AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS’ “NOON” MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2003
Immediately Following Director’s Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MINUTES


II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES

1. Public Building Commission (Camp/Seng)
2. Affordable Housing Steering Committee Meeting (Friendt)
3. Multicultural Advisory Committee Meeting (McRoy)
4. C-SIP Detail Sub-Committee Meeting (Seng)
5. Board of Health Meeting (Svoboda)
6. Floodplain Task Force Meeting (Seng)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

1. Memo from Joyce Quinn, Affirmative Action Director - RE: Boards and Commissions Upcoming Appointments. (See Memo)

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. E-Mail Invitation - Vintage Heights Homeowners Association Annual Meeting - on Tuesday, April 1, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at Lux Middle School. (See Invitation)

2. Business After Hours - Join the Chamber and sponsors, Windsor Stables & Libations, at the March Business After Hours on Thursday, March 27th from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. - Admission is $10.00 per person and includes one free beverage, hors d’oeuvres, fabulous door prizes and outstanding net-working opportunities. The event will be held at Windsor Stables, 1024 “L” Street - RSVP form no later than March 25th. (See Invitation)

3. Face the Chamber with Chancellor Harvey Perlman - Join the Chamber for lunch as University of Nebraska Lincoln Chancellor Harvey Perlman discusses UNL’s latest issues on Wednesday, April 9th from Noon until 1:00 p.m. - Registration
begins at 11:45 a.m. at the Country Club of Lincoln, 3200 S. 24th Street - Admission is $13.00 ($18.00 at the door) and includes lunch - RSVP form no later than April 7th. (See Invitation)

4. Holmes Lake/Park Restoration Open House - on Thursday, March 27, 2003 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Gere Library, 2400 South 56th Street - Holmes Lake/Park Restoration Update, Construction Plans & Schedule. (See Invitation)

5. Aging Services invites you to Celebrate Lancaster County Foster Grandparents Ordinary People, Extraordinary Contributions - Be our guest at the 4th Annual Aging Services Lancaster County Foster Grandparent Recognition Brunch on Saturday, March 29, 2003 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - at Embassy Suites Hotel - (If you wish to bring a guest, the cost is $9.00 ) - Please return the enclosed RSVP card by March 20th – Karen at 441-6105. (See Invitation)

6. The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce invites the City Council & Mayor Don Wesely to attend the following Ribbon Cuttings:
   A.) A&M Contractors, Inc. - 4029 Progressive Avenue on Wednesday, March 26, 2003 at 10:30 a.m.
   B.) Amish Country Showcase - 6101 S. 56th Street on Friday, March 28, 2003 at 10:30 a.m.

7. The 2003 School Health Fair “Eat Smart. Play Hard” will culminate on Monday, April 14, 2003 with a banquet honoring the winners of the contest, their parents, teachers, and school nurses. The banquet is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A – To confirm your availability, please contact Greg Moser at 441-4697. (See Invitation)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Discussion on the letter from Mike Miriovsky, Executive Director, Emergency Medical Services respectfully requesting that the City Council consider giving EMS, Inc. approximately 30 minutes of an Upcoming Pre-Council Meeting to present this information. Regarding recently compiled the Annual Report on the Lincoln EMS System for 2002. (See Attached Letter)

2. Discussion of the Council Rules of Order as outlined in the LMC - Requested by Ken Svoboda

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
I. MINUTES


Chair Jonathan Cook requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Ken Svoboda moved approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Annette McRoy and the minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consensus of the Council.

II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES -

1. PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION (Camp/Seng) Mr. Camp reported that they had approved the “Bicycle” artwork sponsored by the Mayor for display in front of the County/City Building until September and then it will be sold. [This is in conjunction with the ‘Tour de Lincoln’ art project being organized by the Lincoln arts group chaired by Liz Shea-McCoy].

The aquarium policy was passed. Mr. Camp reported that the situation in the 911 Center regarding this policy was left open for further consideration.

