

**Pleasant Grove City Council
Special Meeting Minutes
Visioning Workshop
February 2, 2008
9:00 a.m.**

PRESENT:

Mayor: Mike Daniels

City Council Members:

Cindy Boyd

Darold McDade

Mark Atwood

Bruce Call

Lee Jensen

Others:

Frank Mills, City Administrator

The City Council and staff met at the Mayor Daniels' office in City Hall at 70 South 100 East, Pleasant Grove, Utah.

Mayor Daniels welcomed everyone and then called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

1. FUTURE GOALS AND VISION PLANNING DISCUSSION.

Mayor Daniels opened the meeting by starting off with an inspirational video.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Daniels called roll for the Council. Council Members Wilson, Atwood, Call, Boyd and Jensen were all in attendance.

The Mayor said the theme for the session was, "What legacy will you leave behind?" He then handed out different colored markers and sticky notes to each member of the Council. He said that today, February 2, 2008, would be a beginning. He said he felt that if the work begins now on plans for the future, it will be far enough along that a legacy from this Council will be on its way.

A session of brainstorming was now to start for the goals for the City for the next 18 to 22 months. He said not to worry if the goals were realistic, or even financially viable, but to just put down those goals, then the steps would come along as to how to accomplish those goals. He asked that the Council write down their concept in a few shorthand notes that would capture the concept. Also, he explained that there was really no limit as to how many goals they could list.

The Mayor told the Council that City Administrator Mills would next list the many different projects that had been suggested by the Directors. After Administrator Mills

went through his list, the Mayor explained that the Council would participate in another exercise.

Administrator Mills then went through his list. He explained that he had asked the Directors to look forward for the next 18 months and bring a list of projects that need to be started and finished in their departments.

His first list was regarding transportation. These included the East-West Corridor, 100 East/Geneva Road Connection, the railroad bridge/Wil's Park detour, 2000 West, road bonding, realignment of Center St, 600 West roundabouts and the update of the Street Master Plan.

Land Purchases were next on his list. This had listed the road right-of-way, storm drain basins, buildings (including an arts center, library, city center and fire station), storm drain bonding, cemetery land and the Old Manila Church.

Next, he listed the water issues. These were the CUWCD Well, Manila Water, Pleasant Grove Irrigation Company and Water Master Plan Projects.

Legal issues were the next list. These included an H.R. person; expand hours, extra court day, more space for the court and insurance training. Also, drug tests and the update of the business license ordinance.

Only one item was listed for equipment. That was a new ladder truck for the fire department.

In the General category, he had listed auxiliary power, city entrance signs, new irrigation system at the cemetery, place first log cabin, a roof on City Hall and the Police Department, moving the Children's Library to the basement of the library, questions on what to do with the Beck Home, the operation of the Senior Citizens, organization charts for each department and the Justice Court.

Administrator Mills explained many of these that were listed as to what the current status was on that item.

Next, Mayor Daniels gave each of the Council Members a sticky-note pad and a pen. He said that he needed them to now start writing what they felt was in one of three categories of importance; A-Vital, B-Important and C-Would be nice to have.

While thinking, he said he would like to play a video for the Council. He then showed a video of Michael Jordan and how he was a part of a team that made things work. When Mr. Jordan retired, his team, the Chicago Bulls, could no longer win games. He said this was because they were not a true team, but were dependent upon Mr. Jordan's exceptional skills.

Mayor Daniels then asked the Council to focus on their goals and think about the input Administrator Mills had just given, as well as the list he had provided. He asked that they write 1, 2 or 3 in the list of the priorities on the sticky note. The notes would reflect where the Council Members would like to see the most amount of energy spent.

Council Member Boyd said that she could see that some of the items would be very important due to timing.

Council Member Call noted that all three of his items were setting a stage, so to speak, for longer term items. He said he didn't see their completion within the next 18 months. He said his number one item was a new fire station—if possible, in 2 locations. Next, he said he would like to see the portals into the City branded and prioritized according to which ones were the busiest. He indicated that his last item was a new civic center. He said it might not be built for years, but a blueprint can be started for such a project. These items would set the ground work for future City Councils, he said.

Next, Council Member Jensen said he tried to divide his items into two areas. These were for the next 18 months and for the long run. His first item was concerning 2000 West. He was to prioritize some kind of final redevelopment plan with the downtown area. He said capital projects, such as a new fire station, an art center and the library should have time spent by the Council in discussions as to their priority. He didn't feel this was done with the decision on the building of the recreation center. He would like to see people identified as to taking over Director Clay and Administrator Mills' jobs prior to their retirement. He said he would also like to see a recycling program for the City. Council Member Jensen also listed land issues with The Fox Hollow Golf Course as well as the once suggested park down in The Grove where a detention basin was planned. He was also concerned about the final decision on the Beck Home.

Council Member Boyd noted that her concern first lies with the downtown area. She said the Council really does need to come up with a plan for such questions as the Beck Home, etc. Next, she said the Manila Church was of great concern to her as far as something being decided as to whether the City was going to participate in the purchase of any of the property. She added that negotiations were currently going on with part of the building being purchased by a private investor. She wondered if the City could possibly use the rest of the building and property for an arts center, etc.

Council Member Boyd also noted that she has a continuing concern with the trails master plan. She said she had wondered if the mixed use ordinance in The Grove area was a true mixed use type or not. She noted that she feels strongly that the Council needs to review the ordinance and make sure it is where it should be to accomplish what needs to be done in The Grove area. Additionally, she noted that she is concerned about the possible lack of communications with the neighbors in the area of where the pond is going in the Manila area. She said with trucks going in and out of that area around the clock, she feels the City needs to carefully forewarn the neighbors of such a project.

