DIRECTORS’ ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Monday, August 5, 2019
555 S. 10TH STREET
BILL LUXFORD STUDIO

I.   MINUTES
1.   Approval of Directors’ minutes from July 22, 2019

II.  ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

III. CITY CLERK

IV.  MAYOR’S OFFICE

V.   DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

VI.  BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSION REPORTS
1.   ILC - Shobe, Christensen, Washington (07.29.19)
2.   DLA - Meginnis, Ward (07.23.19)
3.   PRT - Bowers (07.25.19)
4.   WHJPA - Ward (07.25.19)
5.   DEC - Ward (07.31.19)
6.   Tele-Communications - Washington (07.25.19)
7.   Justice Council - Raybould (08.02.19)

VII. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE
1.   Safe Storage Ordinance - April Jorgensen
2.   Safe Storage Ordinance - Mary Stillwell

VIII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS
See invitation list.

IX.  ADJOURNMENT
Council members,
I am writing to ask about the status of a safe storage ordinance. As a teacher, I am deeply concerned children and teens access to firearms as we try desperately to prevent school shootings, neighborhood violence and suicides. I respectfully request that you use your democratic majority to pass this legislation immediately.

April Jorgensen

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Lincoln City Council Members,

Over the weekend, I read the “Child Access to Firearms/Safe Storage” report from the Mayor’s Task Force. From the data provided, it seems more than reasonable to enact a Safe Storage Ordinance in the city of Lincoln. My grandson, Cristiano, will begin pre-school in LPS in just a few days, and it is imperative that the city take steps to keep him (and all citizens) safe. I also noticed in the report that children in school suffer from stress due to school shootings and even due to intruder drills. The city allocated millions of dollars to add more police in our schools—even though research tells us that additional police do not increase student safety and frequently fast-tracks children of color into the criminal justice system, and add another layer of stress to students and teachers alike.

Research and common sense, however, tell us that safe storage of firearms

prevent unintentional shooting deaths by (and of) children and others,

reduces the likelihood of suicide among children and adults,

keeps guns out of the hands of those suffering from PTSD, mental health issues,

as well as the aged suffering from dementia or depression, and

keeps guns out of the hands of criminals and out of the black market weapon exchanges.

I also read over the weekend that San Diego has joined other cities in enacting Safe Storage laws to protect their youth and older citizens and that NRA lawsuits to fight the ordinance has been dismissed. As far as I can see in the report and from additional reading, there is no good reason for NOT passing a Lincoln ordinance to protect our citizens, young and old. A partnership with local health professionals and other groups can offer assistance in promoting safe storage education. As you may know the American Academy of Pediatrics notes that the absence of guns from children’s homes and communities is the most reliable and effective measure to prevent firearm-related injuries and deaths in children and adolescents and call for the safe storage gun laws.

From what I’ve read in the *Lincoln Journal Star*, the Lincoln City Council has not yet rigorously addressed the findings of the Task Force. I urge you not to delay. Safe-storage can prevent many of the tragedies we read about in the paper.

Please do all you can to help Lincoln’s children thrive and move to enact a safe-storage ordinance today.

Thank you.

Mary K Stillwell, District 3