



Observer Reporting Form

Table with 4 columns: Feature Evaluated, Yes, No, Comments. Rows include: Meeting started on time?, All members present?, Members attentive?, Did members appear to have done their "homework?", Were members courteous to each other and the public?, Agenda sent/posted 72 hours before?, Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?, Adequate opportunity for public input?, Was there an appearance that some action items were discussed in closed rather than open session?, Was background information available to the public?, Facilities adequate? (room size, lighting, ventilation, speakers audible, accessible to handicapped)

Were any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs? LWVKKC has taken a position to support the Hillside & Ridgetop Protection Plan and is relevant to our Landuse position. Commissioner Norman and the MPC staff gave a presentation on how and why the plan was developed, stressing that professionals, developers, city/council officials, environmental groups and neighborhood representatives were highly involved. Norman also stated that the plan is a "Development Plan" with incentives for developers which will also help to better protect our hillsides and ridges by presenting a more current standard to which considerations for decisions can be made by MPC and the Commission. Over 80 public notices were sent during development of plan including notices of 13 public meetings. Several Developers made public comments in opposition to adopting this plan which included concerns over property rights, affects on tax base, will limit development, 15-25% slope criteria to stringent, public notices and stating that the plan is over reaching. Mike Edwards of the Chamber, spoke in opposition stating that the Chamber is pro ridgetop protection but feels the county needs to adopt a plan with congruent regulations.

Do you recommend League action on any of these issues? The League needs to read a position of support for the plan at the next Commission meeting on 2/28/11 and encourage members to attend this meeting.

Observer: Barbara Nicodemus Meeting: Knox County Commission Hillside and Ridgetop Protection Plan Workshop Date: February 22, 2011