented at a public hearing in support of Southwest LRT on May 29.

Phase 1 (2006-2014) shows how Target Field was a catalyst for development, leveraged to become "more than a ballpark." Since 2006 there has been over \$1 billion in new investment; \$400 million in infrastructure and Target Field Station, and \$600 million from private sector development (Twins, United Properties, Hines, Trammell Crow, and others) bringing new capital into the neighborhood.

Phase 2 indicates how SWLRT will be a catalyst to continued development in the neighborhood, specifically the area encompassing the Farmers Market and Royalston

Station, and moving into areas north of Highway 55 and west of I-94. Mary's Place and Catholic Charities will be embraced as part of the neighborhood. Next steps will be to Advance SWLRT, identify assets and opportunities, and develop an implementation strategy.

Subsequent discussion brought up concerns about displacement of people in the existing communities in the surrounding area, and physical barriers to connectivity. Also, the proposed Bottineau Line was evident in the presentation, but not SWLRT. Other comments: culture and community come from connections; there are three North Minneapolis LRT stations (Penn, Van White, and Royalston), not two as often reported in the media; Royalston is also a transfer point for four bus lines; this area is not just about train stops, but all the things that flow through here. Mr. Leer said there's only so much of the story that can be told here, and the focus is on creating connections. Mr. Oyaas said that this presentation shows where the momentum should go (north and west), and that the principles outlined on the bottom of each slide (equity, economic development and environment) should guide the actions of The 2020 Partners. Some additions and modifications will be made to the PowerPoint before it is presented at the public hearing on May 27.

## **6. Resolutions in Support of SWLRT**

The North Loop Neighborhood Association has passed a [resolution](#) in support of SWLRT.

The 2020 Partners [resolution](#) in support of SWLRT was approved as modified. Karen Rosar asked the City of Minneapolis to understand the urgency of approving the line. Council Member Jacob Frey said the city is conducting internal meetings with a mediator, and he is confident that they are on a route to approving SWLRT within the deadline imposed by Metro Transit.

## **7. All-Star Game July 15 – Dave St. Peter, President, Minnesota Twins Baseball Club**

Major League Baseball (MLB) will be finalizing plans within the next week. They expect the events to sell out, including the All-Star Futures Game and Legends & Celebrity Softball Game, Home Run Derby and All-Star Game. On June 16 details will be announced about a free concert with performances by Imagine Dragons and Atmosphere. Other events: Fanfest at the Minneapolis Convention Center from July 11-15, All-Star Gala at Mill City Museum, and pre-game party at Rapid Park site. The bars will be allowed to stay open until 4:00 am, which will help disperse crowds. MLB has secured the parking lot on First Avenue between Fifth and Sixth Streets, and will be closing part of Sixth Street.

Mr. St. Peter also announced that MLB and the Twins plan to donate more than \$8 million to MLB All-Star projects in the Upper Midwest and to support national charitable initiatives. This donation, the most extensive in Midsummer Classic history in both number of projects and funding committed, is largely thanks to a generous contribution by the Pohlad Family Foundation along with the Twins Community Fund.

**8. Mayo Clinic Square and Target Center Update** – Ted Johnson, Senior VP Marketing and Communications, Minnesota Timberwolves | Lynx; Carl Runck, Director of Real Estate Development, Alatus LLC

Mr. Johnson reported that the Target Center renovations are advancing. Architectural Alliance is working on the design, using a \$90 million renovation project in Oklahoma City as a guide; and a construction manager (Mortenson) has been selected and approved by the Minneapolis City Council.

Carl Runck said that renovations/construction on Mayo Clinic Square, formerly Block E, has begun. He showed some renderings of how the new exterior will look from various intersections, and said it will be a “full face transplant, not just lipstick.” Kasota limestone from the same family as that used at Target Field will be used, along with scrim metal panels. They will be creating a corridor on the street level from Hennepin to First Avenue, seeking retail for that level. The second floor will be leased as office space. The third floor will be taken up by Mayo Clinic and the anchor tenant, Minnesota Timberwolves | Lynx, which will also take all of the fourth floor. The lobby will have a new escalator, with a clean and modern look.

Giving an update on the Training Center, Mr. Johnson reported that having a training center adjacent to an arena is unique; the team will become more a part of the community, with transparency. The sports medicine clinic, a center of excellence that will attract elite athletes, will be open to the public. They are dismantling the former theater space, leaving one theater to be used as a presentation space, and creating a blank canvas on which to start building. The third floor lobby for corporate offices will look into the training center, and they are adding mezzanine space and balconies.

**9. 2020 Partners Funding and Scope of Work** – Chuck Leer

Mr. Leer thanked the stakeholders who stepped forward with funding, and said with approximately \$45,000 in our account we have adequate resources to use going forward.

## **10. 2020 Partners Meeting Schedule**

The next meeting of the 2020 Partners will be on Tuesday, July 22, 2014.

All meetings will be held at HGA's office in the Ford Center, from 5:00-6:30 p.m., unless otherwise specified in the meeting notices.