

CITY OF CROSSGATE MEETING
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNITARIAN CHURCH, SANCTUARY
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2012

The meeting came to order at 7:03 p.m. Present at the meeting were Mayor Dan Grimm, Commissioners Bobby Hazen, Larry Kirschenbaum, and John Lepping. The City Clerk Susan Dotson was also present along with over 30 residents from the City of Crossgate and other area residents interested in obtaining information concerning the proposed VA medical center to be built at the Midlands project site.

Mayor Grimm introduced our Special Guests:

Bob Morey – Facility Planner for Veterans Affairs (VA).

Judy Williams- Public Affairs Officer for the VA.

Wayne R Pfeffer- Director for the Department of VA Medical Center.

Jackie Post- Real Properties representing VA

Jeff Leiker- Real Properties representing VA

Judy Williams, the public affairs officer for Veteran Affairs gave a brief overview of the Midlands property, the current status of the VA hospital on Zorn Avenue and stated why the Department of Veteran Affairs needs a new hospital/medical center site in Metro Louisville.

A question and answer period then followed. Many of the questions asked by the residents could not be or were not answered at the time of the meeting.

Representatives from the VA repeatedly stated the building site plan had not yet been finalized therefore many of the questions at hand could not be completely or properly answered. Currently the environmental impact study and the traffic study have not yet been completed.

The residents were told the following

1. There would be a parking garage, how many stories they did not know.
2. There will be water towers, it is federal law but they will try to put some of the water tower underground so as not to be so visible. The VA representative was not really clear on this.
3. Construction time line. The final study for the site selection will be released May of this year. If selected the site design will be completed in 2014 and construction will also begin in 2014 with the facility up and running by 2017.
4. Building size=800,000 square feet, of usable space, which means the building will be larger than that.
5. Slip ramp off the Watterson, that project will probably start later this year and has already been approved.
6. If this site is selected would the VA will take the entire acreage-the VA representative indicated they would purchase the entire site.
7. The hospital will be designed to fit the complexion of the neighborhood as much as possible according to the VA.

The city residents in attendance made it perfectly clear they were against this project. Traffic, drainage, property value decline, lighting and noise were just some of the issues raised.

Mr. Jonathan Blue owner of the Midlands project was in attendance at the meeting.

The floor was then opened up for a general question-answer period from residents.

OTHER BUSINESS

The February minutes were approved with amendments, first by Commissioner Lepping and second by Commissioner Hazen.

The Treasures' report was tabled.

The 2013 City Budget will be reviewed during the April meeting.

Adjourned at 8:45 p.m. First by Commissioner Hazen and second by Commissioner Lepping.

City Clerk

Susan Dotson

