

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL  
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING  
August 14, 2006**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pat Evans, Mayor  
Scott Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem  
Sally Magnuson, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem  
Shep Stahel  
Loretta Ellerbe  
Harry LaRosiliere  
Jean Callison  
Lee Dunlap

**STAFF**

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager  
Frank Turner, Executive Director  
Bruce Glasscock, Executive Director  
Rod Hogan, Executive Director  
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney  
Elaine Bealke, City Secretary

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m., Monday, August 14, 2006, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present with the exception of Council Member LaRosiliere. Mayor Evans then stated that the Council would retire into Executive Session in compliance with Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated, in order to consult with an attorney and receive Legal Advice and matters of Litigation for which a certified agenda is not required.

Mayor Evans reconvened the meeting back into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 5:58 p.m. in the Council Chambers where the following matters were discussed:

**Consideration and Action Resulting From Executive Session Discussion**

No items were brought forward.

**Presentation, Discussion and Direction on the Downtown Plano Retail Task Force Report**

Downtown Retail Task Force Chairman Rick Fambro spoke to the future of downtown Plano and requested Council support of the Downtown Plano Retail Action Plan. He spoke to incorporating the arts, entertainment, commerce, shopping and dining in a historic and livable urban center combined with a pedestrian friendly transit village valuing community and accessibility.

Mr. Fambro spoke to previous consultant recommendations to incorporate arts and culture and restaurants and entertainment as market niches to complement assets existing today in Downtown Plano. He spoke to the proposal to create a City staff position, provide economic funding from the City on a matching basis, and the potential for businesses and founding families who have a connection with the downtown area to become involved and begin the process of raising seed monies. Mr. Fambro spoke to continuing the expansion of the Downtown Association and formally establishing the Historic Downtown Plano Association. He spoke to recruiting new businesses, maximizing the presence of DART, conducting major community events, and developing a marketing program to increase public and visitor awareness. Mr. Fambro spoke to there being ample parking available downtown and to the importance of keeping the ambiance of downtown.

Council Member Ellerbe spoke to the good job done and Council Member Stahel spoke in support of the recommendation and to moving ahead. Director of Planning Jarrell stated that an existing planner position is in the budget and will be categorized with different responsibilities, and responded to the Council that funding of some of the items proposed will be Staff initiated. She further stated that the Downtown Association will be fund raising and identifying projects to the Council for which matching funds will be requested. Ms. Jarrell stated that numbers identified at this time are not set in stone. Mayor Evans spoke to consideration of things which will to serve the downtown population such as a grocery and drug store to which Ms. Jarrell responded that niches have been identified to provide residents with basic services. Ms. Jarrell stated that no large building exists in the downtown area for a modern supermarket at this time. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Magnuson spoke to discussions regarding a neighborhood type grocery. The Council concurred to move forward.

### **Discussion and Direction Regarding the Five Year Public Art Plan**

Creative Arts Manager Wear spoke to the hard work of the Public Art Committee and to presentation tonight of the five-year plan by Public Art Committee Chair Coleman.

Public Art Committee Chair Coleman spoke to a five-year Public Art Plan and approved projects and applicable funding, the approval of Community Investment Program (CIP) projects for Memorial Park, Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve, and Haggard Library Improvements allowing for funding at 2% of the project budget. He stated that non-CIP projects approved are Parr, Davis, Harrington, and Schimelpfenig Libraries, the Downtown Fire Station, and the Animal Shelter. Mr. Coleman spoke to future qualifying CIP projects for 2007 through 2011 for Carpenter Park Recreation Center, Pecan Hollow Golf Course, Archgate Park, Trail Connections, and Fire Station 13 and non-CIP projects which are Oak Point and Liberty Recreation Centers, Police Department, the Senior Center, and the Tennis Center.

Mr. Coleman spoke to managing a sustainable program, securing funding allocations as needed, not requesting funding for 2006-07 art projects, and to refinement of a five-year plan. The Council concurred to move forward with the five-year plan.

