

**Special Meeting
Board of Works and Parks Board
January 25, 2012
3pm**

The meeting was called to order at 3pm by Mayor Buckley who stated the purpose of the meeting was to hear a proposal from representatives of Franciscan Alliance regarding the Hornet Park Community Center.

Mayor Buckley stated there is also another meeting with Community Health Network scheduled for February 8, 2012 at 9am.

Roll Call BOW Members present: Mayor Buckley, David Harrison, Sandra Seward. Parks Board Members present: Ed Marks, Joe Prindle, Beth Berg, Nikki Shearer. Also present Clerk-Treasurer, Dan McMillan.

Guests Keith Jewel, Chief Operating Officer Franciscan Alliance, Inc. Joe Sagorsky, Director of Employee Health Solutions. Pam Hickman, City County Counselor and St. Francis Board Member.

Presentation Keith Jewel and Joe Sagorsky talked about the overall commitment St. Francis has had to Beech Grove in the past and continuing as they move forward in the future. St. Francis BG is consolidating their in-patient services and looking to BG needs. The BG campus has been listed with an outside service.

St. Francis has been working with the previous Administration of Mayor Dilk on a plan to lease the Community Center for the purpose of opening an outpatient facility. They have put a lot of work into the applying for permits.

The 15,000 sq. ft. facility on Churchman Ave. will continue to offer 5 primary care physicians, lab services, therapy, and imaging.

They will be opening an Urgent Care Center at Thompson and Emerson.

They would like to open a third location in BG and would like to lease the east half of the Hornet Park Community Center to accommodate the changing health care needs. The services would include acute care, after-hours clinic, sports medicine, occupational therapy, primary care physicians, pediatrics, and health and wellness coaching. The after-hours clinic would be from 5-9pm.

They are also interested in leasing the west side of the community center for a PACE Program (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) which would offer adult day care and comprehensive medical and social services to preserve or restore independence and to help enrollees remain in their homes and communities, and to maintain their quality of life.

Discussion Mayor Buckley asked the representatives to share timelines with the Boards. Joe Sagorsky said if the request is approved they could start work immediately. They will be relocating their In-Patient Services to Franciscan Alliance South March 12-16, 2012. They would like to have all Out-Patient Services relocated by September 1, 2012.

Pam Hickman stated they are trying to supply immediate care as an alternative to expensive In-Patient and Emergency Care.

Joe Sagorsky said it will provide services for peds to the elderly.

Ed Marks expressed concerns about the fitness center and banquet rooms and asked if they would be able to continue?

Joe Sagorsky stated they would use the fitness area on the main level, but would not need access to downstairs. Sagorsky stated Dr. Paul Kaiser, BG School Superintendent, said he could open up his building to satisfy the need or move equipment into the old school board room.

Sandra Seward expressed concern about the school traffic that is already there and possible parking issues.

Joe Sagorsky stated the clinic would not create that much additional traffic because during the day there would be scheduled appointments for the 2 physicians.

Sandra Seward said she would like to see the School Board involved. She asked is there a separation between the community center and the school.

Joe Sagorsky stated Dr. Paul Kaiser has been involved throughout the entire process and never mentioned a concern about this. Sagorsky said yes there is a secure and safe separation.

Joe Prindle declared he had a conflict of interest being a member of the Parks Board and being employed by St. Francis. He stated he would hate to lose what we've built up over the years, saying it was a collaborative effort between the Parks Dept. and BG City Schools. He said it took a long time to raise the money to build it and that it serves a lot of people in Beech Grove. He stated he would like to see another community center built.

Keith Jewell stated they would be paying rent to lease the space.

Beth Berg stated a planned health facility would be good for BG, but she sees this as the demise of the community center and that would be a huge loss for BG.

Mayor Buckley stated he is concerned about the loss of the Emergency Room for BG. He suggested they consider neighborhood clinic. He stated this decision has to be what is best for the entire community.

Beth Berg said there are so many vacant properties in BG and asked St. Francis to explore those possibilities. She doesn't think it is a good fit.

Ed Marks asked about the usage of the west side of the building and if the adult program would require night time stays.

Joe Sagorsky stated they would not provide overnight stays.

Marks asked if this venture is successful are there any plans for expansion on Hornet Park property.

Keith Jewell stated if St. Francis is successful with the PACE Program they would need 10,000 -15,000 sq. ft. down the road.

Marks asked wouldn't the present hospital building fit those needs.

Keith Jewell stated St. Francis is still working on bringing a good and meaningful facility to BG.

Marks asked if the building has any historical significance. No one knows the historical information.

Mayor Buckley asked Joe Prindle if there was any lease to prevent such a development. Joe stated there is a 20 year lease with the school.

Keith Jewell thanked the Boards for the opportunity stating they reached out to the City because they heard the City was looking for an alternative option for the community center.

Pam Hickman stated St. Francis has very emotional ties with BG and they are looking to keep ties here in the community.

Joe Sagorsky stated St. Francis wants to keep a presence in BG. They have been here for almost 100 years and they want to keep providing services that the community needs. He thanked the Boards for their time.

Mayor Buckley stated it is our intent to give notice by February 21, 2012. He will meet with the Boards to hear their input.

Mayor Buckley reminded the members of the 2 Board that the next scheduled joint Special Meeting is with Community Hospital on February 8, 2012 at 9am.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Buckley at 3:42pm.