

MINUTES  
CITY OF BOCA RATON  
CITY COUNCIL GOAL SETTING SESSIONS  
MUNICIPAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
2500 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Building "A"  
MONDAY, MAY 17, 2010 - 12:55 P.M.  
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010 - 9:10 A.M.  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010 - 9:14 A.M.

The Mayor and City Council and members of the City's Executive Leadership Team, as listed below, were in attendance.

ATTENDING THE MEETINGS WERE:

Mayor Susan Whelchel  
Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie  
Council Member Anthony Majhess  
Council Member Michael Mullaugh  
Council Member Constance Scott

City Manager Leif J. Ahnell  
Deputy City Manager George S. Brown  
Assistant City Manager Mike Woika  
City Attorney Diana Grub Frieser  
Community Development Director Jorge Camejo  
Planning, Zoning & Development Director Julia Trevarthen  
Manager of Administrative Services for Development Services Ruby Childers  
Fire-Rescue Services Chief Tom Wood  
Municipal Services Director Robert DiChristopher  
City Traffic Engineer T. Douglas Hess  
Police Services Chief Dan Alexander  
Recreation Services Director Mickey Gomez  
Utility Services Director Chris Helfrich  
Financial Services Director Linda Davidson  
Office of Management & Budget Director Sharon McGuire (attended Tues. & Wed. sessions)  
City Clerk Susan Saxton

Facilitator Lyle Sumek provided a brief overview of the agenda for the goal setting sessions; a "Leader's Guide – 2010" was utilized as a workbook.

Acknowledging the current recession and the state of the economy, Mr. Sumek focused attention on various pages of Section 1 entitled, "Leadership During Turbulent Times," advising that it was more important than ever to demonstrate to residents the value of those services provided by government. Referring to Section 4, Page 2, "Goals 2014," Mr. Sumek asked those present to outline current achievements in the categories of: 1) Financially Sound City, 2) World Class Municipal Services, 3) Strong Partnership with Community, and 4) Sustainable City. Details were provided on all the above.

The session recessed at approximately 2:30 pm and reconvened at approximately 2:45 pm.

Continuing with Section 4, Page 18, each department was asked to review their successes over the past year. There followed an exercise for Council, wherein each member was asked to: 1) define what success would look like over the next five years, 2) what major challenges are facing the City, and 3) what two or three things they wished to accomplish this year. Much discussion ensued.

At this time, the public was given the opportunity to speak. Peter Odorico referred to the day's discussions and commented positively on the cooperation between staff. Troy McLellan, President of the Chamber of Commerce, urged opposition to Amendment No. 4 (a/k/a Hometown Democracy) and suggested that the City and the Chamber coordinate efforts to defeat same. The City Manager and the City Attorney clarified that the City can educate residents about Amendment No. 4 but was prohibited by State law from taking a position on same. It was suggested that an educational workshop might be scheduled.

The day's session adjourned at approximately 4:10 p.m. on Monday, May 17, 2010.

On the following day, Tuesday, May 18, 2010, a new Section 4 was distributed by Mr. Sumek based on information forthcoming at yesterday's session. Section 5, "Looking to Boca Raton's Future," was then reviewed; each department reported on issues facing them specifically, which included, but was not limited to, significant costs related to health care reform, the County's proposed one-cent sales surtax, and the Federal mandate regarding numeric nutrient criteria for water and wastewater.

(Two additional handouts were also provided for review, entitled, "Leadership and Strategic Planning Workshop, Day 2," and "Success in 2015 means....," respectively.)

The session recessed at approximately 10:25 am and reconvened at approximately 10:35 am.

Another handout was distributed by Mr. Sumek, which provided an outline of those topics to be discussed over the course of this session, beginning with outcomes and actions related to economic development.

At approximately 11:40 am, the public was given an opportunity to speak. Wanda Thayer indicated support of the economic discussion taking place. Earl Starkoff, a Board member of the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Parks District (GBRBPD), advised that the same issues were being discussed by the GBRBPD and its members were happy to partner with the City. Troy McLellan, President of the Chamber of Commerce, voiced that partnerships and funding were critical for economic development, noting that bold leadership would be needed to make it happen.

