

## ART COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting February 26, 2014  
Beginning at 2:00 p.m.

**PRESENT OF THE COMMISSION:** Indovina, Astorino, Lockett, Slavick, Gable

**PRESENT OF THE STAFF:** Noor Ismail  
Morton Brown

### AGENDA ITEMS COVERED IN THESE MINUTES

ITEM	PAGE
1. City of Pittsburgh Bike Share	1
2. Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens SEED Classroom	3

*Please note: The recording device did not capture the meeting. The below information is pulled from the submitted application narratives and notes of staff from the hearing.*

#### **A. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Brown did not present any of the minutes since the Hearing in last month was postponed to this month due to lack of quorum.

#### **B. Correspondence**

Mr. Brown did not present any correspondence but noted that the projects were going to submit letters of support during presentations.

#### **C. Items for Review**

1. City of Pittsburgh Bike Share (Conceptual)
  - *Stephen Patchan, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, City of Pittsburgh*

Bike sharing is an innovative approach to urban mobility, combining the convenience and flexibility of a bicycle with the accessibility of public transportation. Cities such as Montreal, Denver, Minneapolis, Washington D.C., Boston, Miami Beach, Toronto and over 200 other cities worldwide are investing in bike share systems.

Bike sharing consists of a fleet of bicycles available on demand for short-term rentals from a network of unattended locations citywide. Membership and fee-based rentals are appropriate for short trips, transit-linked trips, and tourist trips; for many riders, they help complete the "last mile" of a commute to work or other destinations. The system is easy to use, relatively affordable compared to other modes of public transit, and easily and quickly installed.

The goal of bike share in Pittsburgh is to extend the reach of the public transit system and complete short and frequent trips between stations located throughout the East, North and South sides of the city. Pittsburgh Bike Share Partnership (PBSP) is a nonprofit organization from an alliance of the City of Pittsburgh, Walnut Capital Management, and BikePGH. Together with an experienced vendor, PBSP will plan and launch a 50 station/500 bike network in

Pittsburgh inSummer 2014. The system will be funded through public and private sources, as well as therevenue generated from membership and usage fees. PBSP will responsible for systemmaintenance and operations.

Pittsburgh is ready for bike sharing. A comprehensive, citywide system will go a long way towards elevating Pittsburgh to Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Status by the League of American Bicyclists, improving on the bronze level ranking awarded in 2010, while contributing to the city's long record of innovation across multiple sectors. In addition it will generate significant national publicity ahead of the 2014 Pro Walk/Pro Bike Conference, which will be held in Pittsburgh.

Bike share in Pittsburgh will have the following features:

### **Memberships**

Users may purchase a membership online or at a station with a credit card. Memberships can range from a year to just 24-hours.

### **Free Rides and Usage Fees**

With a membership, a user has unlimited "free" rides, usually of 30 to 60 minutes, within the membership period. After the designated "free" time expires, additional usage fees begin to accrue. This model encourages short trips, ensuring that the bikes are continually returned to the nearest station and made available for the next customer.

### **Bikes**

The bikes are very durable and have adjustable seats to provide a comfortable ride for members of various heights. Most bikes are designed to be upright with step-through frames and easy gearing.

### **Station Access**

A user may take a bike from one station and return it to any other station in the system. This facilitates on-way trips, which can be convenient for commuting. This system is open 24-hours, 7-days a week during the season.

### **Bike Availability**

Each station has wireless communication that transmits real-time information about the number ofavailable bikes and empty docks. This information can be viewed online or using a smartphone.

### **Maintenance**

The bikes and stations are regularly maintained by an operations company to ensure that you have a smooth ride. A 24-hour customer service line is available if you encounter any problems.

### **Partners**

PGH Bike Share is comprised of several public, private and non-profit organizations, including:

1. City of Pittsburgh
2. BikePGH
3. Walnut Capital
4. PennDOT
5. Local Foundation/Endowments
6. Corporate Title Sponsor (TBA)

### **Community Support**

The City of Pittsburgh with assistance from Alta Bike Share and BikePGH conducted public

outreach for bike share station in spring 2012. The meetings, held at Point Park University and University of Pittsburgh, identified the location of the stations and presented graphics depicting the look and design of the bicycles and stations (including kiosks). The City followed up with Council member and community groups in spring of 2013 to finalize station locations.

The cost to launch and operate the program for five years is estimated at \$17,975,000. The group plans to raise \$14,825,000.

