

satisfied. They had always been that way.

Mr. Anzek felt that it was important for the Planning Commission, since that body oversaw the CIP, which included infrastructure and transportation, to see that what they had been doing was very much in line with Council's goals and objectives. It had been interesting to see the evolution. Staff started to bring prospective development and clients to the Planning Commission before they even submitted any concrete plans. That allowed the Planning Commission to weigh in early on. The best thing that came out of those early meetings was the advice given by the Chair or other members to go meet with neighbors before coming back. That had done wonders in terms of keeping people in the know and educating them.

Mr. Kaltsounis believed that it was a recommendation that came out of the Master Plan. Mr. Anzek said it was an evolution and Mr. Boswell's chairmanship seeing the need to get people talking. Mr. Rosen said it went back to Nick Goulopoulos. Chairperson Boswell recalled that Nick was chair when he first joined. Mr. Rosen agreed that the Planning Commission had used that very effectively over the years. It put a little push on the developers. Mr. Anzek said that it was important for Staff to get the developer in front of the Planning Commission early on in the process, and they could tell them then to meet with the neighbors. Staff could tell them until they were blue in the face, but the developers could not care less.

Mr. Yalamanchi thanked the Planning Commissioners, and said that he was really impressed with what they did. He usually read Minutes from their meetings, and a lot of the questions he had were asked and answered. The Commissioners had already resolved 90% of his questions, and he really appreciated it.

Discussed

OPEN DISCUSSION

Regarding the letter from Mr. Staran, it was Mr. Yalamanchi's understanding that they wanted to ask for another Extension of the Medical Marijuana Moratorium. He questioned whether they would approve a policy to use marijuana in homes within the intent of the law. Mr. Anzek stated that they had always had that understanding from the first work session the Planning Commission held. Mr. Hooper asked if the Moratorium would prohibit a licensed patient from the utilization of

medical marihuana, and Mr. Anzek clarified that it did not. Staff dealt with zoning and land use issues, such as dispensaries, growing, selling, transportation, and so on, and that was the only control the City had. They did not have control inside a private house.

Mr. Yalamanchi asked if they had to adopt a policy at this stage. Mr. Anzek did not believe so. He felt that they were very much in line by doing nothing, and he thought Mr. Staran was providing that direction. A Moratorium gave the City the ability to tell a grower that he could not use warehouse space. There was uncertainty in State and Federal law. Last year, the Feds did a 180 and took the issue from non-enforcement to aggressive enforcement, with letters that Mr. Breuckman found as a consultant and provided to Mr. Staran. They threatened prosecution of public officials that endorsed or approved the uses, and Mr. Anzek did not want to put them in that line of liability. They felt that the continued path of an extended Moratorium was the correct way to go. There had been no movement for Staff to give the members any other recommendations as to how to handle the matter. He noted that it would be put on a Planning Commission agenda soon so it could come to City Council.

Ms. Lorraine McGoldrick, a member from the audience, rose to speak. She advised that she worked in the field of substance abuse and prevention. She felt that there was a very good chance that people would get enough signatures to put legalizing marihuana on the ballot. The House legislation that just passed did nothing to help the City regarding the sale of marihuana and did not address the core issues. She stated that she followed the matter very closely as a professional.

Mr. Kaltsounis recalled that a few years ago, Auburn Hills was going to let people have operations, but they reversed that and instituted a Moratorium and would not allow anyone to do anything. That was based on the lack of case results in court and the Federal and State laws. He remarked that it was hard to believe it had been a year, but nothing had changed. Mr. Anzek added that it started to become a local issue in 2009. No other cities had model ordinances prepared, and there still were none. Court cases were in appeal, but they did not know what the outcomes would be.

Mr. Anzek thanked everyone for their input, and indicated that Staff got some good direction and guidance for going forward.

NEXT MEETING DATE