

MEETING REPORT

DATE: February 17, 1981

GROUP/SUBJECT: Council Coordinating Committee

PERSONS ATTENDING: Couns. Deines, Rhodes, Bonner, Burton, Banzer, Schedeen, Etlinger

Staff: Denton Kent, Charlie Shell, Andy Jordan, Mike Holstun, McKay Rich, Isaac Regenstreif, Merle Irvine, Steve Ames, Wayne Coppel, Norm Wietting, Caryl Waters

Others: Paul Higgins, Roger Vangelder, Pete Viviano, Tim Viviano, interested citizens

SUMMARY:

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the meetings of January 19 and January 29, 1981 were approved as circulated.

SALARY COMMISSION

Mr. Shell explained that State law requires the appointment of a Salary Commission to recommend a salary rate for the Executive Officer. The following persons were being suggested to serve on the Salary Commission: Beth Blunt, Roger Pringle, Loren Wyss, Jack Nelson, and Coun. Deines. Following discussion, the Committee agreed to recommend Council adoption of the Resolution appointing those persons to the Salary Commission, noting that Coun. Deines should be identified as Councilor rather than Councilman.

AWARD OF BEAVER/OTTER CONTRACT

Mr. Rich outlined the background of this project, which is part of the Cascades Exhibit, and explained that the bid of \$919,231 by Berge Brothers Enterprises, Inc. was the lowest bid received. The Committee agreed to recommend that Council approve award of the contract as proposed.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN WASHINGTON PARK ZOO AND BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Mr. Rich reported that the Boy Scouts has asked to hold their Scout Capades at the zoo on April 25 and outlined the terms of the proposal. The Committee agreed to recommend that Council approve the request.

REVIEW OF JOHNSON CREEK LITIGATION

Mr. Jordan noted that there was nothing to add to his previous report, remarking that it was not known whether the court decision would be appealed.

DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE OPERATIONS

Coun. Burton reviewed past practice with regard to Council Committee organization and functions, and summarized Res. 80-128 which established the present Committee system.

Discussion focused on the following concerns and suggestions:

- 1) It was suggested that the Coordinating Committee give more attention to the services provided by Executive Management (i.e., public involvement, public information, personnel), providing a more direct vehicle for Council support and involvement in policy decisions in areas which are administrative in nature.
- 2) Some value was seen in the Coordinating Committee serving as a mechanism for expediting matters falling under the jurisdiction of other Council Committees.
- 3) Since the Coordinating Committee is responsible for the budget and the budget is a policy setting device, attention should be given to coordinating budget development with established plans and programs for the future.
- 4) In general, more matters should be handled through the Council Committees rather than the full Council.
- 5) Mention was made of the possibility of the Council having its own staff, under the direct supervision of either the Coordinating Committee or the Presiding Officer.

The agenda process was also discussed, with particular attention to how items are put on agendas, who should set agendas, and the time flow of the agenda process. Emergency items or "pink sheets" were seen as particularly disruptive of the normal work procedures of the Council.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Regenstreif distributed a memorandum dealing with the legislative program, discussing each item in turn, reporting on their status in the Legislature, and responding to questions.

The Committee discussed various aspects of Councilors testifying before the Legislature, emphasizing that individuals testifying should make clear whether they are representing Metro or their own private convictions.

SE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Coun. Banzer summarized the recent Regional Services Committee discussion of the options under investigation for this program.

Mr. Irvine described a proposal from Sunflower Recycling for upgrading their operations, and expanded on the alternatives under consideration.

Committee discussion revealed interest in supporting the haulers in their recycling efforts. There was some agreement that present priorities should be to assist those recycling services presently operating in the area, and to promote the PRT monthly projects. Staff was asked to further refine the options presented, and to prepare a more complete analysis of existing services and how they could be improved. Further discussion would take place at the Regional Services Committee.

REVISION OF METRO BROCHURE

Ms. Waters distributed copies of the brochure which had been mailed out to individual districts some months ago, noting that it had become outdated by election of new Councilors in two districts and asking the Committee whether it should be reprinted or salvaged in some way.

The Committee noted that the brochure also contained outdated information on Metro activities and suggested that it be revised to convey more general information which would not lose its applicability and accuracy so rapidly. Staff was requested to prepare a new draft, to be reviewed by Couns. Schedeen and Banzer prior to printing.

CITIZENS BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Committee discussed the question of whether it would be feasible or desirable to appoint a citizens budget committee at this late stage of the budget process. It was suggested that input could be obtained by doing a budget preview for local officials and others prior to the Executive Officer's recommendation. The Committee was reminded that there had been a conscious decision not to have a citizens' committee as the Coordinating Committee would be serving as the budget committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Written by Cynthia Wichmann