

**AGENDA FOR  
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2005  
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of October 10, 2005.
2. Minutes from Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of October 3, 2005.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes-Executive Session - RE: Personnel - October 10, 2005.

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

1. Multicultural Advisory Committee (McRoy)
2. Board of Health (Svoboda)

**OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:**

**III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - To Be Announced**

**IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - To Be Announced**

**V. MISCELLANEOUS -**

1. Discussion on request regarding the Antelope Valley Park Planning Committee, please select one member from City Council to participate on this committee. (Antelope Valley Park Development Committee Meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.) (See Attachments)

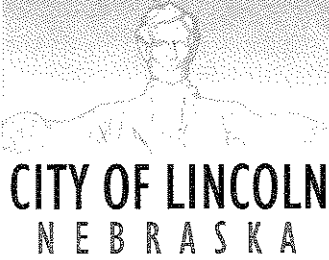
**VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

## **VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS -**

1. The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK “Freedom Breakfast” on Friday, January 13, 2006 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. (doors open at 7:00 a.m.) At the Embassy Suites, 1040 “P” Street -Cost \$15.00 per person - RSVP by Nov. 25, 2005 by returning form - (See Invitation)
2. 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Nebraska Urban Community Improvement Program Fall Recognition Conference on Saturday, October 22, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Mahoney State Park Eugene Mahoney Lodge, Ashland, NE - Cost \$15.00 - RSVP needed - (See Invitation)
3. Grand Opening Ceremony for Westfield Gateway on Friday, November 4, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. at Center Court (corner of 60<sup>th</sup> & “O” St.) -VIP Reception immediately following ceremony - RSVP to Susie Ahlberg at 464-3196 -(See Invitation)
4. Celebrating The Weitz Company’s 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and the recent move into our new offices-Open House on Thursday, October 27, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Weitz Plaza, 10707 Pacific Street, Suite 201, Omaha, NE - 402-592-7000 - (See Invitation)
5. Letter of Invitation from Governor Dave Heineman, join me on Friday, November 4, 2005 at the Strategic Air & Space Museum (Exit 420 on I-80) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Governor’s Summit on the Omaha-Lincoln Corridor - Meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. -RSVP to Scott or Mark at 402-471-2714 or by e-mail -(See Invitation)
6. Letter of invite to an informal open house on Thursday, October 27, 2005 to discuss Lincoln Electric System’s (LES) plans to build electrical facilities northeast of Lincoln, NE at LES, Service Center, 2620 Fairfield Street anytime between 6:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. -(See Invitation)

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

ca101705/tjg



Parks and Recreation Department  
Lynn Johnson, Director  
2740 "A" Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

402-441-7847  
fax: 402-441-8706  
"Making Lincoln a Better Place to Live"



MAYOR COLEEN J. SENG

lincoln.ne.gov

October 10, 2005

Ken Svoboda  
City Council Office  
555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508

RECEIVED  
OCT 11 2005  
CITY COUNCIL  
OFFICE

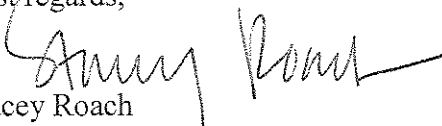
Dear Mr. Svoboda:

Greetings! As you may know, the Antelope Valley Project is well underway and construction is progressing. One major part of this project is the new park areas between Vine Street and O Street, 21<sup>st</sup> Street to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. The north end of this seven block stretch is where Trago Park and the Malone Community Center currently reside.

An Antelope Valley Park Planning Committee is now forming to participate in review and discussion of park elements and features. This committee will take part in a series of four public meetings, the first in October of 2005 and wrapping up in the spring of 2006. We are extending an invitation to the City Council to be a part of this important committee. We believe that your input and experiences will help the Antelope Valley Design team create fantastic new park areas that users of all ages and abilities will enjoy.

Please select one member from City Council to participate on this committee and reply as soon as possible with the name of your representative, their mailing address, and e-mail address. The first meeting is Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Lincoln High School Media Center. For questions please call me at 441-3084 or e-mail [sroach@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:sroach@lincoln.ne.gov).

Best regards,

  
Stacey Roach  
Park Planning Assistant



Parks and Recreation Department  
Lynn Johnson, Director  
2740 "A" Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

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fax: 402-441-8706  
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MAYOR COLEEN J. SENG

[lincoln.ne.gov](http://lincoln.ne.gov)

# Meeting Notice

RECEIVED  
OCT 13 2005  
CITY COUNCIL  
OFFICE

Antelope Valley  
Park Development Committee

Tuesday, October 18, 2005  
7pm

Lincoln High School  
Media Center  
2229 J Street  
(inside the north doors, behind the stairs)

Please call Stacey at 441-3084 if you have any questions

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2005  
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**Council Members Present:** Ken Svoboda, Chair; Patte Newman, Vice-Chair; Jon Camp, Jonathan Cook, Dan Marvin; Annette McRoy.

**Council Member Absent:** Robin Eschliman

**Others Present:** Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Rick Hoppe, Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Tammy Grammer, City Council Staff and Deena Winter, Lincoln Journal Star Representative.

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of October 10, 2005.
2. Minutes from Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of October 3, 2005.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes-Executive Session - RE: Personnel - October 10, 2005.

Chair Ken Svoboda, by acclamation of the Chair, approved the minutes. No objections were offered, minutes approved as presented.

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

1. **Multicultural Advisory Committee (McRoy).** — Dan Marvin attended, filling in for Councilwomen, Annette McRoy. Marvin stated the focus was on the radio comments broadcast, and he was given the impression we were going to address these comments by calling various members back. Then at the next meeting letting people air their differences.

Hoppe reported there has been some community discussion about reaction to city hate crimes and actions taken. There was a lot of misinformation as people didn't have complete facts. The solution was to bring people in and inform them of the actions taken. Basically, it was a discussion.

McRoy asked if there was a specific incident which occurred? Hoppe responded there have been various incidents over the last few months. McRoy stated a radio station called her, wanting comments on statements made by Jose ... regarding the City Council not doing their job, as far as responding to these incidents. There has been quite a time lapse between incidents, with the last one happening at the penitentiary. Marvin believed concerns would be addressed at the next meeting. Svoboda stated he thought the police department was also accused and he did hear Chief Casady give a good radio response

Marvin believed there also was a report stating the number of hate crimes in Lincoln is quite high, but he believes Lincoln is probably more pro-active on reacting to these incidents. On comparison of Lincoln to other cities, believes Lincoln more pro-active. Svoboda agreed adding that was also Chief Casady's response.

2. **Board of Health (Svoboda). Kennel Contract** — Svoboda stated with other commitments he had to leave the meeting early and didn't hear all reports. An item he can report on is the Kennel Contract, or proposal, which will be going out as it has been reviewed by Dr. Dart and now back at purchasing. Bowen responded there are bids out, and expect to have back by the end of November, with the far end being the end of the year. Bowen continued saying the Humane Society continues to provide services until the end of June, next year.

Marvin asked for comments for items nine through twelve on the agenda. Svoboda stated the increases are associated with their regular duties. We haven't had increases in the impound, or a dog at large, fees for quite some time. One reason, primarily, is to take advantage of what we know is going to be a much more expensive kennel contract. The fees are going up with the increase based on speculation as to what the kennel contract is going to be. Still might operate at somewhat of a loss.

Newman asked if they track the animals who are repeat visitors? Are there pet owners who just don't care, or service dogs? Svoboda said he had a shop dog, who didn't like to stay at the building, and the animal control officer writing a ticket, when the dog was picked up a block away from the shop, would list as second or third offense, and could identify from the palm pilots they use for notification. Camp thought micro-chips were inserted in the animal population now. Svoboda agreed, adding any dog which goes through the Humane Society has a chip. Most dogs that are sold from a pet shop have a chip. Doesn't know if it's a requirement. A lot of vets insert the chips at requests.

Camp continued asking about the rate increases. Svoboda answered it's purely a guess at this point, but Dart said the dogs, and other animals, could be double what it was in the last contract, which was in the area of \$155,000. Believed it was climbing to the \$250,000 range and thinks it will approximately be that with the new contract. Purely speculation, having conversations with potential bidders. Camp asked what if we delayed the rate increases until we get the facts. Svoboda stated he could ask Dart but it was presented as anticipating an increase in the kennel contract. Hoppe said the other part has been no increase in six years, therefore some justification. Marvin asked if there were comparisons made to other communities? Svoboda said they did make comparisons and believes Omaha was higher. Svoboda said he doesn't believe Omaha has the animal control department that Lincoln has. One thing anticipated is the change made in the animals picked up. Dogs, and other animals, that won't be picked up, that were before. If it's a nuisance complaint the call probably won't be responded to unless they feel there's a danger and public health threat. Those will be coming before us at a later date.

Camp thought it would be better to go ahead with the public hearing today but he would prefer to wait and make sure that we're fiscally responsible. Secondly, Camp is intrigued by the chip process that the Humane Society has done and would like to see some type of legislation which would encourage other pet owners to do the micro-chipping, as it could help in the future. We might be able to get a reduction, even if it's a rate structure. Maybe have a program, for a year, where we work with the licensed professionals, the vets, in order to do the micro-chipping and show we're proactive with our animal control.

Cook asked if there have been discussions about requiring chips in all animals? Is there a group of people opposed to such an idea, as it would somehow make their animal high-tech and make them uncomfortable? Svoboda stated the Animal Control Advisory Council Committee would probably be first to hear if there is any opposition. At the core health level haven't heard any of that and did not ask that question last week. In regards to the kennel contract, is this solely a dog and other animal? Are they leaving cats separate?

Hoppe responded they're going to try to have a single facility but will depend on animals coming in and what the providers want, and are capable of doing. Svoboda said in visiting with a couple of the potential providers there's some difficulty in accepting cats. So there might be a separate contract for cats.

Camp asked if anyone else had problems with delaying, beyond the public hearing? Cook said it sounds like there's separate justification. Are you saying you don't want to raise these rates now? Thinking it might not be necessary to raise them? Camp said he thinks we'll raise them, but we're jumping now for the first time in six years. Cook asked if Camp was thinking it may not be enough? Svoboda said that is a possibility. Camp said there might be a deficit and if we're armed with information it's a much better way to proceed.

McRoy said if we raise rates, after six years, even with additional information would the rate be to the point where people wouldn't come and get their dogs? If they can't afford to get the dogs it would be more costly to keep them. Even if it is a deficit on our contract, if we price too high someone can't afford to get their dog that's a cost. McRoy feels we do need to raise rates but not sure there's understanding of the delay reasoning as we don't want to price out of our market just to make up for our contract.

Hoppe said in discussions doesn't think that was really an issue as there does seem to be a much higher rate of claim for dogs, than cats. Cats are only about twelve or fifteen percent being picked up from the pound. As a result didn't think the fee increases would really have any impact, i.e., dog owners are still going to get their dogs. Cat owners are still not going to go to the pound.

Svoboda said there is a thresh-hold, at some point in time, where dogs could have the

same potential of not being picked up, just as cats do now. Believes Dart, and others, looked at other animal control departments of our size seeing what other cities are doing. Marvin said especially repeat offenders. McRoy said with the research we've done this amount has been recommended, and don't want people not being able to afford to retrieve their pets.

Newman said she doesn't see the Advisory Committee just doing haphazardly. Obviously they've been talking/working on this for years. Doesn't see the point in delaying if they've decided this is the right thing to do. Have talked to them about reduced fees for the disabled and they don't make decisions out of the blue. There's absolutely been a lot of discussion and input. Svoboda said Dart, in his comments this afternoon, will probably reveal if it's because of the new kennel contract or because they haven't been raised in six years. Svoboda continued saying one thing he is aware of is fees need to be raised on a fairly regular and structured basis, not wait for six years and then double them, as we've seen in some incidents. Happened with some of the well contracts, through the Health Department recently. They hadn't been raised for a decade, we push them up and then there's public outcry.

Newman said it's user fees to attributed to whatever the issue is, the people who are using that part of city government would pay those fees. Camp added that's the very reason we should wait a month or two, to find out what those user fees are going to be. Users should pay the costs. Newman said they passed one last week, development fees for the well permits.

Marvin said we do have a problem, and agreeing with Svoboda said, we're going to be moving more towards something that's not static for six years but progressed to a more regular basis. Marvin continued saying it seems they would follow up a year from now with progressing. Camp said he would assume that this increase is guessing to some because of the problem we have ..... and it's just guessing, but maybe right on. Doesn't think we're looking at tripling, but maybe a minor tweaking of it. Camp stated to tweak it so we do keep it in the system. He continued, also agreeing with Svoboda, that in the future have more ease of implementation, rather than waiting for the long term. This is one of those programs, like building permits, which should be fairly close dollar to dollar for costs. Within a month of getting those arguments back. Bowen responded it will be thirty days from the point it goes out, will be the middle of next month.

**Avian Flu** - Svoboda asked if there was a report on the Avian flu? Hoppe said he didn't catch all the discussion on Avian flu but there were a lot of what if's. Some concern on the strain mutating to person to person contact. The Health Department is starting to make plans in the unlikely event that would happen.

McRoy said keep in mind it's the Avian flu, how do you catch it? Hoppe said from birds. The question was asked of what's the difference between pandemic and epidemic? Svoboda said pandemic is worldwide with Marvin stating pandemic is



multi-continent. McRoy stated she really wants to understand how you get the flu from a bird. Marvin said it's not that you get it from a bird, it can go from one bird to a person and then it spreads from person to person. Hoppe said this hasn't happened yet. Marvin said it has happened, in Vietnam he thinks some people have died from the Avian flu.

Hoppe said he's reporting what he heard and that they're preparing for the eventuality it does occur, but at this discussion they didn't believe it had happened yet.

Svoboda believes the Health Department is taking very seriously. Obviously worldwide it's a huge discussion.

**Starling Birds** - Hoppe reported the Health Department talked for a short time about Starlings with Dart reporting the Health Department's feeling is they're more of a nuisance than a health issue at this point. However, still have people investigating and if the determination is made that it is a health hazard then they'll proceed. As everyone is aware there's been email traffic on this issue. One concern is Starlings come back no matter what. And if the Health Department does some type of activity they need to make sure the Starlings don't return.

**OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS: - NONE**

**III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS** - Rick Hoppe had none to report.

**IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR** - Mark Bowen had none to report.

**MARK BOWEN - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**ANN HARRELL - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**RICK HOPPE - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**DANA ROPER - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**V. MISCELLANEOUS -**

1. Discussion on request regarding the Antelope Valley Park Planning Committee, please select one member from City Council to participate on this committee. (Antelope Valley Park Development Committee Meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.) (See Attachments). — McRoy asked if they're meeting on Tuesday nights? Svoboda answered the first meeting is Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at

Lincoln High. Tomorrow night.

Svoboda asked if anyone would like to volunteer? McRoy said she would check her schedule but believed she had meetings almost every night this week but that she would try to go. Svoboda said a letter would be sent saying McRoy will be our appointee to the committee.

**VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**JON CAMP - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**JONATHAN COOK - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**ROBIN ESCHLIMAN - ABSENT**

**DAN MARVIN - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**ANNETTE McROY - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**PATTE NEWMAN - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**KEN SVOBODA - NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

**VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Listed on the Attend Sheet for October 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**ADDENDUM - (For October 17<sup>th</sup>)**

**COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS  
AND CONFERENCES - NONE**

**MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - NONE**

**APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE**

**MAYOR'S REQUEST TO COUNCIL - NONE**

**MISCELLANEOUS -**

1. Discussion - Agenda Items for the November 1<sup>st</sup> Joint LPS/City/County Meeting. Please let me know of any agenda items by Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> . -  
(See Attachment). —

**VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately at 11:52 a.m.**

cm101705/tjg