



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Meeting held  
November 10, 2009

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**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Rogers in the Executive Board Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

**ROLL CALL:** PRESENT: Mayor Todd Rogers  
Vice Mayor Joseph Esquivel  
Council Member Steve Croft  
Council Member Diane DuBois  
Council Member Larry Van Nostran

### **2010 CIVIC CENTER BLOCK PARTY PLANNING**

Recreation and Community Services Director Lisa Litzinger made a presentation based on the memo in the agenda and stated staff was seeking direction on a plan for the City's annual Block Party which included live entertainment, a family fun zone, the Taste of Lakewood restaurant fundraiser, and a fireworks show. She reported that event plan had been reconfigured as the site from which the fireworks were launched last year would be unavailable. The new plan would launch the fireworks show from the lot on the Del Amo Boulevard/Clark Avenue corner, requiring the Family Fun Zone to be relocated to a site near Clark Avenue and Hardwick Street.

Council Member DuBois inquired about the proposed date for the Block Party. Ms. Litzinger responded by stating that although traditionally, the event was held on the Saturday before July 4th, since that would fall on July 3rd, staff was proposing June 26th for the event, to prevent any scheduling conflicts for the parks, which were always busy on the 4th.

Responding to questions from Council Member Van Nostran, City Manager Howard Chambers stated that the Lakewood Mall had indicated that the space used last year would not be available as they were hoping to have a tenant in place for the now vacant Circuit City building.

Ms. Litzinger advised that in consultation with the fireworks display company and the Fire Department, the fallout zone had been reviewed and the alternate site had been approved.

Assistant Director of Recreation and Community Services, Tom Lederer, noted that the fireworks display company would be eliminating all low-bursting shells from the program to ensure the safety of the buildings just outside the fall zone.

In response to a question from Council Member Croft, Ms. Litzinger stated that in the event a tenant agreement had not been made, staff could quickly go back to last year's configuration.

### **2010 CIVIC CENTER BLOCK PARTY PLANNING – Continued**

It was noted that with Costco closing at 6 p.m. on Saturday, there would be plenty of parking available for the fireworks show.

Council Member Rogers inquired about advertising for the event. Community Services Manager Valarie Frost stated that there had been a large turnout last year, due to articles in the *Long Beach Press Telegram*, but that advertising for the event had only been placed in the *Lakewood Living* newsletter mailed directly to Lakewood residents.

Responding to a question from Council Member Van Nostran, the City Manager stated that Lakewood Mall security would be in charge of patrolling the parking lots to prevent overnight parking of large vehicles.

Mayor Rogers stated that the preferred configuration was the one used for the 2009 event, especially since having the Family Fun Zone south of the library spread out the crowd more and that the City Council was in agreement that without a fireworks show, the event was not worth staging.

### **REVIEW OF HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP)**

Acting Director of Community Development, Sonia Southwell, reported that a notice of funding availability had been issued in July and an agreement approved with Path Partners to administer a Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) which would be funded by a Federal grant.

Margaret Willis introduced the members of the team which would be coordinating the assistance. She reported that the HPRP was part of the Federal stimulus package and would begin on December 1 and was scheduled to end by September 2012. The team anticipated providing assistance to as many as 180 households over the three-year period. She stated that the goal of the program was to provide short-term assistance to qualifying households impacted by the economic downturn. She stated that there was specific assessment criteria to determine eligibility and that it would be challenging to qualify applicants based on both income and sustainability. She noted that the provided services would include case management, housing location, and stabilization services.

Council Member Van Nostran inquired about the potential for housing unit availability within the City. Ms. Willis stated that in dealing with persons being forced out of a foreclosed home, Path Partners would work to get the family into a rental home, hopefully keep them within the City.

Team member Paul Freese stated that Path Partners would provide assistance to help participants maximize tax credits. He also noted that they would work closely with the Department of Public Social Services to identify families at risk and would be targeting those most recently affected.

**REVIEW OF HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP) - Continued**

Responding to a question from Mayor Rogers, Ms. Willis stated that they would be performing in-depth assessments and analyses to weed out applicants who were in trouble from poor money management and would be targeting those who had suffered due to the economic downturn and, with some short-term assistance, could get back on their feet financially.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Rogers adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC  
City Clerk