

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

May 21, 1999

The special meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomasson at 7:05 p.m. at Port Ludlow Conference Center, 200 Olympic Place, Port Ludlow, Washington.

ROLL CALL – Present: Mayor Scott Thomasson, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Brazil, Councilmembers Dave Kaplan, Dan Sherman, Bob Sheckler, Gary Towe, and Don Wasson. Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, City Attorney Gary McLean, Harbormaster Joe Dusenbury, Public Works Director Tim Heydon, Community Development Director Judith Kilgore, Chief of Police Don Obermiller, Finance Director Scott McCarty, Park and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell, and Deputy City Clerk Angela Chaufy. Facilitator: Nancy Truitt Pierce.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Retreat Goals

Upon questioning, Council and staff identified the following goals for the retreat:

- Identify and acknowledge accomplishments.
- Review and reinforce direction of Council.
- Insure objectives of the departments match the objectives of Council.
- Identify issues on a city level rather than just a departmental level.
- Discuss current and potential economic issues facing the City.
- Plan future direction of the City.
- Communicate.
- Develop a vision for Pacific Ridge.
- Update Council's strategic objectives.
- Improve communication and interaction between staff and Council.
- Identify the actions needed to fulfill the vision.
- Regroup as a team.

Review of Mission, Vision, Values, and Imperatives

Facilitator Truitt Pierce reviewed the following vision, mission statement, values, and imperatives developed previously by Council:

Vision

A friendly and safe waterland community.

Mission Statement

To enrich residential living by providing leadership, administration, and community services that reflect the pride and values of Des Moines.

Values

Professionalism, Resourcefulness, Integrity, Dedication, Excellence

Imperatives

Community Oriented Government/Community First – We commit to responsive and accessible government, respect for the diverse opinions and populations that enrich our community, fostering partnerships that maximize our resources, involving our citizens and enhancing our community.

Stewardship – We commit to managing and protecting our natural and urban environment in order to enhance the quality of residential life for the future.

Fiscal Responsibility – We commit to comprehensive financial planning that provides for adequate cash reserves, recapitalization, maintained infrastructure, quality spending, and minimizing debt while living primarily on a residential tax base.

Protect Life and Property – We commit to ensuring personal and community safety and security and protecting property.

We commit to respect and support the state and federal constitutions, promote personal and community responsibility, and fair and honest government.

Council confirmed their commitment to the statements.

Review of Accomplishments – Strategic Objectives Nos. 1 - 8

Through discussion, Council and staff identified the following accomplishments for Strategic Objectives Nos. 1 – 8.

1. Continue the legal and political efforts to keep the third runway from being built and minimize adverse airport impacts on Des Moines such as on going operations, expansion, support facilities development, environmental impacts and truck and passenger car traffic.
 - Unanimous decision to not allow a conveyor system through the city.
 - Maury Island dirt is still in place.
 - Port of Seattle withdrew their wetlands permit.
 - Construction of the third runway continues to be delayed through various means.
 - ACC continues in uncertain environment;.
 - ACC alliance maintained during divisive times;.
 - Leadership provided for the ACC.
 - SR 509 South Access Agreement with the Port of Seattle obtained.
 - Councilmember Sheckler serves as Chair of ACC.
 - DOE and Corps of Engineers gave strong support for our Basin Plan.
 - Highline Water District objected to water diversion.
 - City influenced the establishment of Highline Aquifer and Maury Island studies funded by the state legislature.
 - Salmon listed as endangered species.
2. Provide and maintain an effective local and regional transportation infrastructure.

- Review and update the Transportation Comprehensive Plan including regional integration.
 - Build Highway 99 infrastructure.
 - Define a preferred plan for SR 509 including 16th Ave. South arterial.
 - Metro Bus Route 189 established.
 - SR509 Extension progress – Route apparently finalized, South Access Road intact, and funding approved.
 - SR509 legislative funding secured for the transportation budget.
 - Preliminary design for Pacific Highway South performed.
 - Most of funding for Pacific Highway South Project secured.
 - Traffic calming measures installed.
 - Various slide areas repaired.
 - 7th Avenue South LID and 4th Place South LID completed.
 - Marine View Drive Bridge design nearly completed and fully permitted.
 - Des Moines Creek Trail Phase I completed.
 - City of SeaTac agreed to install turn lane at South 200th Street/ Des Moines Memorial Drive.
 - Volunteer based Senior Center shuttle program expansion funded by King County.
 - Transportation Plan started.
 - Several paving and overlay projects completed.
3. Expand citizen participation in city government. Promote:
- Participation of diverse population and opinions.
 - A sense of cohesive community identity and responsibilities, while fostering the character of individual neighborhoods.
 - Positive opportunities for citizen participation in decision-making.
 - Zoning and Comprehensive Plan review provided an opportunity to meet condominium owners and citizens in City.
 - City Currents newsletter distribution increased to once every two months.
 - Number of neighborhood meetings increased to one meeting per month; Each neighborhood area is now visited once every 18 months.
 - Citizen committees and boards continued.
 - New City telephone information system established.
 - Council meeting on Channel 28 expanded to six viewings per week.
 - Traffic calming program established.
 - Annexation of Redondo and Woodmont continues to generate good citizen approval.
 - Increased number of citizens are bringing issues before Council.
 - Des Moines University program continues.
 - Community First initiatives, Marina Kiosk, Annual Financial Reports, Pacific Highway South community meetings, and Domestic Violence programs continue.
 - Considerable public input regarding the conveyor belt issue received.
 - Usefulness of the City's Web Page increased.

- Compliments regarding staff's efforts received from citizens.
 - Community policing efforts continued.
 - The Municipal Court jury pools diversified and expanded.
4. Increase and develop facilities for active recreation.
- Continue to develop city-school joint use and field improvements including Community College linkages.
 - Continue property acquisition and long-range development for sports fields.
 - Connect recreation facilities (trails).
 - Provide bike and walking routes.
 - Explore and develop marine recreational opportunities.
- Des Moines Creek Trail dedicated.
 - 18th Avenue South neighborhood connector trail established.
 - Midway and Olympic Elementary School field improvements designed.
 - Westwood Park developed.
 - Water Tower Park construction to be completed this summer.
 - Ten acres of open space for sports park purchased.
 - Community/Senior Center land acquired.
 - Funding for five more acres of open space land secured.
 - State and IAC funding for fire suppression system for the Field House is in the process of being approved.
 - Boat launch area in Marina improved.
 - Basketball hoop installed at Zenith Park.
 - Play area constructed at Des Moines Beach Park in partnership with the Rotary Club.
 - Wootton Park improvements completed in partnership with Redondo Community Club.
 - Partnership for basketball events formed with Highline Community College.
 - Soccer field at Pacific Middle School improved by Des Moines/Midway Soccer Club with the assistance of the city.
 - Field House ballfields improved and lighting replaced.
 - Skateboard Park continues to be well used.
 - Field House tennis courts resurfaced.
 - Design for Marine View Drive Bridge completed and funding is nearly completed.
 - Teen and youth sports activities increased.
5. Improve and expand community facilities including Community/Senior Center and Marina.
- The vote for the Community/Senior Center received 54% favorable votes.
 - Community/Senior Center committee did a good job of educating the community prior to the vote.
 - 6.2 Acres of land for the Community/Senior Center were purchased.
 - City Hall expansion was completed.
 - New gas fueling system was installed at the Public Works/Park Facility.

- Improvements to Overlook Park 1 were completed.
 - Pump out facilities at the Marina were expanded.
 - New key system was installed at the Marina.
 - Marina Master Plan is progressing as scheduled.
 - Marina fuel tanks were replaced.
 - Public input regarding proposed marina improvements was received.
6. Maintain the peace and security of the community by aggressively deterring criminal activity through community based policing, urban design and effective prosecution and court systems.
- Reduced staff maintained all existing programs.
 - Pacific Ridge improved by the formation of a block watch in the trailer park; the participation of several apartment managers in the Apartment Managers Program, and the policing support received from the owners of Emerald Villa Apartments.
 - Abatements processed at the north end of Pacific Ridge.
 - Terrace Apartments were cleaned up.
 - Apartment Managers Program was expanded.
 - Thirty active block watches are operating within the city.
 - Highline School District is assisting with the domestic terrorism program.
 - OSC law enforcement training program has been established.
 - Domestic violence programs continue; accountability rate is one of the highest in the county.
 - Municipal court upgraded.
 - Code enforcement regulations and procedures tightened.
 - Police facility is open 24 hours a day.
 - The DARE program was revitalized.
 - SCOPE program has been established at the High School.
 - Citizens Academy was conducted.
 - Police and Legal departments are working closely with CPS.
 - Legal and Law Enforcement personnel are working as a unified team.
7. Continue fiscal strength by initiating long range fiscal and economic planning.
- A Budget Accountant position was created and filled.
 - Budget responsibility and accountability was set at the department level.
 - Past accounting errors were corrected so as to identify an accurate base to forecast financial projections.
 - Methods for tracking construction accounts were improved.
 - Methods for tracking multi-year projects were established.
 - Grants and third party funding continue to be aggressively pursued.
 - New Finance Director was hired.
 - Finance department is looking long-term and adding to the reserve funds.
8. Update and rewrite zoning and other land use implementation codes.

- Digital zoning map has been completed as well as the supporting documentation.
- Textual Code development is now resulting in construction projects.
- Pacific Ridge vision is moving into reality.
- New subdivision (37 single-family homes) of Westwood is being constructed.
- Condominium market is picking up.
- New businesses are being established on Marine View Drive South.
- The character of the City has been maintained.
- Code enforcement efforts have positively impacted the City.

Facilitator Truitt Pierce noted that accomplishments relating to Strategic Objectives Nos. 9 through 12 would be discussed at a later meeting.

Values Exercise

Facilitator Truitt Pierce asked that Council and staff identify their various reasons for serving the City of Des Moines. The following responses were given:

Council

Ensure fair treatment by the City to its citizens.
Do a better job than past councils.
Care about people.
Improve quality of life.
Desire to build an area that people enjoy.
Serve and help people.
Desire to see specific issues addressed and projects accomplished.
Make a difference.
Serve community.
Use skills and knowledge to improve quality of life of the community.
Ensure better stewardship of our resources.

Staff

Have a favorable impact upon others and their quality of life.
Provides a sense of service, purpose, and satisfaction.
Provides a variety of challenging duties.
Live in the community and care about its citizens.
Make a difference.
Be a role model.
Provides an opportunity to serve others.
Provides an opportunity for citizen interaction.
Provides an opportunity to be involved in the community.
Provides an opportunity to be a responsible citizen.
Preserve and protect natural resources.
Provides an opportunity to make the City better, safer and more livable for future generations.

Team Process Review

Facilitator Truitt Pierce asked all participants to complete a team process review questionnaire. Results would be reviewed at a later meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Chaufty
Deputy City Clerk