

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
December 14, 2009

The work session was called to order by Mayor Kenneth Bradley at 2:05 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Kenneth Bradley
Commissioner Phil Anderson
Commissioner Beth Dillaha
Commissioner Margie Bridges
Commissioner Karen Diebel (arrived at 3:04 p.m.)

Also present:

ZHA President Rick Mellin
City Manager Randy Knight
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham
Deputy City Clerk Nancy McLean

Planning the Possibilities

1. Library expansion

Winter Park Library Chairperson Mark Van Valkenburgh provided a brief presentation on the library expansion options. He added that once there is some commitment to having the building in place, they can start working on both the community and financial support. Mr. Van Valkenburgh, Library Director Bob Melanson and ZHA President Rick Mellin answered questions regarding attendance, programs, parking, operation costs, space needs and site options.

Commissioner Dillaha commented that there could be some overlap with the programs offered at the Community Center and the library so it would be prudent to ensure that they are not duplicating efforts. She believed that the City should be part of that since it is City land and the City funds a good portion of the operating costs. She stated that she wanted to go through that exercise and that they need to determine the space needs and after the exercise, see if it is feasible to improve and renovate instead of building brand new.

Commissioner Anderson commented that the Arrowhead or the State Office Building site would be a great place for the library.

Site options

Dan Bellows presented an alternative site for the post office of Block 68 on Lyman Avenue, New York Avenue and Blake Street. He stated this could be both a retail and distribution post office. He commented that it can be done for approximately \$4 million with a 13,000 square foot building.

He also stated that he was trying to sell the property on Bennett and Monroe Avenue to the City and it could possibly be used for electric utility administration. He added that the library could be located at the brick building on 444 West New England Avenue or at the Denning Apartment site where the parking garage is already constructed on Swoope and Denning Avenue. Mr. Bellows and Planning Director Jeff Briggs answered questions.

2. Purchase of Bennett – Monroe Avenue property.

Mayor Bradley commented that they will discuss this item on the Commission agenda this afternoon.

3. Rezoning of the post office property.

Mayor Bradley commented that they will discuss this item on the Commission agenda this afternoon.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.



City Clerk Cynthia Bonham