CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
September 29, 2008

The meeting of the Winter Park City Commission was called to order by Mayor David Strong at 1:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:
Mayor David Strong
Commissioner Margie Bridges
Commissioner Phil Anderson
Commissioner Beth Dillaha
Commissioner Karen Diebel (via phone)

Also present:
City Manager Randy Knight
City Attorney Trippe Cheek
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham
Deputy City Clerk Nancy McLean
Phillip Downs (via phone)

Citizen survey discussion

Phillip Downs, Kerr & Downs Research, explained that the objectives of the questionnaire were to be strategic and future oriented and to cover trending questions. He addressed taking what the Commission provided; what was discussed at the last meeting and; staff’s recommendations and input for the questionnaire.

Commissioner Bridges commented that she failed to see the significance of asking trending questions that do not give any definitive/specific information once the question has been asked. Commissioner Diebel agreed. Mr. Downs stated they all agreed the survey would be strategic and future oriented. He commented that it was not designed to evaluate services and the trending questions were a minor part of this study. Commissioner Anderson recalled this being about testing major initiatives and getting the reaction to those initiatives and trending was a minor part of that. Mr. Downs stated he did not recall from the last work session anyone selecting the level of detail that was being discussed. He added they can do any survey they want but he needs to understand what the objectives of the study are. Commissioner Dillaha believed the trending questions were fine and it addresses the direction they are headed and the overall feelings of the citizens. Her only comment was to have an additional question on the quality of life. Commissioner Anderson agreed.

Director of Communications Clarissa Howard explained they need to approve the questions at the next Commission meeting on October 14 because the survey would be sent out October 21.

Mr. Downs went through the document question by question and each Commissioner gave their recommendations and input. The questions were modified, eliminated and added to. There was a consensus on the issues discussed. Mr. Downs commented they did not discuss the last question but asked to send him any additions to the list of programs and services. He thanked the Commissioners for their input and will return with a revised version of the questionnaire. Ms. Howard commented that the Commission’s deadline to forward information to Mr. Downs would be October 1, 2008.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Cynthia S. Bonham, City Clerk