Mr. Camp reported on several other issues, noting that Mr. Roper was working on the loan agreement with the Duncans on the art in the hallway of the County/City Building.

They looked at designating a location somewhere west in the underground garage as a smoking area (the second hand smoke issue was a concern in this discussion); the General Vouchers were approved; Mr. Camp reported that the damaged tables were deemed to be under warranty and factory reps would be coming to evaluate the damage.

Mr. Camp continued his report, stating that a layout for the joint City-County space was discussed. He explained that Sinclair-Hille had presented an “Option 5” based upon the input from Council. The bottom line is that the wall will be pushed out and there will be no other changes made at this time. The existing wall will be left, but the double doors will be removed. A new wall will be built out with glass all the way around as opposed to a solid wall.
The second item adopted was that the information desk will be tested at different locations beginning with a gradual move from its present location, out a few feet, then further—perhaps by a foot or two—and finally in front of the area where the County Commissioners’ doors enter the hallway. Those doors will then become “exit only”.

There was no definitive decision on the security area, but that will be pursued by Don Killeen and the architects—to develop that location when the current office vacates the area. The intent of the Public Building Commission was to keep the amount of fund expenditures at a minimum.

The fourth issue was the second entrance into the Council Chambers. The Commission decided to wait on that until the final configuration of the Council Offices was determined.

Other Issues: The air condition compressors keep failing in the 911 Center and the PBC is working on that to find a solution. There was an exchange with Valentinos regarding the vending machines. Ms. McRoy asked why the vending machines had been moved to the second floor and removed from the area on the first floor? Mr. Bowen stated that when the RFP was submitted by Solid Ground, they had wanted that area for additional seating as well as removing “competition” as far from their area as possible. Mr. Bowen had thought that some of the vending machines were intended to be placed on the lower level near the 9th Street doorway, but they were all placed on the 2nd floor. Council agreed that having the machines on the lower level would have been good. Ms. McRoy felt the vending machines should be on the 1st floor for the convenience of the public and the elected officials during meetings.

Mr. Camp indicated that the State Statute says that elected officials are not allowed to use the inside of this building for picture ops [during campaigns]. Mr. Cook asked if anyone running for office could come in for pictures—could they use the building? Mr. Roper stated that the outside of the building could be used as a back-drop, but campaign pictures could not be taken inside this Building. Mr. Roper added that the picture would have to be taken off the mezzanine area out on the sidewalk. The Statute took effect July 20th, 2002. Mr. Roper indicated that forums would not be effected by this statute, because that would be the use of a public resources in an event that would be getting information out and allowing people to publicly express their views. The Accountability and Disclosure Office has indicated that this would be an appropriate use of public resources, but using those resources for a campaign is a breech of the law.

Mr. Roper further noted that press conferences should not be held in the City/County Lobby either, unless it was a City sponsored press conference. Apparently some non-City people were holding press conferences in the lobby and that should not happen—it should happen outside on the steps. When asked, he noted that if a City Council member is having press conference on a city issue, that would be permissible. He also noted that there is another whole layer of bureaucracy for regulations concerning the City’s Channel 5-TV.

It was asked if the donation Mr. Camp had offered regarding the oak desk for the newly proposed information area had been acted upon. Mr. Camp indicated that no one from the PBC had yet been down to inspect the desk.
2. AFFORDABLE HOUSING STEERING COMMITTEE (Friendt) Mr. Friendt reported that they had received reviews from the various sub-committees. A lot of what is going on right now is finding agreement on a definition of affordable housing. It may have come to the point where maybe it’s not being based on housing costs, but based on the income of those who are buying houses.

The committee went through a review of the next survey instrument that Urban Development wants to use to identify the needs...or at least identify areas of need...that would be reviewed. We moved it forward. That was about the extent of the meeting. Everyone has been pleased at what has come out of the sub-committees so far. There seems to be a great deal of interest and a lot of cooperation.

3. MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (McRoy) Mr. McRoy reported that they had drafted the questions for the up-coming visit from Council Members Seng and Friendt. The questions will focus on multicultural issues.

4. C-SIP DETAIL SUB-COMMITTEE (Seng) Ms. Seng reported that they are trying to put the structure together for C-SIP. This was the follow-up meeting after the lengthy December meeting. It was held at the Lincoln Medical Education Foundation. They put together and approved what the structure would be for non-profit organizations that deal with human services. The City, the County and United Way will be the major players in this effort along with the foundations here in the City who have representation. The Chairs of all the C-SIP Coalitions will sit on the Advisory group for this Steering Committee....or whatever it will be called.

The Committee went through everything that had been reviewed in December, trying to make sure it all agreed with what we had decided on at that time. There was good representation from some of the foundations and non-profit groups and agencies. It will be a good working group. The next thing we hear will be something coming out of Kit Boesch’s area and the United Way when this gets formalized.

5. BOARD OF HEALTH (Svoboda) Mr. Svoboda reported that John Kay of Sinclair-Hille gave a report to the Board in relation to the expansion of the Health Department. That has already been before the Public Building Commission. The Health Department is the number one priority of the City & County’s reconstruction projects right now. He was happy to report the the Health Department and the City are working very, very closely with the surrounding neighborhood associations making sure that the plan that is put forth is not something that “backdoors” anybody and that we’re being up-front with the different options. So far, everybody is doing well with the plan. There are numerous meetings yet where we will go over alternate plans and they are in the process of doing that.

The only other thing we did was to adopt, for passing on to the City Council, an Ordinance change as it relates to dog licensing. There is a several thousand dollar short-fall in pet licensing, primarily because of the changes that were made in December to the Animal Control Ordinance as it relates, more specifically to the amendment that Terry [Werner] offered - which was passed. That created a short-fall for Animal Control right now; so these changes in the licensure will pretty much restore that loss of revenue. The changes are fairly insignificant and are directed mainly to unaltered pets. Mr. Svoboda added that he thought the change would effect only dogs and did not include cats. Mr. Cook asked if it is just an increase in the fee for unaltered dogs? Mr. Svoboda stated that that was correct.
6. FLOODPLAIN TASK FORCE (Seng) Ms. Seng reported that they had spent a lot of time on Salt Creek and the storage areas along that waterway. Some of the large business owners in the area really joined in on this discussion. She noted that it has been very difficult to find storage areas for water along Salt Creek. We think there are some (remember the ice-cube tray analogy). Each of those cells has to be able to store water. Glen Johnson will probably be recommending some stringent things on the premise that we need to re-study storage areas. All the people who are working on this are staff either from Public Works or Building and Safety, plus NRD. So, this will be what will eventually come before Council.

At the next meeting we will go through the final recommendations then forward it on to the Planning Commission. She explained that there will be different recommendations for the “built environment” than those for the “new build” areas. There will probably be some other suggestions as to some bridges that will be put on our CIP listing.

OTHER MEETINGS - None

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS -

1. Memo from Joyce Quinn, Affirmative Action Director - RE: Boards and Commissions Upcoming Appointments. - Noted without significant comment.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen stated that he had a couple of items. He asked Ms. Kielty to address Council on legislative issues. Ms. Kielty reported that the Storm Water Utility Bill, LB32, was voted out of Committee and it was made a Committee Priority. Though, it will be a while before it comes up to General File, because there are other things that have to be dealt with.

Mr. Bowen reported that on the Federal side, they were wrapping up their discussions with the Senators about what Federal funds the City will be seeking. We will be increasing the amounts we’re going to seek for Lincoln projects such as beltways and the Antelope Valley in particular. Last year we received about two million dollars for channel construction; we’re going to request 3.7 million dollars this year. With the Bridge and Street Construction portion of that, last year, we sought three million, we received one million. We’re going to be asking for thirteen million dollars this year, because the channel is now under construction.

On the South Beltway, it’s the same thing. We asked for five million dollars last year, we received three million. This coming year we will be requesting nine million dollars. In addition, this is the year for the pre-authorization of Transportation Highway Funding...so we’ll be asking for a lot of authorizations. The South Beltway is totaled at $167,000,000 as a project now.

The House Appropriations Committee requests are due this week. Congressman Beureuter has been working with us. He hasn’t told us yet the final amount that he will ask for, but he says we are a priority project. This will also be the first year on the Antelope Valley project that we’ll ask for Community Revitalization money. We’ve been stating all along that we would be seeking ten million dollars as we get to that point. This coming year, we’re going to ask for one million dollars of that ten million, primarily for relocations and purchase of property.

Mr. Friendt asked Ms. Kielty if Lincoln was the only City involved in the Storm Water legislation...asking if Omaha was with us in pushing for this? Ms. Kielty stated that, actually, the League of Municipalities, Omaha, South Sioux City, and all of the NRDs are all working on this.
Because right now, we, Omaha and South Sioux City and Dakota City and parts of those counties are required...we had to get a permit...to deal with this issue. But, down the road, it could be smaller communities as well, so they’re all looking at this enabling legislation so they’ll be able to handle the issue.

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. Discussion on the letter from Mike Miriovsky, Executive Director, Emergency Medical Services respectfully requesting that the City Council consider giving EMS, Inc. approximately 30 minutes of an Upcoming Pre-Council Meeting to present this information. Regarding the recently compiled Annual Report on the Lincoln EMS System for 2002. Mr. Cook asked what Council’s pleasure would be. Council agreed to schedule this pre-council.

2. Discussion of the Council Rules of Order as outlined in the LMC - Requested by Ken Svoboda. During a lengthy discussion, suggestions were made which included an orientation after the elections for the new member/s; following more closely the proper Rules of Order for conducting the meetings (which would limit Council Members’ comments during the Voting Session to one per Chair’s permission, rather than opening that time to discussion); ways to increase civility at the meetings (including modes of address, such as referring to each other as Councilperson....and addressing the public as Mr./or Mrs./or Miss./Ms. which might bring the whole level of decorum to a higher level).

It was finally determined that increasing the formality in conducting the meeting might help in increasing the respect and civility from the Public as well as for the Council Members. In order to initiate this, it was agreed that the Chair should begin by addressing the Council Members as “Councilperson _______” and when possible to address the public speakers as ‘Mr./Mrs./Miss./Ms. _______’. It was agreed to not limit discussion during the Voting Session.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - No Further Comments

GLENN FRIENDT - No Further Comments

ANNETTE McROY - No Further Comments
KEN SVOBODA - Mr. Svoboda stated that he would like to ask the Council Members’ permission to use the Council Seal in relation to a personal endeavor. He explained that he is a volunteer with Junior Achievement and he has been working with a 5th Grade Class at Roper Elementary School. This Thursday is the last meeting with the group and it is recommended through Junior Achievement that a volunteer give out a little memento of his/her business. Mr. Svoboda stated that he will be giving out Ray’s Lawn & Home Care pens, but, since the teacher has indicated that this is the first time that most of these students have ever come in contact with an elected official, it might be appropriate to do a class photo that would go on a t-shirt and have the City Council and Ray’s logo on it, since he was doing this volunteer work under those dual hats. Ms. Diane Gonzolas had informed him that in order to use the City Council Seal, because it specifically says “City Council” on it, he must have Council’s permission to do so.

After a brief discussion, Ms. Seng noted that it was a good idea to have something to pass out in situations like this. Council Members’ business cards mean nothing to children, and she thought it would be good to do something for the children. Mr. Camp expressed a concern that the two logos together might be seen as a Council endorsement of the other business. Mr. Roper stated that he would investigate the legality of using the Council Seal in such a situation and report back to the Council with his finding.

TERRY WERNER - No Further Comments
MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments
ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments
CORRIE KIELTY - No Further Comments
DANA ROPER - No Further Comments

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 12:56 p.m.