

AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 7, 2007
(Immediately Following Directors' Meeting)
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MINUTES

- *1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of April 23, 2007.
- *2. Minutes from City Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of April 23, 2007.

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

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

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. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition-Making Dollars Make Sense-Fiscal Impact Breakfast on Wednesday, May 9, 2007 at Lincoln High School, 2229 "J" Street, Athletic Conference Room - 7:30 a.m., Reception & Continental Breakfast - 8:00 a.m., Presentation of Findings - RSVP by Noon on May 4th to Janette at 441-8045 or by email - (See Invitation)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

***HELD OVER FROM APRIL 30, 2007.**

**CITY COUNCIL NOON MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 7, 2007**

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

Council Members Absent: Patte Newman

Others Present: Mayor Coleen Seng, Mark Bowen, Mayor's Chief of Staff; Ann Harrell, Administrative Aide to the Mayor; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Don Herz, Finance Director; Coby Mach, LIBA; Mary Meyer, Clerk; and other interested parties.

A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act located on the back wall of Room 113.

Vice-Chairman Marvin convened the meeting at 11:25 am.

I. MINUTES

*1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of April 23, 2007.

*2. Minutes from City Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of April 23, 2007.

Vice-Chairman Marvin called for approval of the above minutes. With no corrections minutes approved by acclamation.

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

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook)

Cook reported at the meeting they discussed the declaration of surplus property on Holmes Golf Course, with numerous people attending the meeting, including a representative from Talent Plus and concerned neighbors. Cook used an illustrated map of the land for his discussion on the surplus property, pointing out the existing land which was sold to Talent Plus previously, and the area, or surplus property, which is being discussed to sell to Talent Plus now.

Camp asked if the parking lot would go onto this area? Cook replied not really and illustrated where the driveway and parking lot were and stated there was a proposed new parking lot. McRoy asked for clarification on the illustration of what land Talent Plus owned. Cook referenced the illustration and showed the land owned by Talent Plus. McRoy stated Talent Plus owns some land which they never have built on with Cook agreeing. He then stated if we don't sell them any new land they could still build, but would have a little difficulty getting the desired parking. Also, neighbors who are upset about this sale still weren't particularly happy with the original building.

Marvin noted the Parks and Rec Department is selling this land, basically saying they

actually don't need all of it. Cook replied that is probably true but the fact is the Department is saying they don't think they have use for this land and if half is sold we would receive half the money, which will be used by the Parklands. Also, Talent Plus is indicating they would keep as a landscaped green space type location. With this information the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was split. A vote was taken with three in favor of the sale, three against, and three abstentions. Camp asked if it was three abstentions or three against? Cook said three abstentions, with the vote being three for, three against and three abstaining. McRoy asked why three members abstained? Cook replied he abstained because normally on these types of issues he does abstain. Dennis Scheer abstained as he's worked for Talent Plus and thought some people might think there would be a conflict of interest. And one new Park Board Member was too uncomfortable and chose to abstain as well. So, no clear recommendations.

Camp asked with the land which was originally sold there were approximately three plus acres which Talent Plus was going to buy, which was approved for sale, but they only bought two point three acres? Cook replied if we plan to sell Talent Plus has an option to buy, having the first buying rights of the property. Camp asked if Talent Plus could have bought it last time, but decided not to buy all that was offered? Cook agreed but added they, Talent Plus, did keep their option. When Talent Plus identified the portion they wanted for purchase at that time, it was exactly what we surplused and no more. What we need to do here is surplus this land, because the only people we can sell to is Talent Plus initially, unless they say no. Camp asked when the three point seven acres went to Parks and Rec, did they agree at that time to surplus this land? Cook replied he didn't know the answer but regardless of what the recommendation might have been the time has passed, and the second building has not been built. He added there are also people who don't like the building architecture.

Eschliman asked if landscaping was a requirement, to try to minimize the effect in the neighborhood? What was done before to make it more palatable? Cook replied this is in two parts (referring to the map), one part needed to be rezoned, which we went ahead with and then also required a use permit. At this late time assume the use permit only included what has been built. Cannot recall what conditions were placed on the use permit but stated they have to be set back so far, and one can see a lot of trees, and a house, so the primary view is from only one direction, or people living across the park in the one direction are going to see the building only. However, there was a discussion of what could be done in this case, because this would likely remain green, and could require certain conditions. This will go to the Planning Commission first.

Homeless Coalition (Eschliman)

Eschliman missed the meeting but obtained an update. She stated last year the Homeless Coalition received some funds for the homeless and this year again trying to receive. Also, she didn't know if everyone had seen the article of what the Downtown Lincoln Association is doing in conjunction with the Homeless Coalition, but they are conducting an educational program on the homeless. The program primarily is focused on University of Nebraska students, who are regulars downtown, and also on the general downtown community. The

trouble appears to be with University students regularly giving money to the homeless. This program would try to educate people to give donations directly to agencies.

McRoy added the Downtown Lincoln Association is paying for the program, with the UNL advertising class coming up with the theme of, "I didn't need your change, I just need a fresh start with my friends", which shows a lot of talent.

Eschliman mentioned she was contacted by a faith based ministry who wants to come to Lincoln to do urban forums. The group started in Omaha and they try to get high school students interested in the problems of the community. They want to get together to find out if we could have these kids brought to Lincoln to help with inner city issues, and if it would actually help us? Eschliman replied to the ministry and stated probably one area which the Council would like to focus on would be the 13th and "E" area, the area where there's been fighting, etc. She then put them in touch with Chief Casady who now has been working with them. Eschliman stated the group will bring in the high school students sometime during summer and have them visit the jail, feed the homeless, do volunteering at The Gathering Place with a church group organizing a luncheon for the students. Also, the police department will take them through the delinquent areas of town which should include the chronic homeless situation downtown. It is nice to see a group coming in and taking an interest.

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Bowen stated none at this time.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR

Herz stated one objective would be to have an idea of who Council would like to have serve on the selection committee for the external auditor selection. A few years ago we went through this process where we selected the outside auditor, but the four years are up. He stated the reason the Council is asked to participate is that in the charter, under their powers and duties, is a part stating the Council shall contact with a CPA firm to make an independent audit, so we're typically going to ask somebody from the Council to sit in on the interviews and go through the process. There may be three to four hours of time involved, three one-hour interviews and then the follow-ups.

Marvin asked if Camp would like to volunteer? Camp agreed to serve.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

CAMP - Camp asked if a luncheon was scheduled next Monday for the new and the old City Council Members? It's usually at the Nebraska Club. Eschliman asked if this would

be when they've completed the Noon Meeting? Bowen said there probably would be an abbreviated 11:00 o'clock Director's Meeting and Noon Meeting next week. Camp asked if the new members were invited or if it's just for the old members? Bowen replied it's for the out-going Council.

COOK - No Comments

ESCHLIMAN - Eschliman said today is the Chamber Luncheon and the City Council is expected.

MARVIN - No Comments

McROY - No Comments

SVOBODA - No Comments

Marvin called for adjournment which was approved by accumulation. Meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Mary Meyer
Clerk

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