

**CITY OF BURNSVILLE
SPECIAL WORKSESSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2007**

The City Council of the City of Burnsville met for a Special Worksession at the Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville, Minnesota on the 27th day of February, 2007.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Mayor Kautz.

Council Present: *C. Crichton, D. Gustafson, E. Kautz, D. Kealey, L. Workman*
Council Absent: *None*
Staff Present: *C. Ebeling, T. Omdal, M. Brooks, T. Hansen, B. Dalrymple, J. Faulkner
J. Dorshak, J. Rasmussen, J. Ryan, K. Hansen, M. Lockman, M. Brokl*
Others Present: *H. Voohees, S. Wahman, S. Stickland, V. Loher, N. Linden, L. Nachman*

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

ITEM 1. NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

The Council discussed issues with neighborhood identification, the need for neighborhood coordinators, and the tools that staff has used to educate residents on neighborhood options:

- Neighborhood Tool Kit
- Welcome Kit for new residents
- Burnsville Bulletin

Council discussed focusing on neighborhoods that may need updating but cannot afford it and complications with past attempts for neighborhood revitalization.

Tom Hansen, Deputy City Manager, reviewed the Neighborhood Measurables and draft ideas with the Council.

- **Truth in Housing Program**
 - Explored before but not supported by Council.
 - Try to use current maintenance code instead.
 - Private inspectors versus city inspectors.
 - Issues should be addressed with Federal disclosure laws.
 - Comparing St Louis Park's property maintenance inspection policy.
 - Council consensus was not supportive.
- **Senior Home Maintenance Assistance Program**
 - Include more than just seniors – disabled, etc.
 - Council directed staff to research and report back.
- **City-Wide Clean Up Day**
 - Popular but expensive program
 - Develop alternatives: City may help negotiate the cost of a dumpster for a neighborhood.
 - Council directed staff to research and report back
 - Add question of interest to the Residential Survey
- **City Sponsored Rehab program**
 - Possible issues with homes that could not be remodeled.
 - Extensive, costly requirements – must itemize everything.
 - Council directed staff to research other metro cities and report back

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ITEM 1. NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION (continued)

- **Neighborhood Revitalization Pilot Project**
 - Could use staff approach.
 - Prioritization issues – possibly use Windshield Screen with Weed and Seed criteria.
 - Make a difference one neighborhood at a time.
 - Educate people on financial tools.
 - Council directed staff to research and report back
- **Extreme Neighborhood Makeover**
 - Similar to Pilot Project but would be competitive.
 - Possibly a home remodeling contest (like the Garden & Landscape contest)
 - Council directed staff to research and report back.
- **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**
 - Uses a virtual neighborhood
 - I-Neighbors
 - Council directed staff to research and report back.
- **Establish an HRA**
 - HRA duties are handled by Dakota County
 - Council consensus was not supportive.
- **Education ideas proposed by staff**
 - New Resident Seminars
 - Top 10 Code Violation Communication Pieces
 - Targeted communications to diverse populations
 - Virtual Neighborhoods Organizations
 - Home Resource Center
 - Townhome Management Program
 - Council consensus was supportive – Just do it!

ITEM 2. HEALTHY CITIES INITIATIVE

Tom Hansen, Deputy City Manager, reported on current healthy city initiatives (Be Fit Burnsville) and reviewed the draft Ends and Outcomes and sample measurements to establish a community-wide focus on making Burnsville the healthiest city in the country

Council discussed additional language to include the environment, such as green buildings and sustainability concepts, and neighborhoods. Council consensus that the End Statement language be:

End Statement: People find Burnsville to be a Community of Healthy Lifestyles, Neighborhoods, and Environment

Sarah Strickland, Interim Director for the National Institute on Media and the Family, has offered her organization's extensive experience in creating healthier youth to the City's idea of creating a healthier community. Ms. Strickland reported on the SWITCH program currently underway at Sioux Trails and Echo Park Elementary. The program designed for families to be engaged with their children by making changes in behaviors to create healthier lifestyles. Ms. Strickland provided examples of support to the City's Healthy Cities initiative and possible sample measurements. Council discussed the option of the catch phrase "Burnsville – A Switch City". Consensus to gather additional research for a future discussion.

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ITEM 2. HEALTHY CITIES INITIATIVE (continued)

Council reviewed the proposed outcomes:

Outcomes:

1. Citizens, including youth, participate in a wide variety of physical activities.
2. The City's active participation with local schools results in healthier children.
3. The City's regulatory codes support healthy environments.
4. The City's partnerships with the health community and businesses results in healthier nutrition opportunities for all or our citizens.
5. A coordinated media plan effectively promotes community wide involvement in health building activities.

Council consensus to place the proposed outcomes on the next agenda for approval.

ITEM 3. COMMUNITY EVENTS POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Bridget Dalrymple, Special Projects Coordinator, presented comparison information on Community Events policies for neighboring metro.

Council discussed the following policy issues:

- Which, if any, of the current Community Events should be grandfathered in or given "civic event" status.
- Council wanted to approve all new events that needed to be considered for city service support
- City sponsorship should consist only of city services.
- Application fees (set fee) versus scale (percentage) of support.
- Criteria for determination of which events will be Community Events.
- Policy should address if the event adds additional days.
- Criteria should consider whether the organizer is a non-profit organizer and whether the event allows for other benevolent or non-profit organizations to participate in the event.
- Recognize that the International Festival was a city initiative and differentiate future events if they are initiated by the City.

Council consensus to bring back a policy for further consideration that has defined criteria for what is a Community Event, addresses number of days, non-profit status and involvement with benevolent/non-profit organizations, and grandfathers in the four current Community Events at 2006 levels of support: Fire Muster, Art & All That Jazz Festival, Tender Hearts Half Marathon, and the International Festival.

ITEM 4. ROUNDTABLE

➤ **Discussion on Open Meeting Law**

Matt Brokl, City Attorney, reviewed the Open Meeting Law and its restrictions on electronic communication. Council agreed that the best forum to build consensus is to bring issues to roundtable at a public meeting.

➤ **Discussion on Performing Arts Center (PAC) Worksessions.**

Council did not support regularly scheduled Worksessions and directed staff to schedule as needed for special Worksessions to review the proposed Performing Arts Center and proposed to come in early before regular Worksessions or Governance when necessary.

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Macheal Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Burnsville this 5th day of March, 2007.

Elizabeth B. Kautz, Mayor