### **Discussion and Direction Regarding the Memorial Park Improvements and Art Element**

Director of Parks and Recreation Wendell spoke to the redevelopment of Memorial Park and the construction of a veteran's memorial, and to seeking Council's approval to move forward with the next phase. He stated that the Parks and Recreation Planning Board recommended approval of this item.

Public Art Committee Chair Coleman spoke to the design team, research put into the art, advised that Landscape Architect Michael Kendall will present the site program and concepts for the park improvements, and that Artist David Newton will present scale models of the sculptures for the veterans memorial. He spoke to researching memorials, and working with veterans and the community. Mr. Coleman stated that they are nearing the end of the design phase and spoke to starting construction this winter with a completion day in late summer or early fall of 2007.

Landscape Architect Michael Kendall spoke to the site location on Custer Road, surrounding streets and landmarks, and donor plaques on the site. He spoke to the Veterans Memorial, local heroes, necessary creek improvements, parking considerations, restrooms, dedication grove, trails, lighting and signage, and to a \$2 million budget. Mr. Kendall spoke to veterans and committee members input to connect the sacrifice of the past to the freedom of the present and the future while placing an emphasis on a personal and individual space that will also accommodate a large gathering. He spoke to landscaping plans for the Memorial Grove, central locations for listed dedications, unstructured play area, and stated that adequate parking arrangements have been made.

Artist David Newton spoke to incorporating the wishes of the veterans in contemplating the art phases and design, stated that the basic theme is the sacrifice made by the veterans and the families and further pointed out the particulars of the sculptures. Mr. Kendall presented an animated view of the Memorial Park and requested Council support of the project.

Council Member Stahel spoke in support of the project and to the good work done by all those who participated. Mayor Evans spoke to the good work done and in support of the project. The Council concurred to move forward.

### **Update on PISD and Parks Watering Variances**

Director of Public Works Foster advised the Council regarding high temperatures, the small amount of rainfall received, Lake Lavon levels, and stated that due to conservation efforts 581 million gallons of water have been saved. He presented a slide demonstration of lake levels and water usage reductions by commercial, residential, school district, and City operation sectors. He stated that approximately 100 citations have been issued per day and that indications are that approximately 5,800 total citations have been issued since June 19. Mr. Foster spoke to related telephone calls received and to the good job done by administrative Staff. Mr. Foster responded to the Council that about 45 residences have had the irrigation system disconnected due to non-compliance along with the requirement to attend a conservation class and pay a reconnect fee. He further responded that the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) advised that work is underway to bring new water sources on line as well as requesting additional water rights to existing lakes and a permit from the state for the construction of a reuse project which would provide additional water. He further responded to the Council that the NTMWD has given thought to dredging portions of Lake Lavon at the intake points to better facilitate water availability but not to scooping out and selling newly exposed dirt in an effort to increase additional water capacity. Mr. Foster advised that he would pass the suggestion on to the District.

Parks Services Manager Fox spoke to time line variances existing for park watering, providing for flexibility and protecting the City assets from future renovation. He spoke to the scale of park sites and average residential lot sizes in comparison, home irrigation system watering design particulars in comparison to park systems which are not designed to water at the same level necessary to sustain landscaping as are residential systems. Mr. Fox also spoke to daytime park activities impacting the watering, education opportunities regarding drought irrigation particulars, modifying irrigation systems, changes in cultural practices, and less mowing needed. He spoke to the impact on sporting events, proactive responses with irrigation systems, central computer control of irrigation systems, and meeting with colleagues. Mr. Fox encouraged reports of irrigation malfunctions.

Nothing further was said. Mayor Evans convened the Preliminary Meeting directly into the Regular Meeting where remaining items were addressed.

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**Pat Evans, MAYOR**

ATTEST:

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Elaine Bealke, City Secretary