

**LAKWOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY**  
**Commission Meeting—Minutes**  
**October 21, 2009**

*Minutes are not a verbatim transcription but rather an attempt to capture the intent of the speaker.*

**ITEM 1 – Call to Order:** 6:30 p.m. by Chair, Karen Harrison

**ITEM 2 – Roll Call:**

**Commissioners Present:** Arai; Chevalier E; Creswell; Cyr, A; Cyr, C; Danahey; Dellinger; Fox; Gaffney-Kindig; Giroir-Johnson; Goldberg; Hanna; Harrison; Heckle; Herron; Hinsvark; Johnson; Kinney; Larsen; Lay; Leonhart; McNeill; Olson; Raia; Rathe; Slabe; Sjulstad-Wolter; Taylor; Varnes; Vasquez; Yaple and Erma Steck, Advisor/Coordinator. (Quorum of 31 Commissioners present.)

**Honored Guests:** Kathy Hodgson, City Manager

**ITEM 3 – Public Comment:** None

**ITEM 4 – Guest Speaker:** Karen Harrison introduced Kathy Hodgson, City Manager. Ms. Hodgson spoke about her background and training for this current position as well as the areas on which she plans to focus in the coming years. These include:

- Organization of City resources with focus on the City’s aging infrastructure and physical assets and how we can best deal with coming challenges.
- Economic Development with strong emphasis on ways to best support and encourage small businesses to locate and stay in Lakewood. She pointed to a new program on Channel 8 called *Discover Lakewood* which will spotlight a Lakewood small business and spoke of a plan for a Business Academy to help small businesses be better at what they already do in the city. In dealing with the four major projects now happening in Lakewood (West Corridor Light Rail; St. Anthony’s Hospital; West Colfax Revitalization; and Rooney Valley development) she will look for opportunities for partnerships that will help the city save money and still provide the good services citizen have come to expect.
- Communication to reach out to citizens and to assist the Commission in its efforts to reach out to city residents as well.
- Sound financial stewardship to keep the City in good financial condition.

**ITEM 5 – Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from September 2009 were approved.

**ITEM 6 – Correspondence:** A resignation letter from Anna Chevalier of the Youth Committee was read. Resignation accepted with regret.

**ITEM 7—Proposals**

- Debra Hinsvark presented the Historic Preservation Committee recommendation regarding acquisition of Interurban Car # 25 by the City of Lakewood. The presentation included the Committee’s assessment of costs involved in such an acquisition, potential sources of revenue, and the type of contract agreement, which would be required with the club, which now owns the car. She further discussed the possible locations considered for the car and ended with the Committee’s final recommendation that the car would not only be an asset to the city, but also a tie with the City’s past and could best be located at the Oak Street

Light Rail Station. After discussion by the Commission, a unanimous vote agreed to forward the proposal to Council Officers.

- Scot Raia presented the Youth Committee proposal regarding possession of tobacco products by minors. Based on a request from the Superintendent of Jefferson County Schools, Council Officers requested the Youth Committee to look at whether a City ordinance assessing penalties for underage tobacco product possession should be enacted. The Committee report recommended the City enact an ordinance prohibiting minors from possession of tobacco products with initial fine of \$100 and subsequent offenses fined between \$100 and \$499, at discretion of municipal judges. They recommended tobacco education courses and tobacco cessation programs be sought. The report was fully discussed and The Commission voted to forward the report to City Council. One Nay vote was recorded.

#### **ITEM 8—Committee Reports**

In view of the time, detailed committee reports were not presented. However, Jim Kinney reported that the Business Committee is trying to schedule a meeting with City Planning and Development Staff. Once the meeting is schedule, Erma will notify Commissioners so they may attend. Patricia Gaffney-Kindig reminded Commissioners to save the date for the Diversity Seminar scheduled for November 14; invitations will be sent soon.

#### **ITEM 9—Old Business**

Karen Harrison passed out a list of possible topics to be considered regarding improvements to the Commission. Full discussion of these topics will be conducted as a brainstorming session at the Commission meeting on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners are asked to review the list, select the 3 item considered most important, and e-mail their choices to Karen by November 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ITEM 10—New Business**

Karen Harrison stated that the election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary of the Commission will be held in January 2010. Nominating Committee consists of Karen Harrison, who will not seek re-election; Johann Cohn, who will not seek a second term on the Commission; and Dianne Johnson, who is not seeking any elected office. Commissioners interested in being considered for any of these three positions should inform the Nominating Committee prior to December.

#### **ITEM 11—Advisor Report**

Erma Steck reported that there are currently 51 Commissioners. There are seven new applications pending and several terms, which will expire December 31<sup>st</sup>. Commissioners interested in a second term should promptly inform Erma and a screening committee meeting will be scheduled for these people as a group.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Lorna Fox, Secretary