P & Z Case 029-17
Jill Sullivan & Glendola Flake
(P & Z Recommended Approval)

Case 029-17: A parcel located approximately 85 feet north of E. 7th St. and 20 feet east of S. Minnesota Ave. – A request to apply District HP (Historic Overlay District) to the Lincoln School Site – Jill Sullivan and Glendola Flake.

Mr. Duncan opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone to speak on this case.

Jill Sullivan, 1721 N. Sergeant, Joplin, MO 64801. I worked with Glendola Flake on this nomination for Unity Baptist Church, who currently owns the property. This is to recognize the former Lincoln School. History about the school is that it was in the R-8 School District and for Joplin's African American community and a Community Center. The school opened in1908. Then in 1926, 1930, and then in 1950 the building was updated. The school was used as a Special Education facility after desegregation. It closed in 1975 and changed hands over the years. Served as an anchor for Joplin's African American Community as well as surrounding communities they brought their children to the school. The preservation commission feel it needs recognition for those reason, but also because it meets criteria 3, Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community, country, state, or country. Lincoln School is associated with two people, Marion Dial and Melissa Cuther.

Marion was the first principal of Lincoln School and in 1954 was elected to the Joplin City Council. He was the first African American in the state of Missouri to be elected to a city or state office.

Melissa Cuther is honored on the memorial on the Lincoln School property. She came to Joplin in 1905. Accomplished woman, leader and an educator. In 1962, she founded the George Washington Carver nursery school. She started the first African American branch of the Girl Scouts. Crucial items for her were the George Washington Carver Memorial and the location of Ewert Park.

Mr. Duncan asked if there was anyone else who would like to speak in favor of this designation. There were none.,

Anyone here to speak in opposition of the designation request. There were none.

Mr. Duncan Closed the Public Hearing.

MR. CORTEZ MOVED, SECONDED BY MR. RAMSOUR, THAT CASE 029-17 BE FORWARD TO CITY COUNCIL WITH RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL. THE MOTION CARRIED, WITH MR. DUNCAN, MR. CORTEZ, MR. RAMSOUR, MS. BRUECKNER-SEARS MR. DERMOTT, MRS. KOELKENBECK, AND MS. STEELE VOTING "AYE". (7 IN FAVOR, 0 NAYS).