

WORK SESSION
Tuesday, October 15, 2013 6:00 p.m.
Community Recreation Center
10640 N Clubhouse Drive, Cedar Hills, Utah

Present: Mayor Gary Gygi, Presiding
Council Members: Trent Augustus, Scott Jackman, Stephanie Martinez, Jenney Rees, Daniel Zappala
David Bunker, City Manager
Chandler Goodwin, Assistant City Manager
Courtney Hammond, Transcriptionist
Others: Lt. Sam Liddiard, Smart Family

This work session of the City Council of the City of Cedar Hills, having been properly noticed, was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mayor Gygi.

Utah League of City and Towns Conference Notes

Mayor Gygi attended a meeting on tourism, which included information on tourism for more rural cities. He has been attending meetings regarding American Fork Canyon and plans for widening the road, increasing access for Timpanogos Cave, making it safer for bikers, etc. There is tourism money available for cities like Cedar Hills. He is looking into attracting tourism dollars to the city. He also attended a meeting on healthcare which discussed how the Affordable Care Act affects municipalities.

C. Martinez attended sessions on communication at the spring conference. She was especially interested in a presentation on mediation strategies to find ways of finding the middle ground in disputes/situations using knowledge of various personality traits and how people react to conflict. At the fall conference she attended a meeting that highlighted the Unplugged Program, where participants can earn tags on a lanyard by completing different summer activities, such as recreational activities, visiting civic sites, etc. The Unplugged Program costs \$3,500. It could possibly be something in which the cities in north Utah County could go in together. She also attended classes on safety on the playgrounds and characteristics of today's middle class.

C. