

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL INFORMAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 13, 2003
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Council President), Susan McLain, Brian Newman, Carl Hosticka, Rod Park, Rex Burkholder

Councilors Absent: Rod Monroe (excused)

Council President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Informal Meeting at 2:04 p.m.

1. SALEM LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, provided an overview of legislation being considered at the State. He said the self-insurance bill was up for third reading. If it passed the House it will go to the governor's office. Casey Short, Chief Financial Officer, had asked Mr. Cooper about the fiscal impact of Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) legislation and the impact on Metro employees. Metro continued to deal with issues such as sub-regional, allowing counties development in rural areas, and periodic review. Councilor Newman asked about the Interim Task Force bill. Mr. Cooper said that bill was going forward and explained what the task force might consider in the next year. Councilor Park asked how many jurisdictions would have to do periodic review. Richard Benner, Senior Assistant Attorney, responded, all of them. Mr. Cooper explained further the specifics of the bill. Councilor Park suggested quantifying the number. Mr. Cooper said there was discussion about funding being the real problem.

2. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, MAY 15, 2003.

Council President Bragdon reviewed the upcoming Council agenda. Councilor McLain raised an issue concerning Ordinance No. 03-992. Councilor Burkholder asked about Resolution No. 03-3332. Why was the contract being extended with Tualatin Basin Coordinating Committee? Councilor Hosticka said this change in the agreement was to change the dates because Metro's work was going slower than expected. The Coordinating Committee must complete their work before Metro can move forward. He explained further the timeline and the work plan. Councilor McLain said she felt thus far they had done a good job. She noted it was costing them more money by changing those dates.

4. METRO/PORT OF PORTLAND LAND SWAP

Elaine Stewart and Jim Desmond, Parks and Greenspaces Department, and Alison Kean Campbell, Senior Assistant Attorney presented information on the land swap. Mr. Desmond talked about the exchange of land. They were ready to sign a memorandum of agreement. He briefed the Council on the transaction. He talked about future steps. Mr. Desmond reviewed a draft staff report (a copy of which is found in the meeting record), which detailed the specifics of the land swap. He provided maps of the area. He said the parcel that Metro would be receiving was a bit more valuable than the piece that the Port would receive but Metro would not have to pay the additional amount. The Port had agreed to contribute \$10,000 to the project as well. Both pieces would have restrictions as to the use of the property. Both pieces of property had values of about \$400,000. Council President Bragdon acknowledged their good work. Councilor Burkholder expressed concern about parking shortages at Expo. Ms. Kean Campbell explained

that this property was mitigated wetlands and could not be used for parking. Mr. Desmond thanked Mark Williams, Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission manager, for his efforts in making this deal occur. Councilor McLain asked about design contributions. Ms. Kean Campbell said the contribution from the Port helped equate the values of the parcels. Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Officer, asked about the need for Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), acknowledgement. Ms. Kean Campbell responded that it was not necessary.

3. TITLE 7 AMENDMENT

Gerry Uba and Chris Deffebach, Planning Department, spoke to Affordable Housing and Ordinance No. 03-1005 (a copy of which is included in the meeting record). Mr. Uba updated the Council on jurisdictional reporting. A total of fourteen jurisdictions had submitted their first year reports. It was now necessary to respond to the jurisdictions. They must do this in a way that was not contrary. He spoke to compliance on affordable housing. They were now amending the Functional Plan to include the specifics of affordable housing (see page 2 of Exhibit A of Ordinance No. 03-1005). He talked about the requirements that jurisdictions must meet. He shared the recommended changes in Exhibit A of the ordinance. They were also recommending an Ad hoc committee to review local jurisdiction reports. Councilor Park asked about the composition of the Ad hoc group. Mr. Uba suggested a similar composition to Housing Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC). Councilor Park asked Mr. Benner about housing needs analysis. Mr. Benner said they were two separate issues.

Councilor Newman asked about the evaluation of progress. What tools and strategies counted? Mr. Uba detailed some of the strategies that counted and the acknowledgement to the jurisdictions. Councilor Newman asked about levels of affordable housing. Mr. Uba said HTAC had used the federal definition of affordable housing. He explained further the details of that definition. HTAC estimated how many affordable houses were in the region for different income groups. He further detailed the specifics of identifying affordable housing in the region. They would need local governments help in estimating affordable housing. They had suggested moving the deadlines to the end of the fiscal year. It would help both Metro and the local jurisdictions. They had made the presentation to Metropolitan Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC). MPAC should be providing their recommendation this month. They would also be presenting at Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC). The ordinance would be considered at Council on June 26, 2003. Councilor Burkholder asked if they would be getting any more compliance reports by June 30th. Mr. Jordan shared what the changes would be for Metro and local jurisdictions. He asked about the Ad hoc committee. What was the vision of how this group fits within the process? Mr. Uba suggested the group should be advising the Metro Council. Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Officer, said it was a difficult political issue. Councilor McLain acknowledged Mr. Uba's efforts. She felt we had been respectful of our partners. Councilor Burkholder said they had met with the affordable housing group of Coalition for a Livable Future. Mr. Uba added that he had attended a meeting where they talked about funding for affordable housing. They would also be sending information out to HTAC members that were not part of MPAC or MTAC.

