

MINUTES
DIRECTORS' MEETING
Monday, September 14, 2020

Present: Sändra Washington, Tammy Ward, Roy Christensen, Jane Raybould, and James Michael Bowers

Absent: Bennie Shobe, Richard Meginnis,

Others Present: Soulinnee Phan, City Clerk; Leirion Gaylor-Baird, Mayor; Yohance Christie, City Attorney; Lynn Johnson, Director, Parks and Recreation; Pat Lopez, Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department; and other City Staff present

Vice-Chair, James Michael Bowers opened the meeting at 2:01 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act

I. MINUTES

Minutes from August 24, 2020, approved and adopted.

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

Bowers advised the following Boards, Committee, and Commission Reports will be carried over to the September 21, 2020, Directors' Meeting due to absences; DLA, Safe & Successful Kids Inter-local, and MAC.

III. CITY CLERK

Under Consent Agenda – Item(s) 1.a. through 1.f. will be called separately. Item(s) 2.a. through 2.i. will be called together.

Under Public Hearing Resolutions – Item 5.b. will have a Motion to Amend No. 1 to accept a substitute Resolution.

Under Resolution 1st Reading – Item 8.e. will have a suspension of the rules to allow Public Hearing and Action today, September 14, 2020.

IV. MAYORS OFFICE

Mayor Gaylor-Baird thanked Council members for the Resolution today honoring Investigator Mario Herrera. She also thanked those Council members who were able to attend the funeral services.

A brief update on the Directed Health Measure (DHM) was provided. Gaylor-Baird advised the DHM has been extended and updated through the end of the month. There has been an increase in cases with students returning to the community. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) is working with the local institutions of higher education to manage the transition. There have been some technical challenges with Test Nebraska. Some of the higher numbers, of positive cases, that have been reported are due to a lag in receiving test results. It's important to reinforce safety measures; wash hands, watching your distance, and wearing masks.

A brief update regarding the Transitional Living was provided. Gaylor-Baird advised Council that the Planning department has been working diligently on getting public feedback on the proposed text amendment. In addition, feedback is also coming in from the Mayor's Roundtable participants and constituents from the Near South Neighborhood Association.

The Fire Chief search is underway; initial interviews will be conducted next week to narrow down the

MINUTES
DIRECTORS' MEETING
Monday, September 14, 2020

group of finalists. Once the final candidates have been selected more information on each candidate will be shared with Council members.

Gaylor-Baird shared a public health message regarding flu shots. It's important for everyone to make a point to get their flu shots; it's important to the community.

Discussion followed.

V. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Public Health Update provided by Pat Lopez, Interim Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD)

Lopez briefed Council on the latest guidance and concerns regarding COVID-19. Lopez reported the 7-day rolling average for daily cases in Lancaster County increased from 19 cases per day to 98 cases per day; which is a huge increase in the past four weeks. There are 442 positive cases associated with Universities and Colleges. Dailey communication with (UNL) continues. Work also continues with the nursing homes and long-term-care facilities. Centers for Medicaid-Medicare Service (CMS) is now requiring a different type of testing requirement; based off the positivity rate in the community CMS is requiring the amount of testing they must do. For example if the positivity rate in the community is over 10% then staff must be tested and potentially residence twice a week.

Last week the Vaccine Committee held its first meeting and discussed priority areas. They are expected to meet two more times then submit proposed recommendations.

The positivity rate is 13.2% this week; the increase in student population and testing that is occurring at the Nebraska Department of Corrections has added to the increase in the positivity rate.

There have also been changes to the current DHM to clarify language.

Discussion followed.

VI. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSION REPORTS

1. ILC – Christensen, Shobe, Washington (08.31.20)

Christensen reported on September 4th a walk about was done in the Railyard and around downtown to see how bars are operating. It was determined that some bars need to do better. There will be collaboration between the ILC and the bar owners to assist in following the DHM.

2. PAC – Shobe, Christensen, Bowers (08.25.20)

Christensen reported discussion was had the current Directive, handi-van services. At the last meeting there were some issues shared with the PAC; due to COVID-19 there is no possible way to give a solid recommendation pertaining to this Directive. Topics for the 2020/2021 Directive will be coming forth.

3. PRT – Bowers (08.27.20)

Bowers stated the PRT did not meet.

MINUTES
DIRECTORS' MEETING
Monday, September 14, 2020

4. BOH – Bowers (09.08.20)

Bowers reported the BOH passed a resolution recognizing that race, income, and zip code have a significant impact on health, acknowledges racism is a public health crisis, encourages the Health Department to include in any decision making people most affected by health and economic challenges, advocate for relevant policies that improve health in communities of color, and promote policy and system level changes within Lincoln and Lancaster County.

5. PBC – Meginnis, Raybould (09.08.20)

Raybould reported the Hall of Justice (HOJ) remodel project requested a one month extension due to a delay in receiving materials to complete the project. Todd Duncan presented a presentation on the Fallen Officer Memorial project.

6. RTSD – Christensen, Bowers, Raybould (09.08.20)

Christensen reported discussion was had on the BNSF contract that will go in effect in January, 2021. The trains are expected to be 1.5 mile in length and will travel 20 to 30 mph. It was also reported the railroad maintains the right-of-way and they are working with the community to restrict impact to the community for the best outcome possible when these trains start hauling coal along the route. There are federal safety guidelines in place that have to be followed and will be closely monitored.

7. Parks & Rec – Christensen (09.10.20)

Christensen reported the golf report indicated more rounds of golf were played that anticipated this year. A brief discussion was had on the proposal for a recycling center on South 27th street(s) and Porter Park; neighbors in this area have voiced concerns about noise, traffic, and light involved with the proposed recycling center. A vote was had and passed to give this back to LTU to come up with a resolution to minimize impact the community.

Discussion followed.

Vice-Chair, Bowers adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m.