Council Member Atwood then indicated that one of his biggest concerns is that people will be retiring from the City in the next few years, and a lot of what has been done over the years with the roads, sewer, water, etc, is in their minds, and not always down on paper. He suggested what other cities have invested in, a GIS mapping system that can tell future City employees where all of the City services are at. He said this system is expensive, but is totally worth the cost.

Next, Council Member Atwood said he would like to see projects in the City finished up and “polished up.” He noted that some projects, as in the parks, have been started and not finished; and he feels they need to be finished. He also said that all of the departments in the City need to polish up their areas. He said this shows pride in the City.

Council Member Wilson next commented that he is also concerned about information that will transfer from long-time employees to a new generation of City employees. He said it is much like Mayor Daniels had commented that he (Council Member Wilson) had hit the ground running when he again became a council member; as he had served in that position before. He said it would be good to get people working with those long-time employees so they can hit the ground running, also.

Council Member Wilson also said he would like to see the City hire people that had pursued their training and educations. He said this would be of great benefit to the City. He also said that the City staff and elected officials need to carefully prepare and be proactive with such projects as traffic, the library, a new city hall, fire coverage, etc. now instead of waiting until these and other projects are out of control.

(At this point, Pleasant Grove citizen Robert Williams came into the meeting)

Mayor Daniels said that he would like to now consolidate the varying goals set by the Council Members on their sticky notes they had stuck on the wall.

In the “A” section, the Mayor noted that the needs of the downtown area seemed to be the general consensus of the Council as to it being the number one concern. Also, capital projects (such as the Manila church), the fire station and roads were all included in this “A” section.

Next, in the “B” section, the Mayor said it looked like the possible hiring of a human resource employee could possibly be deemed necessary. In the “C” list, recycling, the possible removal of the Beck home and a review of the Grove mixed use would be listed.

The Mayor then asked those present if they could now see that those things listed had pretty much fallen into certain categories. The council members said yes, they could see there was agreement particularly about the needs of the downtown area. Council Member Wilson said that he could see that the Council was actually thinking the same as to the main projects that needed to be started, such as the downtown.

Mayor Daniels then said that he would next like to take all of the projects that had been listed on the sticky notes and separate them into “brainers and non-brainers.” By this he said there would be projects that could be handled by staff (non-brainers), and projects that needed to go through legislative action (brainers) and be acted upon by the Council. He said that the non-brainers would be assigned to City Administrator Mills, who, in turn would assign these items to the department directors with the City.

After further discussion regarding the varying projects that had been suggested, a list was developed for Administrator Mills. These included; 1. A city-wide recycling program; 2. replacement of retiring employees; 3. Prioritizing entrances to the City; 4. The 1100 North project; 5. 100 East corridor; 6. 2000 West completion; 7. Roads (in general); 8. sidewalks; 9. Public safety transition; 10. Maps on GIS system; 11. NAB communication; 12. Trails; 13. Revisit detention park in The Grove.

The Council then discussed the fact that change is sometimes hard for those that have lived in the community for many years. Mayor Daniels agreed. He said he had held a meeting the previous day with several people that were concerned about the growth of the downtown area. The group agreed that a collective advisory board needed to be formed to bring ideas to the City’s legislative boards. The Mayor commented that he feels that both property owners as well as business owners need to be represented on the advisory board. The Council agreed.

Mr. Robert Williams said he would like to add that he feels that perhaps the term revitalization might be incorrect. He said that there really isn’t anything downtown to be revitalized, as it has already been developed. He then commented that perhaps a vision changed to the historic downtown would be more appropriate.

Mayor Daniels said that hundreds of people seem to want to give input on the downtown area from Pleasant Grove. He said the only way to be able to manage the kind of input that would come in from these people would be for them to contact an advisory committee member and express their ideas and concerns. He explained that there are many stakeholders in the Master Plan for The Historic Downtown such as business owners, land owners, developers, neighborhood citizens, citizens at large, the City Corporation, etc.

The capital project listed on the sticky notes included a fire station, library, city hall and civic center. Mayor Daniels explained that these would all be included in the downtown area. The Council agreed. He said the only other capital project would be the Manila Church, which could be partially handled by staff.

Mayor Daniels asked if a time limit needed to be given the downtown advisory board. Council Member Boyd noted that 18 months would be too long. She said several projects could then come in under current legislation, and there was probably a need for more updated legislation in regard to the downtown area.

The Mayor observed that builders can currently come in under existing legislation and build. He said the Council cannot stop them, as they have a right to build. He noted that the faster the advisory board is put together; a more definitive master plan can be developed.

Administrator Mills informed the Mayor and Council that he is concerned that several of the restrictions in the downtown area have sometimes kept developers from coming in with their projects.

Mayor Daniels then said that he would like to finally propose that since the major vision of the Council had now been identified, the board would need to come up with appropriate criteria to meet that vision. He then said that the final decision will legislatively lie with the Council, as it is their call. The Council agreed with the Mayor and said they were anxious to proceed.

3. ADJOURN

ACTION: At 11:30 a.m, Council Member Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Call seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with Council Members Jensen, Boyd, Atwood, Call and Wilson voting, “Aye.”

This certifies that the Special City Council
Minutes of February 2, 2008 are a
true, full and correct copy as approved
by the City Council on March 18, 2008.

Signed _____
Mary Burgin, Deputy Recorder