In attendance: Alexis Pennie (Chair), Melissa Newman, Markella Smith, Mary Jamin Maguire, Grace Rude, Tanessa Greene, Channon Lemon, Jashan Eison, Vanessa Willis, Princess Titus, Britt Howell, Bill English, (Quorum 8)

Absent: Gayle Smaller, Phits Nantharath

Staff: Hilary Holmes

Call to Order

1. Roll Call
2. Adoption of the Agenda Committee acknowledges and thanks Committee members Tessa Anttila and Paul Bauknight that resigned.
3. Acceptance of minutes of October 30th meeting Postponed to November 13th meeting.

Presentation

4. Jobs Strategy at Upper Harbor (Mark Brinda, Employment and Training Manager, City of Minneapolis; Brandon Champeau, Senior Vice President, United Properties)

Mike Slezak from City of Minneapolis Employment and Training (METP) introduced himself and walked the Committee through the jobs information included in the meeting packet. The data source is 2017 data from the American Community Survey, which is collected on a 3 year rolling basis. There were questions and request from the Committee regarding Zipcode aggregation of data and if disaggregated data by race and ethnicity is available. Staff said they would follow up on that request and that if there were specific data or questions that Committee would like addressed that METP staff is available to help answer that and provide the data.

This information packet includes examples of job density on the site, not how the built structures interact with the site, rather, types of jobs that are possible on site and are able to fit into the spaces that could be built. Comment from Committee that job density is important, and so is high paying/living wage jobs even if that means lower job density. Committee comment also regarding need for on the job training opportunities on site. Committee comment that this is not exclusive and site can have jobs that are leading to careers that pay well and also fit the space well. Data on educational attainment was also a part of the information packet and Committee discussion followed, based on Committee comment wanting to know what the story is behind the data, for black residents of North Minneapolis.
Committee comment on need to be intentional about jobs strategy for Upper Harbor, not just job requirements but also making sure jobs pathways are accessible to North residents. Committee comment wants to know what policies will be put in place or what will city do to require hiring, and to look at Saint Paul Port Authority hiring incentives for business tenants. Committee comment want to know what the city and other public entities can do to work more closely with employers to make sure those career pathways are accessible.

Committee comment that this project has a unique opportunity to build in good jobs – this has to work for us, this is in our neighborhood. Committee comment regarding barriers to future jobs on site, including childcare and transportation.

Committee question regarding composition of development team and the firms that United Properties have selected to work with, both local and non-local. There are black firms in North that are comparable. Most of the businesses don’t have people of color on the staff shown on their websites. Committee comment recommending supplier diversity goal in preplanning process. Committee question is development team open to changing and bringing on new firms/partners. Brandon Champeau, United Properties, confirmed that they are open and are finding out who those groups are – has noted Committee members’ recommendations. Committee request for Mr. Champeau to be intentional about reaching out to POC firms/businesses. Confirmation for Committee that the supplier and business opportunities being referenced are at subcontractor level that this conversation is not regarding development partner level.

Committee question regarding possibility of legal binding agreement with community and developer, so developer is accountable - to ensure amenities and mitigation is in place for the community. In exchange for us to be partners with you for everyone to have something to abide by. Councilmember Cunningham, noted that Community Benefits Agreements not legally binding and enforceable and that those requirements would be built into development terms. Mr. Champeau noted it is the expectation of the development team and are working on what bidding requirements will be.

Discussion

5. Jobs Strategy Small Group Discussion Conversation occurred with entire Committee at the board table.

Unfinished Business

6. Update on Upper Harbor Equitable and Resilient Inclusive Development Matrix
7. Update on Values Ranking

Next Upper Harbor Collaborative Planning Committee meeting Wednesday December 11th from 5:00-7:30pm at NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, 1256 Penn Ave N., 5th floor.