



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF KNOXVILLE AND KNOX COUNTY

Observer Reporting Form

Feature Evaluated	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting started on time?	X		
All members present?	X		
Members attentive?	X		
Did members appear to have done their "homework"?	X		Much discussion by members on Resolutions 11e, f, g * related to considerations for zoning changes to Northshore Park 11e & All Public Parks 11f to Open Space Preservation Districts restricting any housing development. Also discussed, was how this would affect the Ten Year Plan (TYP) Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) initiative.
Were members courteous to each other and the public?	X	X	Heated discussions lead to passionate outbursts directed to other council members related to resolutions, 11e, f, g especially on specific zoning changes to Northshore Park & All Parks as well as on the progress/understanding of and community engagement with the TYP. Roddy apologized to Pavlis for choice of the word smokescreen.
Agenda sent/posted 72 hours before?	X		
Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?		X	Even through council members were very familiar with 11e & 11f, resolutions were never read out loud for the public.
Adequate opportunity for public input?	X		Ron Peabody & Tom McAdams spoke in favor of 11e, 11f. Peabody wants to stop the TYP, stating lack of citizen involvement. Jim Ullrich spoke in opposition to 11e & 11f stating zoning is used to exclude others and the need for training on public participation.
Was there an appearance that some action items were discussed in closed rather than open session?	X		
Was background information available to the public?	X		Della Volpe announced that the Cumberland Corridor Development Improvement Plans are on the website for public comments
Facilities adequate? (accessible to handicapped, audibility, lighting)	X		

Were any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs? *11e consider a change of Zoning for Northshore Park was tabled. 11f consider a change of Zoning for all Public Parks to Open Space Preservation District, approved and 11g resolution to encourage Mayor's Office to develop a plan to engage an open, educational and transparent public process with regard to locating PSH facilities, approved. Two issues evolved that need to be addressed, proper use of parks and what to do about the homeless. The League is researching the homeless housing issue to consider an amendment to our Homeless Mentally Ill Persons Local Program to add a housing-first and/or dispersed housing statement.

Do you recommend League action on any of these issues? Encourage members to attend TYP Public Meeting on Wed 4/28/10 6-7pm Cansler Family YMCA which will include discussion on Case Management for Public Supportive Housing. The League needs to encourage better understanding of the TYP and effects of homelessness on our community.

Other Concerns: Mayor Haslam reminded Council and the Public of the progress made on the TYP especially with agency integration. He stated that the city is dealing with the effects of homelessness now and this issue is a difficult one that must continue to be addressed for economic and compassionate reasons.

Observer: Barbara Nicodemus

Meeting: Knoxville City Council Meeting

Date: April 20, 2010