

Special Meeting

Board of Works – Parks Board

January 25, 2012

Mayor Buckley called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Opening Comment: Mayor Buckley opened the meeting with an explanation of why he called the meeting. He stated that he wanted The Parks Board to hear the proposal by Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis) because Hornet Park is part of the Parks Department. Mayor Buckley also wanted the Board of Works to hear the proposal being made from Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis Hospital). He also announced that another meeting will be conducted with the same boards on Wednesday February 8th at 9:00am in City Hall/Council Chambers, and Community Hospital will be bringing forth their proposal.

Roll Call: Ed Marks, Parks Board President, Nancy Roberts, Community Center, Beth Berg, Parks Board Member, Dave Harrison, Board of Works Member, Joe Prindle, Parks Board Member, Sandra Seward, Board of Works Member, Nikki Shearer, Parks Board Member. Also present were Dennis Buckley, Mayor, and Dan McMillan, Clerk Treasurer.

Introductions: Mayor Buckley introduced Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis) representatives Joe Sagorsky, Director of Employee Health Solutions and Keith Jewell Chief Operating Officer and City Counselor Pam Hickman. Councilor Hickman stated she is very interested in what Beech Grove needs, and that Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis) relishes the idea of maintaining a presence in Beech Grove. She went on to state that she believes the services that Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis) wants to provide to the community is just what Beech Grove needs. She went on to further state that with the aging population, unfortunately, we are all going to have to get use to cuts.

Presentation: Joe Sagorsky Director of Employee Health Solutions and Keith Jewell Chief Operating Officer. The sisters were invited to Beech Grove over 97 years ago and they have considered it a blessing. St Francis is consolidating their In Patient Services, so they will be relocating to Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis) South March 12 – 16 2012. The facility has been listed with an outside service. Their goal is to have all their outpatient services in place by September 1st. Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis Hospital) has been working many months with the previous Administration of Mayor Terry Dilk on a plan to lease the Community Center. A lot of work has been put into this project with speck layouts, and plans to bring the building up to life code, as well as permits that have been applied for.

1. They will maintain their 15,000square feet facility on Churchman Avenue. That facility will continue to offer 5 primary care physicians, lab services, Therapy, and Imaging.
2. They also will be opening a second facility that will be an Urgent Care Center at Thompson and Emerson.
3. Franciscan Alliance would like a third location and they would like to lease the East Side of Hornet Park Community Center. As health care evolves, so must the services they stated. St Francis stated, that 30 years ago 9 out of 10 patients visiting the emergency department were admitted as inpatients. Today, only 1 out of 10 is admitted, 2 need urgent care, and 7 could be served by an after-hours clinic. The services they would like to offer in the Community Center would be acute care, after-hours clinic, sports medicine, occupational therapy, primary care physicians, pediatrics, counseling, and health and wellness coaching. The after-hours clinic would be from 5:00pm until 9:00pm.

Franciscan Alliance is also interested in leasing the West Side of the community center for a FACE program (Federal Affordable Care Act). It is a program for the elderly and would offer an adult day care facility.

Questions & Answers: Parks Board President Ed Marks expressed concerns about the fitness center and banquet rooms. He asked if they would be able to continue the fitness center and if they would they have access to it. Joe Sobrowsky stated Dr. Kaiser had some area that they could possibly use, but Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis) is planning to use the small fitness area on the main level. They would not use any of the fitness area downstairs.

Board of Works Member, Sandra Seward expressed concern about the school children coming and going and the additional traffic the clinic would create. Joe Sagorsky stated the clinic would not create that much additional traffic because during daytime hours there would be scheduled appointments with only 2 physicians present. Board of Works Member, Sandra Seward said she would like to see the School Board involved. Joe Sagorsky stated that along with the past administration Dr. Paul Kaiser, Superintendent of Beech Grove Schools has been involved through the entire process and never mentioned a concern with this. He further stated he doesn't believe it would pose a threat. He also stated that for security purposes the school has a defined separation from the Community Center and it is locked and secured. Joe Prindle, Parks Board Member stated his conflict of interest; he is employed by Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis). Joe Prindle, Parks Board Member stated that it took several years to get that Community Center built and it was a collaborative effort of the Beech Grove City Schools and the Parks Department. He also stated that the Community Center serves a lot of people in Beech Grove and it took a long time to raise the money to build it. He stated he would like to see another Community Center built. Beth Berg stated she thinks the health and wellness program would be fabulous for Beech Grove, but she said the loss of the community center would be huge for Beech Grove. She is concerned this venture would ultimately result in the demise of the Community Center. Mayor Buckley stated his concern that after March 16th the City of Beech Grove will no longer have an Emergency Room. He said a decision has to be made that is best for the entire community .Beth Berg asked if Franciscan Alliance

could explore other possibilities since there are so many vacant buildings in the city. Joe Sagorsky Franciscan Alliance (St. Francis) stated they want to keep a presence in the city. They have been here for almost 100 years and they would like to be here for another 100 years providing the services that the community needs. The adult day care services will not provide overnight stays. Asked, if Franciscan Alliance has any future expansion plans of the external building of the Community Center. The answer was no. Franciscan Alliance currently has the hospital on the market and they are working to find a tenant that would work well in a residential setting in this community. Parks Board President Ed Marks asks if the current St. Francis location minus the 17th street building would be a better suit for their needs and if the 17th street site has any historical significance. No one knows the historical information of the 17th street building. Joe Sagorsky Franciscan Alliance (St, Francis) thanked the board for their consideration and reiterated their commitment to keeping a presence in this community and providing services the city needs.

Mayor Buckley reminded the Members of the 2 Boards that the next scheduled joint Special Meeting is with Community Hospital on February 8th at 9:00am.

Adjournment: Mayor Buckley adjourned the meeting at 3:43pm.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

Ed Marks, Parks Board President

Dave Harrison, Board of Works

Beth Berg, Parks Board Vice President

Sandra Seward, Board of Works

Nikki Shearer, Parks Board Secretary

Dan McMillan, Clerk Treasurer

Joe Prindle, Parks Board Member