

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE DIRECTORS MEETING
555 S. 10TH, ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Director's Meeting minutes of December 12, 2011.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of December 12, 2011.

II. REPORTS ON BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCES

1. Board of Health Meeting - Emery
2. Problem Resolution Team - Emery
3. Downtown Lincoln Association - Carroll
4. Joint Budget Committee - Emery, Eskridge

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - TBA

V. MISCELLANEOUS

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

**19th Annual MLK "Freedom Breakfast
Embassy Sweets 1040 P Street**

Friday, Jan. 13 @ 7:15

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012**

Present: Gene Carroll, Chair; Adam Hornung, Vice Chair; DiAnna Schimek; Carl Eskridge; Doug Emery; Jonathan Cook; and Jon Camp

Others: Rick Hoppe, Chief of Staff; Trish Owen, Deputy Chief of Staff; Denise Pearce, Senior Policy Counsel; Pat Leach, Library Director; and Lynn Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director

Chair Carroll opened the meeting at 2:11 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. MINUTES

1. Director's Meeting minutes of December 12, 2011.
 2. Organizational Meeting minutes of December 12, 2011.
- The above minutes were approved by Council accumulation.

II. REPORTS ON BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCES

1. Board of Health Meeting - Emery

Emery stated they discussed the issues with carbonated drinks, and the ongoing concerns on how to work through the contracting.

2. Problem Resolution Team - Emery

Emery stated the PRT has 15 properties, 9 active and 6 on monitor. Looked at two additional this month, which did not meet the criteria, and were not added. Do have two 2 properties which hopefully Urban Development and/or Neighborworks will help with. We have owners who are willing to relinquish properties which would allow us to tear down and rebuild.

3. Downtown Lincoln Association - Carroll

Carroll stated the DLA did not meet.

4. Joint Budget Committee - Emery, Eskridge

Eskridge stated they now are doing early projections on the amount of funds available and the participated requests. The amounts differ, which will result in numerous challenges. An interesting process will be when all the different organizations are asked to comply with organizational items for their Boards to complete in terms of training.

5. Internal Liquor Committee - Eskridge, Hornung, Schimek

Eskridge stated the ILC discussed several issues, including server training and taxi service. Camp asked if they have direction on the taxi service? Eskridge replied the ILC understands there is inadequate taxi service in the evenings, at bar closing time, but also heard of inadequate service throughout the day. The ILC is concerned on how the community is served with the interest to improve. The Public Service Commission will be receiving applications, if they haven't already.

Hornung stated Council ILC members had an ad hoc meeting to explore options, and want to hear Council's ideas on additional cab service. The process for someone to provide cab service in the city is to ask for authority, prove capability, and a public need. When trying to prove a public need existing cab companies will object, at which time it is important for the community to express if there

is a public need, or not. Heard of numerous proposals, some possibly not in the city's best interest. With different ways to tackle this problem Senator Avery has introduced a bill as one way. Hornung commented he believes a solution not requiring changing too many laws, having the same result, would be preferable. Schimek added one bar owner wanted to pursue some type of legislative solution, and possibly he is working with Senator Avery.

Cook asked who's interest does Senator Avery's bill represent? Do we want to be involved in helping craft changes to the bill? Hornung replied ILC members, and interested parties, discussed and feel Senator Avery's bill took on its own life. Attended a meeting of bar owners, concerned citizens, some State Senators, and everyone seemed supportive of some change. Discussed doing by city class size.

Cook asked without legislative changes do you feel the applications from Omaha companies have a chance to provide service? Hornung stated they have a better chance of making a statement. Camp asked if StarTran is being considered for Friday/Saturday nights? Hornung replied they are in the discussion. Schimek asked when the discussion took place. Hornung answered it hasn't taken place at the ILC meetings. Camp heard there is more of a daily need, a different perspective. Hoppe commented there are a host of challenges but along what Hornung said the administration intends to support the application of Happy Cabs on terms of public need. Believe between the Council, the ILC, and the community, there is a strong feeling there needs to be a larger cab community presence, and we would be supportive of a new player.

Emery didn't disagree but stated there is a Public Service Commission function which says if there is too much competition you run the local person out, at then hear we can't afford to stay, and then we have none. There is a rationale for what the State does, but we have to be careful we don't end up with a worse scenario. Hornung added with the legislative solution being proposed one option is instead of the Public Service Commission determining if there's a public need, in certain class size cities it be deferred to the local municipality for them to declare a public need. Emery stated need and prosperity don't necessarily go together and if there's not someone who can provide, and make a living at, that's a problem. Hornung stated this existing framework allows us to still have a say to the extent they listen, and possibly gets us to the same solution.

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

LIBRARY BOARD

Carroll stated the Library Board vacancy was to be on this agenda, but now requesting we discuss today and have it listed in two weeks and will vote after at the City Council level.

Leach stated as Council knows you appoint Library Board members. The process has been when a vacancy exists the Library Board accepts public applications. We had the open period between November and December. The Library Board reviewed the twelve applications received and forwarded the names of three people who they recommend to Council. At your January 23rd Organizational Meeting believe this will come forward for your discussion and a choice of a new Library Board member. Each of the three people forwarded have qualifications in different ways. One detail to mention is although there is not a requirement of geographical representation, at this time we have one Library Board member living north of O Street. In the case of the three recommended people one lives near 27th and Superior. As often happens received a group of applications very deep in terms of people we believe would be strong, good serving members.

MAYOR'S ART ADVISORS GROUP

Johnson distributed an executive order on the formation of the Mayor's Art Advisors Group. He stated this is a parallel group to the private group of the Lincoln's Partners for Public Art Development. LPPAD is well organized, and has meetings, with subcommittees. The Development Committee is in process, as well as the Arts Selection Committee with recommendations on acquisition. The Master Plan Task Force is also working and would hope that within the 60 days the Master Plan comes before the City Council for review and approval. Landis is committee chair. The Mayor's Art Advisors Group is a technical group, and is staffed with City Council and Lincoln Arts Council representatives. This group will be working on art placement, maintaining the data base, and being responsible for the management, or maintenance, of the pieces.

Johnson stated they need a City Council representative to the Mayor's Art Advisors. Carroll nominated Schimek. After short discussion Schimek accepted.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR

Hoppe asked if Council wanted to discuss having a Council liaison for legislative matters? If not convenient at this time will address later.

V. MISCELLANEOUS - None

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

No additional comments.

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Carroll adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.