5. GREEN RIBBON UPDATE

Council President Bragdon reported on the Minnesota trip concerning regional parks and a regional system. The Twin Cities area was the only part of the country that had a metropolitan government. He noted nine points (a copy of which is found in the meeting record) that he had learned about the Twin Cities Principles. He talked about the differences and similarities in structure. He spoke to investment targets. A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that flowed through their Metro Council guided it all.

Ron Klein, Parks and Greenspaces Department, provided a power point presentation on the Twin Cities system (a copy of which is found in the meeting record). Mr. Desmond spoke to the parks map. Their regional system was very coordinated. Total protected area was about 100,000 acres. Councilor Newman said he was very impressed with what they had seen. He learned what a difference it made to have a sustained long-term flexible fund. Their system seemed much more developed with a focus on recreation and people. Councilor Hosticka spoke to some of what he had learned concerning utilization data. It was useful in funding and lobbying. There wasn't an explicit habitat agenda. The continuous funding authorization process was a benefit to the parks system. Goals needed to be linked. It had reduced disparities between the jurisdictions. It had succeeded in helping to capture the benefits of revenue sharing. He felt the trip was very fruitful. Councilor Park asked about the regional park system versus their local park system. Mr. Desmond said they treated their neighborhood parks completely separately. Their data was what drove the regional or local consideration. Mr. Desmond said their habitat values were not at the levels that ours were. They were seeing more of the capital improvements. They were much more geared towards people and usage. They liked to get their visitor numbers up. They really tracked their visitor numbers. This was something that Metro could do better. Mr. Jordan asked about the structure. Did it drive an entrepreneurial focus at the local level? Mr. Jordan spoke to a similar system, the library system, in Clackamas County. Councilor Hosticka talked about the sharing between jurisdictions. Councilor McLain asked about inventory of what they have versus what we have. She suggested talking about farming uses, on-the-ground trails, as far as how many more trails they had gotten and how they were doing on money for everything else. Council President Bragdon said they had a 4 billion dollar shortage.

Council President Bragdon said they had a lot to evaluate. He suggested reconvening a Green Ribbon group. Councilor McLain said they needed to talk about a direction. She supported parks. She had questions on timing and funding issues. Council President Bragdon said they talked about their regional competitiveness. The only way they would attract companies was a good education system and the quality of life.

Mr. Jordan talked about going out in the market to issue bonds. They got very good rates on the bonds. He spoke to savings on the reissuing. The bad news was that Moody downgraded their bond rating to A1 to A3 primarily because of the bond covenant. Mike Hoglund, Solid Waste and Recycling Director, said they should be able to have an improved rating by next year.

He spoke to the Council and Chief Operating Officer retreat on May 22nd. He spoke to his goals for the retreat. He said he had a list of items. He had organizational questions. He wanted to lie out a schedule of continued retreats and meetings. He spoke to his desire to have a business plan. He supported full attendance. He planned to have a facilitator and explained why.

6. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

There were none.

7. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilor Newman said this Friday in the annex there was a kick off for the Centers Committee. He welcomed attendance. Councilor Park asked about the work plan. Councilor Newman said he would provide that information. The essential elements of the work plan had not changed.

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Councilor Burkholder said there would be a special JPACT meeting this Thursday at 7:15 a.m. to talk about the three options. They would have two TPAC meetings on Friday to discuss these options.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

Prepared by

Chris Billington
Clerk of the Council

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 13, 2003

Item	Topic	Doc Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
2	Council Agenda	5/15/03	Metro Council Agenda for May 15, 2003	051303ci-01
4	Draft Staff Report	5/6/03	To: Metro Council From: Jim Desmond, Director Parks and Greenspaces Re: Draft staff report concerning Authorizing the COO to enter into and execute an agreement to purchase and sale with the Port of Portland for a non-cash exchange of property	051303ci-02
4	Map	1/6/03	To: Metro Council From: Jim Desmond, Director Parks and Greenspaces Re: Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area – Project Map	051303ci-03
4	Vicinity Map	No date	To: Metro Council From: Jim Desmond Director Parks and Greenspaces Re: Expo Parcel Vicinity Map	051303ci-04
2	Email	5/13/03	To: Casey Short, CFO From: Moodys' Investor Service Re: Solid Waste Revenue Bonds downgrade to A3	051303ci-05
3	Ordinance No. 03-1005	4/8/03	To: Metro Council From: Geri Uba, Planning Department Re: Ordinance No. 03-1005, Amending Title 7 of the Urban Growth Management Functional Plan to Clarify and Revise City and County Responsibilities	051303ci-06
3	Compliance Report	5/14/03	To: Metro Council From: Geri Uba, Planning Department Re: Local Governments that submitted Title 7 (Affordable Housing) Compliance Report	051303ci-07
5	Principles	5/8/03	To: Metro Council From: David Bragdon Council President Re: Twin Cities Principles concerning Parks system	051303ci-08
5	Meeting & Tour Schedule	5/8/03	To: Metro Council From: David Bragdon Council President Re: Meeting and Tour Schedule for Twin Cities Region	051303ci-09
5	Power Point Presentation	5/13/03	To: Metro Council From: Jim Desmond, Director Parks and Greenspaces Re: Power Point Presentation on Twin Cities park system tour	051303ci-10