AGENDA

DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
City Council Chambers
21630 11th Avenue S, Des Moines, Washington

June 2, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 1: Introduction of Guests:

- Senator Karen Keiser
- State Representative Tina Orwall
- State Representative Mia Gregerson
- State Representative Linda Kochmar
- State Representative Teri Hickel
- Port Commissioner Tom Albro

Item 2: Discussion of Challenges and Opportunities

Item 3: Discussion of Current Efforts to Address Challenges and Opportunities

Item 4: Discussion of Potential Ways to Partner to Address Challenges and Opportunities

NEXT MEETING DATE

June 9, 2016 City Council Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL-STUDY SESSION

Speaker Sign-Up Sheet

June 2, 2016

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ADDRESS	TOPIC	PHONE/E-MAIL ADDRESS
7:08 ✓ Don Carmignani	815 S 216th St	Wesley Gardens	206-870-4224 donnbev@msn.com
7:12 ✓ Betsy Sprager	26409 Marine View Dr.	Wesley Gardens	253-946-6877
7:14 ✓ Tom Sprager	26409 Marine View Dr.	Wesley Gardens	206-226-3336

MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN: LIFE IN A SOCIETY THAT VALUES PROFITS OVER PEOPLE

The greedy "Haves" ruthlessly devour what little the "Have Nots" have to fatten their own profits. The Big Fish devour the Little Fish, Survival goes to the strong, the Investors rule and government humbly bows to their clout. The Cloutless get clouted by the very government intended to protect them.

That's what happened at last Thursday's Des Moines City Council Meeting. Standing room only poor folk who can't speak English made impassioned pleas to preserve their trailer park communities, and I, the lone voice crying in the wilderness for the elderly residents of Wesley Gardens, urged the Des Moines City Council to reconsider the decision to allow profit-hungry Real Estate Developers to demolish our Beloved Old Folks' Home.

Crocodile tears preceded the "sympathetic" Council's conclusion that although the trailer community's plight is sad, there is nothing the Council can do about it—rules, you know. and theCouncil has no power over private property/business owners.

Really? The City Manager said that their agency is charged with making and enforcing the rules. This being true, the city does indeed wield immense power over private property/business owners--if the city council chooses to use it. Restaurants, for instance, are privately owned but they are bound by health and building codes, and they do business only if the city issues them a permit to do so. No smoking regulations, limits on occupancy, availability of alcohol, and a host of other regulations can be and are imposed on private business, all depending on the integrity of government regulators.

So why does the Des Moines City Council claim they are powerless to protect the vulnerable? Because they are vulnerable: The poor don't have dollars and without dollars, they have no clout. The elderly have no clout because of their diminished physical and mental capacity. Vulnerable Elderly unprotected by government are at the mercy of profit vultures who swoop down to pick their bones clean of property and financial resources accumulated over a lifetime.

That's life in a society that values Profits over People. Kind of like a jungle, isn't it? Very Darwinian. Not a pleasant life for the "Have Nots" at the mercy of the greedy "Haves."

DON CARMIGNANI, 815 S 216TH ST, DM, WA (From his FB post in "Take Back Des Moines")