Brief discussion began in regard to outcomes and actions in connection with annexation. The session then recessed at approximately 12:00 pm for lunch and reconvened at approximately 1:00 pm.

Following lunch, discussion continued on the subjects of outcomes and actions related to the downtown, including the Wildflower property, and citywide redevelopment and infrastructure.

The session recessed at approximately 2:15 pm and reconvened at approximately 2:25 pm.

Discussion continued regarding the City's finances. Mr. Ahnell stated that the City was facing a \$7 million shortfall this year and advised that there was no way to cut \$7 million from the budget and not impact services. Additional discussion revealed that Council also wished to allocate \$7 million for economic development. There followed suggestions as to how the \$14 million could be raised, which included increasing fees and reducing expenditures. Discussion continued related to the Mizner Park Amphitheater, Amendment No. 4, the proposed one-cent sales surtax referendum, and charter schools.

At this time, public comment was taken. Mary Csar, Director of the Boca Raton Historical Society, reviewed the services provided by her organization and advised that the Society wished to continue its partnership with the City. Chrissy Biagiotti., Director of Programming & Operations for the Centre for the Arts (CFA), advocated financial support for the arts, indicating that there was a lot happening at the amphitheater. Rick Coffin reported on a recent meeting of the "Collaborative," advising that this group supported Council in making the tough decisions; he added that the Collaborative needed to get the word out about Amendment No. 4 and educate people to get them engaged. Mike Kaufman spoke in support of Mizner Park Amphitheater and asked Council to support the agreement with the CFA. Troy McLellan, President of the Chamber of Commerce, again voiced opposition to Amendment No. 4 and stated that the Chamber would partner with the City as much as possible; he then referred to investing in the community and cautioned Council to keep a balance.

The day's session adjourned at approximately 4:20 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2010.

The following morning, Mr. Sumek distributed two handouts - a new Section 8 and one entitled, "Strategies on Major Issues," again, based on information obtained during yesterday's session. Attention focused on the Section 8 handout; each Council member was asked to rank the four goals of the City, specifically, 1) Financially Sound City, 2) World Class Municipal Services, 3) Strong Partnership with Community, and 4) Sustainable City. They were also asked to rank challenges and opportunities, and actions associated with each of those categories, which were considered necessary to realize those goals.

(Another handout entitled, "Major Actions 2010-2011, Mayor and City Council," was provided for review.)

The session recessed at approximately 11:00 am and reconvened at approximately 11:10 am.

Attention was given to the handout entitled, "Strategies on Major Issues;" at this time, the City Manager requested direction from Council as to how to close the \$14 million shortfall. Ultimately, it was determined that staff would review City services that could be reduced and fees that could be increased to make up the original \$7 million shortfall. During discussion, it was suggested that the millage rate could be increased to provide for the \$7 million that Council wished to allocate for economic development.

At this time, a handout entitled, "Policy Agenda 2010," was distributed and Council was asked to rank the listed targets for action. Turning to Section 10, Page 1, the top priorities for 2010 were listed as follows: 1) the City's budget, 2) annexations, 3) economic development strategy and funding, and 4) hospital-medical school strategy and team. The high priorities were: 1) funding strategy for CRA downtown events and projects, 2) amphitheater directions, 3) charter schools feasibility and direction, 4) the downtown pattern book, and 5) the comprehensive plan update.

At this point, the public was given an opportunity to speak. Lenore Wachtel voiced concern over pension funding for police and fire, indicating that a decision must be made as to what to do about the high costs. Betty Grinnan thanked Council for moving forward with the downtown library; acknowledging that the budget is tight, she requested that Council "not take it out of the library." Poppi Mercier, the Children's Museum Director, invited those present to a June 24 groundbreaking at the museum. John Luca, the union representative for Fire Rescue Services, spoke positively about medical transportation services provided by Fire Rescue and asked Council to "challenge us to be more creative." He also defended pensions and asked for patience while waiting for the stock market to come back up.

The Wednesday, May 19, 2010 goal setting session was adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m. The information collected during the sessions will be compiled by Mr. Sumek and submitted at a later date for Council review and approval.

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Vanessa Hines, Assistant City Clerk