

**CITY OF WINTER PARK  
CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES  
May 21, 2007**

The meeting of the Winter Park City Commission was called to order by Mayor David Strong at 3:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor David Strong  
Commissioner Margie Bridges  
Commissioner John Eckbert

Also present:

City Manager James Williams  
City Attorney Trippe Cheek  
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham

Members absent:

Commissioner Douglas Metcalf  
Commissioner Karen Diebel

Mayor Strong addressed the possibility of implementing a fire service fee. There was a consensus that the first reading be held on May 29.

The Commission spoke about the strategic planning process and the need to prioritize the issues within the process and to improve communication. Mayor Strong commented that the Commission needs to be informed of any issue coming before them a month in advance. He explained that he would like to pick and choose these issues as to what he believes is or is not important. Commissioner Eckbert stated that judgment needs to play a part, things need to go through the process and that the City Manager position needs to exercise judgment with the Commissioner's feedback, then execute those top priorities. Commissioner Bridges believed that they should create an environment where citizens are a part of the process and that they need to receive their input early. Mayor Strong stated the commuter rail is a vital issue and the City needs to manage that process with tremendous input from the City but independent of the City. There was further discussion regarding citizens and private citizen groups giving their input and how the process will work.

Commissioner Bridges explained that they need to set the policy as to what the objectives are and the strategy to get there, and question projects that come forward and ask if that furthers one of their goals. She stated they have to create a clear cut delineation of strategies, objectives, goals and criteria for the boards and she would like to see better communication among department heads, the boards and the Commission.

Mayor Strong suggested that when there is an issue before the Commission that affects the boards, they should have a spokesperson from the board speak on the matter. He stated they would discuss this further when Commissioner Metcalf and Diebel are in attendance. Commissioner Bridges spoke about the Ethics Task Force and how it functions.

Commissioner Eckbert stated that having work shops were productive by having voices heard and expressed.

Commissioner Bridges suggested they have a work session to discuss things for the Strategic Plan. Mayor Strong asked City Manager Jim Williams to schedule June 18 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. as the tentative date on the agenda and they would confirm with Commissioner's Metcalf and Diebel schedule at the next Commission meeting. City Attorney Trippe Cheek stated he would not be able to attend the work session on June 18, however he would arrange for someone else to attend if they needed legal staff.

Mayor Strong asked Mr. Briggs to provide updates on the comprehensive plan, commuter rail and mixed use as soon as possible.

Mayor Strong adjourned the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cynthia S. Bonham".

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City Clerk, Cynthia S. Bonham