AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS’ “NOON” MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2007
(Immediately Following Directors’ Meeting)
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MINUTES


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 -

1. Discussion regarding Council Retreat Agenda.

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS -

1. Lincoln Chamber of Commerce invites you to attend the following Ribbon Cutting:
   Please RSVP to Kathy Hale at 436-2385 or E-Mail:
   A.) Cornhusker Bank, 6100 Apples Way (63rd & Hwy 2) on Thursday, January 17, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

2. DLR Group Holiday Cheer! Celebrate the Holidays at our new Lincoln office on Thursday, December 13, 2007 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at DLR Group, 1111 Lincoln Mall, 2 Landmark Centre, Suite 201 - (See Invitation)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS’ “NOON” MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2007
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

Members Present: Dan Marvin, Chair; Robin Eschliman, Vice-Chair; Jon Camp; Jonathan Cook; Doug Emery; John Spatz and Ken Svoboda.

Others Present: Dana Roper, City Attorney; Denise Pearce, Mayoral Aide; Trish Owen, Mayoral Aide; Rick Hoppe, Mayoral Aide; Coby Mach, LiBA, Kyle Fisher, Chamber of Commerce; Andre Mick, LiBA; Tammy Grammar, City Staff and other interested parties.

Copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act posted on rear wall of Room 113.

Chair Marvin Opened the meeting at 11:18 am.

I. MINUTES

Marvin called for approval of the above minutes. With no corrections the minutes were approved by acclamation.

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

1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook)

Cook reported on the discussion regarding the cell tower in Seacrest Park, 7300 “A” Street. The Parks Board is interested in adding a condition stating the last provider on the pole needs to remove the pole. The problem is Parks makes money with the pole on the property and if everyone goes away Parks would have a cost. Also discussed ways to dedicate the money which comes from the cell towers, which are in parks operations. The Parks Department does not receive money and in fact even if a tower is on a golf course, direct money still doesn’t go to the Parks Department. Marvin inquired as to how much estimated revenue would be raised. Cook couldn’t recall a fixed amount, but there are quite a few on park lands.

Discussion of a potential charter amendment on how the sale of land might be used. The Parks Board wasn’t sure of what action to take and will take back to committee. The Legislative agenda was discussed with the possibility of a local option sales tax. Letting voters chose to increase the sales tax to cover certain items; operations, roads, or property tax relief. Also discussion of Centennial Mall and following up on money to develop “Central Park”, and the question of what will become of Centennial Mall? Senator Bill Avery may introduce a bill this session which would help provide money for Centennial Mall, and may be another item to discuss at the retreat.

Regarding 10th and Military Road the Parks Board has concerns about the shooting range which is on Parks Property.

Did elect officers with Karen Hand as Chair and Joe Tidball as Vice-Chair.
Do receive money periodically from the Winnett Trust for projects and in the past it has been possible for the Winnett Trust to build up funds and then disperse for larger projects. With tax law changes now requiring dispersement annually we will have to take the money, and in some way accumulate in order to pay for projects over a number of years, making it a little more complicated. Now asking for a grant of $8,000 for art work which would go into the new Central Park.

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS
Pearce stated Owen handed out the list last week.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR
Hoppe stated none, other than the retreat which sounds like the agenda has been printed.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Discussion regarding Council Retreat Agenda
Marvin stated Grammar and he were tasked with the retreat agenda. Grammar has secured room #106 in this building for the retreat on Friday, December 14, 2007 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Cook thought there was a zoning appeal at 1:30 on that date with Marvin responding he believed the time worked for everyone with the exception of not hearing from Spatz.

Marvin asked if there were agenda items to be added for discussion at the retreat.

Cook stated Centennial Mall legislation. Marvin said they could possibly list in the broader categories, i.e., legislation items, for discussion of a local option sales tax, voter approved.

Svoboda asked if Council is going to limit themselves to legislation on bills which we know are going to be proposed, or open up for discussion on bills that we as a Council might want to introduce and find a sponsor?

Marvin stated in discussion with the Chamber they talked about this being a condensed session and think if an item isn’t in the pipeline than it isn’t likely to get much attention. Ideas of what we may want to include? Svoboda answered he went through notes from the Omaha-Lincoln Council Joint Meeting, the LIBA Legislative Breakfast and the Chamber Meeting with the only item similar between all three being roads.

Pearce added she could put together a short summary of items the Mayor and she have been working on for legislative priorities, and share with Council.

Eschliman added when Council met with the Omaha Council they talked about how they had, or were planning, to meet with their Mayor, and have them met? Pearce responded last week the Omaha paper reported the Omaha Council adopted its priorities, and will send copy to Council. Camp stated he would look at what Omaha has and see if it’s similar to ours. Cook added often the Legislators introduce bills which don’t go anywhere for one, two or three years before things happen. We need to think ahead, with agreement from Council members.
For the retreat, Marvin asked if anyone had items to include under Legislative Items. Svoboda said one item he proposed was discussion regarding Council policy. Plus, Council could discuss with Joan Ross, Clerk, whether there is anyway to legally post amendments as she receives for Council legislation so they appear on the web site. Another items would be Council staffing, with the discussion of formulating a plan on what staffing we want and where we would get the money.

Marvin asked if Council wants a discussion of night meetings under the heading of Council Policies? Also, the Council has been tasked with submitting names for the Audit Board, and could have as an item at next weeks Noon Meeting? Council agreed to having on Noon Meeting agenda.

Hoppe did request when scheduling the legislative priority discussion if it could be later on the agenda to accommodate Pearce who may be at the State Capitol? Pearce said she hopes the State Fair hearing will be over by then, but does suggest a little later just in case.

Marvin stated another item was a schedule for Pre-Council issues which we may want to look at, getting more information for 2008. Council may have a number of different items we may want to be working on, and we could start to coordinate.

Camp answered in the past we had more Pre-Councils, and now it has swung the other way, and we could discuss among ourselves what we want to do.

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Svoboda stated we have Council members who have not attended a retreat and think this is a time to get reflection from them as to what they see as possibly dysfunctional but we do as we’ve always done this way. And, to receive feedback on what they see we could change to make it more adaptable to Council.

Hoppe asked if Council talked about continuing budget discussions with small groups, on where we want to go next year? And is there a possibility to visit with Camp this week, to distribute material and discuss before Friday’s retreat?

Camp asked how the Mayor’s negotiations are proceeding? Pearce responded the Mayor needs to meet with the Governor and will be doing so early next week.

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VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Marvin adjourned the meeting at 11:35 am.

Mary Meyer, Clerk
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