<b><u>MOTION:</u></b>	Concept Approval		
<b>MOVED BY</b>	Slavick	<b>SECONDED BY</b>	Astorino
<b>IN FAVOR</b>	All		
<b>OPPOSED</b>	None		

**CARRIED**

2. Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens SEED Classroom (Conceptual and Final)
  - *Richard V. Piacentini, Executive Director, Phipps Conservatory*
  - *Jason Wirick, Director of Facilities, Phipps Conservatory*

Phipps is planning to place and integrate a SEED classroom on its campus. SEED stands for Sustainability Education Every Day. The space is a living laboratory for children to have a safe and healthy place to learn and interpret a modular green building. The classroom will provide Phipps more space for mission based and sustainability programs while connecting children to nature. The location of the classroom is below the main conservatory on the site of the Center for Sustainable Landscapes and adjacent to the former Department of Public Works garages.

A SEED classroom is a hands-on sustainable learning space built to Living Building Challenge standards. This means that the classroom is net-zero energy, net-zero water, is made of non-toxic materials, includes daylighting, urban agriculture and equity components and creates a space that fosters inspiration, education, and beauty. The SEED classroom is meant to address the school's temporary space needs or provide a modular permanent design option. It is built to last 100 years and is designed on a foundation system that allows it to have little impact on its site and makes it easy to move one or more times during its lifetime.

The SEED classroom is itself an educational demonstration tool with its structure and system intentionally exposed so that students can see how the building functions, better understand the flows of energy and water, and recognize the material resources needed in the built environment. It is manufactured by Method Homes, LLC, in Pottstown, PA. The structure is 896 square feet.

The estimated budget for installation is \$300,000. All ongoing maintenance fees will be the responsibility of Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Specs:

- Net-zero water and Net-zero energy. Because we are a living building we are required to meet all of the building's needs right on site. That means that over the span of 12 months the classroom will be so high performing that it will have produced its own water, through collection, and its own energy, through solar. Making our classrooms the most energy efficient and sustainable on the market.

- LBC materials Red List compliant. There are absolutely no toxic materials used in the building of our classrooms. The air is free and clear of all of the chemical toxins normally found in portables that make kids and teachers sick.
- Abundant natural day lighting. Triple paned windows and transoms provide lots of natural light, fresh air, and a connection to the outdoors, without compromising insulation values.
- Solar photovoltaic array. Calculated to provide for the exact energy needs of each classroom, depending on climate and use, photovoltaics provide all the energy your classroom needs to be comfortable, well lit and technology ready. Digital monitors and an online dashboard allow students to track the energy production and consumption of the classroom and change their behaviors to see what impact they have on the data.
- The most efficient mechanical systems available. Every SEEDclassroom comes with an energy recovery ventilator (ERV) for optimum ventilation and indoor air quality as well as heightened energy efficiency.
- Rainwater treatment for sinks. A potable water treatment systems comes in every SEEDclassroom where sinks are a desired option, even if local codes won't allow it to be used quite yet. This allows students to see what such a system looks like and makes the SEEDclassroom plug and play when codes do change.
- Rainwater collection and filtering All of the rainwater that falls on the SEEDclassroom's roof is collected in a primary interior cistern and secondary exterior cistern, to meet all of the classroom's water needs. Gauges and a digital monitor allows students to track rainwater collection and use.
- Living wall fed by treated greywater. Imagine being able to grow your own classroom snacks, or have an indoor seed bed for your outdoor garden. However you use the living wall, it brings growing things right into the classroom and all the learning opportunities that come with it. The built in grey water system provides all the necessary water as well as the opportunity to understand how water moves and is collected and used.
- Ongoing performance monitoring led by students. Living Buildings must prove their performance to obtain certification. Supported by the SEED team students learn to monitor the building's energy and water usage over the course of a year.
- Composting toilet. Part of the net zero strategy, composting toilets provide high efficiency, and great learning portals for everything from microbiology to exploring alternative treatment systems from composting to living machines to city wide treatment options,
- Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs) R-49 ceiling + R-40 wall insulation. 30% above code, our classrooms are super insulated

<b><u>MOTION:</u></b>	Conceptual and Final Approval		
MOVED BY	Luckett	SECONDED BY	Slavick
IN FAVOR	All		
OPPOSED	None		

**CARRIED**

**D. Meeting Adjourned**