

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

November 26, 2007

Observer: Ruth Singer

Meeting called for 7:30 P.M. - began 8:00PM

Media: Roundtable and Evanston Review

Eight Aldermen Attending, Ald. Jean-Baptiste Absent

III. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(P1) Ordinance 103-O-07 - 95-Day Extension of the Downtown Moratorium

Consideration of a 95-day extension of the Moratorium on the issuance of building permits for construction in downtown, Ordinance 57-O-07, adopted by City Council on June 11, 2007, and which expires on December 9, 2007. This extension is necessary to complete the legislative adoption of the Evanston Downtown Plan Update, which is currently in draft form and under consideration by the Plan Commission. A 95-day extension of the current moratorium would expire on March 8, 2008 and will provide adequate time to prepare and adopt appropriate development controls for the Downtown Plan Area.

Ald. Holmes started the discussion saying she would only vote for a 30-day extension, Ald. Wolin agreed with Ald. Holmes.

Dennis Marino told about the Plan Commission meeting planned for Tuesday, November 27. It is called from 7:00 to 11:00 PM with 8:00 to 1100 PM set aside for citizens' comments.

Ald. Bernstein voiced his opposition to extending the moratorium and reminded the aldermen that the developers still have to come to the Council. There won't be a rush to construction if the current six month extension is allowed to expire.

Ald. Wynne stated that we shouldn't short circuit the moratorium and reminded the aldermen that not much will happen during the next month due to the holidays.

Ald. Moran feels that the citizens should have as much time as they want to state their approval or objections and doesn't feel that 95 days is too long.

Ann Diener (Preservation Committee) from the audience stated her opinion that we should give citizens unlimited time to express themselves as this plan, once passed, will be with us for 20 to 30 years. Ald. Rainey disagreed that this would be the case - Evanston makes changes all the time.

A vote was called. Aldermen Holmes, Wolin, Rainey, Bernstein voted against extension; Aldermen Hansen, Wynne, Tisdahl, Moran voted for the extension. (Ald. Jean- Baptiste was missed).

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.