

NOTES FROM SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON WOODMONT RECOVERY CENTER

SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 DES MOINES FIELDHOUSE

[Note: Responses made in the meeting are in italics – other answers currently being worked on]

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome by Mayor – purpose of meeting

Brief words from Rep. Orwall and Rep. Gregory

Q & A session

Linda Fry – Why isn't Valley Cities here tonight?

They were notified of the meeting. Do not know reason they chose not to attend.

Elton Fry – Is there any legal ruling that this facility must be in Des Moines? *No.*

Kevin Isherwood – What can citizens do to move the Facility and when?

Citizens are doing the right thing by making their voices heard and keeping up the pressure.

Cheryl Johnson – Safety issues:

What security will exist for patients walking between buildings, how will the premises be secured?

When were height increases granted through the zoning?

Kent's concerns about pedestrian safety and traffic?

Cement fencing and Valley pay for at least two cops?

Will there be shower/bathing facility for the homeless?

Response by police for violent and suicidal people, will WRC call Des Moines police?

Chief Delgado emails re: comments from Federal Way Chief – and recommended chain link fence between WRC and Safeway for visibility – design is for cedar plank fence?

Mike Berry -

VC talked about control of involuntary, how will they control/regulate voluntary participants?

Any experience with facilities like these next to schools?

Valley Cities (VC), Woodmont Recovery Center (WRC), City of Des Moines (DM), Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA), State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

How will there be control for sex offenders who are not known? Studies show that sex offenders can have drug and alcohol problems and some of the patients treated at WRC could be sex offenders?

Erik Harestad – How many times have you heard about addicts, in transit, attacking and raping children?

Same question for sex offenders?

Has anyone been to AA?

Pete Stream – Is it possible a new site for WRC would be in Des Moines?

Can a city hold design review in abeyance? *No.*

Dennis Goodnight – Who drafts the Good Neighbor Agreement?

Will there be citizen input to the GNA?

Can the terms of the GNA be unfavorable to VC?

Have DM Councilmembers had discussions with their counterparts in Kent and Federal Way and with the Police Chiefs of those cities?

Can funding provided by the State and King County be withheld for this facility?

Are there any City of DM \$ going to support this project? (If so, can these funds be withheld)?

Rick Johnson – Asked Rep. Orwall and Rep. Gregory if they have spoken directly to the Governor about this situation? *No.*

Asked each member of DMCC to recount the activities/actions they had taken since the September 10, 2015 City Council meeting?

Mayor Pro Tem Pina: meetings and conversations regarding issue

Councilmember Musser: discussion and question

Councilmember Bangs: responding to email messages, talking with people in the neighborhood

Councilmember Pennington: speaking with folk, asked to serve on GNA Committee, and asked Mayor Pro Tem Pina to also serve on GNA Committee, seeking legal advice

Councilmember Sheckler: speaking with attorneys

Mayor Kaplan: talking with elected officials

John Castronover: Question to City Manager, City Council says they were “blindsided” was our C left in the dark intentionally?

Chief Delgado received input from other chiefs and staff expressing reservations, why did the City Manager disregard his recommendation?

Laura Castronover: So many people have protested why not tell them what to do to stop this?

Re: Design Review, what are we supposed to do to contest this?

Why isn't planning staff here tonight?

The traffic study does not take into account school traffic?

City of Kent made comments [email to Nikole Coleman 3/13/15 1:42pm] against the facility “bad location” and that the facility does not match the land use?

Rick Devitte: Police Chief, what's the plan for policing this?

Aren't there height restrictions to a maximum of 35'?

Why did Nikole Coleman recommend approval of the Conditional Use Permit?

When are we having another meeting?

What has to happen technically to get this moved?

Mary Eun: Can City Council pass a motion directing staff to stop processing permits?

Has Valley Cities been asked to stand down? *Yes we have asked, they said no.*

Land swap discussion w/Port of Seattle?

Erica Schindler: How can this be stopped if not by Good Neighbor Agreement? HB 1115 – Sec.1032 (d.) says that the facility must be open for 10 years, how can the City close them if it violates the multi-year requirement in this legislation?

Theresa Griswold: Notification re: Woodmont students for Design Review?

Errin Qualls: VC stating this is the only site that will work for their facility. Is that true? Is there no other site?

Sheila Brush: Can SEPA be applied to the Good Neighbor Agreement (Public Service Impact Agreement)?

Can the City research reopening SEPA because of “new information” and lack of “material disclosure?”

Martin Metz: What outreach is being done with businesses in the area?

Valley Cities (VC), Woodmont Recovery Center (WRC), City of Des Moines (DM), Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA), State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

Alexandra Lewis: King County closed a few facilities, now services being pushed to South King County.

Why did they close those facilities?

Ask VC re: the relationships and discretionary funds to compensate cities?

Drugs will be flushed – contact water and sewer for those impacts?

Looked into other areas, all these types of facilities in industrial areas.

Constitutional issues – exclusionary zoning?

Kathleen Wolf: Will residential lot on west side of development be rezoned, will house be torn down?
No.

Need more staff, street engineers to keep streets are clean.

Erik Campbell: City Manager became aware of facility in October, 2014?

When did City Manager inform City Council VC development encompassed more?

How many Councilmembers were on City Council in 2014?

Will any Councilmembers withdraw support for City Manager?

Debi Springer: Has VC committed to leaving if a good alternate location can be found?

We need another community meeting.

Harry Steinmetz: recommendations for items to include in the GNA:

- Surcharge for Police Department responses to WRC (similar to Lakewood and Western States facility)
- VC pay for police presence when kids/parents walking to and from school?
- Traffic impact fees
- Surcharge based on crime rate increase
- Require SEPA/EIS on each permit

Lauren Davis: What do you say to parents suffering because their children have mental health problems?

Has the City looked at other facilities near schools and residential areas?

Many of these facilities do not have issues or problems?

Candace Urquhart: Who vetted information that went to Hearing Examiner?

The traffic study did not address the school.

The additional height increase for buildings – why given?

Is VC meeting the requirements for the \$5 million by having to prove they have a 10 year operational plan?

Is it usual for development applicants to ask for things in advance?

What did Senator Keiser know about the facility when it was being reviewed for funding?

Would bad staff work (and fraudulent information) allow SEPA to be set aside/voided?

Rick Testerman: How many officers are on duty from 7am – 4pm able to respond to calls?

Are there any state statutes that would prevent certain individuals -pedophiles, violent criminals - to be allowed on this facility?

How do we sanction VC (require them to pay for mitigation) if crime increases in the neighborhood?

What advice do you have for the community to get this stopped?

Anonymous call from the audience: Can the name be changed to not include “Woodmont?”

Question by Debra Palmer-Seiler: submitted in writing at the meeting (not presented at podium)

How will VC be able to pay for requirements under the GNA?

VC's 990s show some years in the red and VC's funding is mostly Medicaid and grants, state funding and Medicaid and grant money can only be used for patient care?