

**AGENDA**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2007**  
**(Immediately Following Directors' Meeting)**  
**COUNTY/CITY BUILDING**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of April 2, 2007.
2. Minutes from City Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of April 2, 2007.

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

1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook)
2. Community Development Task Force Meeting (Marvin)

**OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:**

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

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

**V. MISCELLANEOUS - None**

**VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS -**

1. Preview Luncheon for the 2007 Cornhusker State Games on Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at Noon at the Holiday Inn Downtown Lincoln Ballroom, 141 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street - RSVP by April 19<sup>th</sup> to 471-2544 or by email - (See Invitation)
2. Celebrate Nebraska's Eastern Saline Wetlands-The Saline Wetlands Conservation Partnership on Friday, April 20, 2007 beginning at 11:30 a.m. and returning around 3:30 p.m. - Beginning at the Frank Shoemaker Marsh Overlook - RSVP by April 10<sup>th</sup> to Tom Malmstrom at 476-2729 or by email - (See Invitation)

3. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Lincoln Area Agency on Aging Foster Grandparent Program 2007 Recognition Brunch on Saturday, April 21, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Embassy Suites, 1040 "P" Street - RSVP by April 13<sup>th</sup> - (See Invitation)
4. The Lincoln Police Department's Citizen Academy Graduation & Awards Ceremony on Monday, April 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Embassy Suites Hotel, 1040 "P" Street - Dessert Reception Following - (See Invitation)

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**CITY COUNCIL NOON MEETING  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2007**

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

**Others Present:** Mark Bowen, Mayor's Chief of Staff; Ann Harrell, Administrative Aide to the Mayor; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Coby Mach, LIBA; Deena Winters, Lincoln Journal Star; and Mary Meyer, Clerk.

A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act located on the wall at the rear of the room.

Chairman Newman convened the meeting at 11:30 am.

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of April 2, 2007.
  2. Minutes from City Council Noon Meeting of April 2, 2007.
- Chairman Newman called for approval of above minutes. Approved by acclamation.

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

**1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook)**

Cook reported the Board endorsed plans for a center and park, and a master park plan which includes playground, and space for a possible future community center. Large discussion centered on surplus of a small property parcel out in Holmes Lake Golf Course, next to Talent Plus, which they did not take action on but sent forward to a public meeting to obtain feedback. Board did vote to transfer the tennis courts at Seacrest Field to LPS. We do have an asset bank with LPS, where we transfer property. If one entity transfers more property than the other entity is owed the property then goes into the asset bank.

Cook stated Planning, Parks and LPS are trying to reconcile all assets. In the near future transfers, which are properties of the City, will go to LPS through the asset bank. A number of properties will be oddly shaped parcels of land being transferred back to the schools. Cook added there was discussion of potential surplus of property, possibly park land which could be declared surplus. They are looking at two options. Cook stated this is a very sensitive issue but often there are pieces which are not actually usable.

Cook said the Committee also asked a trust for \$20,000 for metal panels for art work on the Pioneers Park Nature Center. The Board then passed a new policy on memorial bricks and what the inscriptions on them could be. They adopted a new swimming pool section, which will come before Council, with recommendations of a new section of pools, and relocation of some existing pools. Plus, discussion on Calvert Rec Center.

Camp asked for observations on the Calvert Rec Center. Cook replied it was update information, which would come before Council. He stated it has been in the budget for a couple of years, in the CIP for two years, with \$100,000 of Keno money put in two years ago and last year approximately \$100,000 of general revenue, with some Keno, added. The upcoming money will be the remainder for next year, and therefore we can go forward.

Eschliman asked regarding surplus what would be the quickest they come forward to surplus land and process through? Cook replied it is not a easy process, with a significant public process on anything currently used as parkland. Also, legal issues as some parklands have to always remain as parklands. He stated it would take time to identify, go through the Board, public meetings and then come to the Planning Commission.

Eschliman asked on the concept, after looking at it what would happen? Cook replied if a parcel is found which they think is surplus, with no value to the park system, they would openly forward to the Planning Commission for declaration of surplus and then it would come to the City Council. Eschliman asked if it were possible to speed up the process and have quicker suggestions? Cook replied they meet once a month, and he thought the Council could ask the staff to look more aggressively than they are now.

McRoy asked if the Board talked about the swimming pool policy and if they discussed the cards needed for the upcoming season, as last year they ran out. Cook replied they did not discuss day to day functional, operational details.

Marvin asked on surplus, if a parcel of land was found, and was real estate, if it would go back into the park lands, the proceeds of a sale would go into the acquisition fund? Cook answered generally that is the procedure. What is done in these cases with a parcel which is unused the money goes into the fund which is then used to buy new parkland. This could be in existing, or new areas, and is what happened at the Holmes Lake sale, with a portion sold to Talent Plus. That money went into a fund, which he believes was used to buy parkland in Antelope Valley.

Eschliman asked if the acquisition funds are the only money used to buy parkland? Cook replied no as sometimes they ask for bond money with Marvin commenting some land is donated. Cook stated there are times we identify land on the edge of where we want a community park, and the comp plan call for it and we try to acquire with money in the land acquisition fund, or could be a bond issue or other funding. Eschliman asked with money in the land acquisition fund it would then free up money that you don't have to use to purchase the land with Cook agreeing. Eschliman thought a good example would be 48<sup>th</sup> and Holdrege where the land owner would like to tear down a building and enlarge, and has inquired if he could acquire a small section of the parkland adjoining. Newman stated some types of acquisitions they are problematic as storm water runoff occurs in areas which could severely impact something else.

Cook reiterated it is a very sensitive issue. Many times the Council has not been supported in selling parklands, even in places identified as blighted. Cook added some neighborhoods make it extremely difficult as generally parkland is thought of as long term. Occasionally there are small parcels but doesn't think they should be seen as a source of money. The Parks Board is very concerned about the sale of parks, and they do go to the neighbors.

Cook stated there is a small parcel adjoining Pioneers Park and will have a community meeting and discussion regarding the land. This is a reason if we mention trying to accelerate the process we need to be very effective.

## **2. Community Development Task Force Meeting (Marvin)**

Marvin stated he did not attend this meeting in which the Community Development Task Force was disbanded. Newman questioned if gone, will it come back? McRoy stated she is concerned about approval of the one year plan of action required for HUD each year, in the CEC funds.

Bowen answered it can be accomplished through a public meeting. Harrell said there are other ways of seeking out such as public outreach and input. She stated the Task Force didn't generated activity throughout the year, just when needed. The Mayor was clear with Urban Development that she expected more than one opportunity for people to comment.

Marvin stated personally he thought it was the right call, as it was not efficient. He stated we try to reach the community for input and thought the problem with the Community Development Task Force was the fact they reached out for community input but then created a system where not much community input was allowed. McRoy thought a problem resulted from decisions being made before the meetings. Camp stated this should be fine tuned, as we need people to attend but they do not as they don't believe they're listened to. Marvin agreed and added people have to have some authority.

Eschliman commented she sent web site links out listing boards and advisory committees people could volunteer for. Now thinking how many of the committees are really active, and if we need to look at these web sites. Harrell responded the committees are active, just low profile, not high profile, acknowledging the Community Development Task Force was a challenge.

### **III. Appointments/Reappointments**

None

### **IV. Requests of Council from Mayor**

Bowen said the Mayor did talk to Council about the TIF policy and we will put on executive order format.

Marvin brought up energy savings and urged everyone to use florescent bulbs as the savings could be a tremendous amount of money. The City saved \$380,000 using the bulbs. Cook stated he has installed these bulbs. Camp has used also.

Camp had a question regarding TIP, stating it seems like the Mayor's office is driving TIF. The Council receives the policy but the Mayor drives it, is the Mayor's elective process and the Mayor who chooses developers. He stated he believes there should be shared responsibility, as TIF is a legislative act, and commits potential future tax dollars. Should be given the respect of being a very important economic tool. Camp added the process should be proactive between the Mayor and the City Council. Harrell stated the Council would approve redevelopment plans and hold hearings on key projects. Marvin said he didn't know how we can have private negotiations at an early stage and then this kind of input. Newman asked if Camp was speaking about redevelopment or the TIF policy? She asked if there was something in the list he didn't like? Camp replied today is the first he has seen it.

Bowen stated it's part of the administration to put funds together and make sure the City Council comments, which they will. Camp stated the process isn't comfortable and part of his concern is he would like a City Management and Council Manager form of government but really the idea of the City Council and the Mayor, under the next administration, being in a pro-active policy making posture, which isn't happening now. Bowen disagreed with Camp adding he thinks the Council has been reactive during his eight years. Camp stated the Council has been set by the administration and would like to see the Council work in tandem with the Mayor, having communication, believing it would help the private sector in both local and national programs. Have the Council be more pro-active. Bowen reiterated he thinks this exists now.

Marvin stated he believes the draft is incorporated from what we had in public hearings, the concerns people have addressed. Heard a large concern of the schools and have heard the County Board say not to just give away on the edge unless it shows an effort to make it primary employment, and thinks we do profit from the public. Camp stated this is one of our best tools and wants to see it used right and to have a cooperative process. Marvin suggested putting TIF on the next Noon Meeting agenda after everyone has a chance to look at and examine. Newman agreed stating this is very important and would be a first step. Bowen believe the Mayor had spoken to Council members individually and at private meetings. Newman wondered if the TIF policy received was finalized.

**V. Miscellaneous**  
None

**VI. City Council Members**

**McRoy** - Next week would like to discuss redevelopment projects, making sure we don't have so tight we can't have a new project. She has talked to a developer who wants to do work in areas which are blighted. A small project but wonder if this wouldn't knock him out, unless we already have an existing, larger project in which he can be part of in the area.

Newman stated possibly an internal discussion at the Noon Meeting. McRoy added she thought Dallas and someone from the Mayor's office possibly could attend as she wants to make sure it isn't written so smaller projects don't exist within the realm of a bigger, larger project.

**Svoboda** - None

**Marvin** - None

**Cook** - None

**Camp** - None

**Eschliman** - Eschliman mentioned a Chamber luncheon invitation occurring on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, regarding the primary elections. Newman said she and Eschliman had talked and both think people should understand the Council has a specific schedule on Mondays and either they don't schedule events they want the Council to attend, or they expect that possibly Council won't show. Newman stated she has no problem with saying no, but if Council members want to go individually, it is their prerogative. Eschliman said possibly to tell them we might be able to attend, but can't promise.

**VII. Meetings/Invitations**

Listed on attend sheet for April 9, 2007.

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:55 a.m.

Mary Meyer  
Clerk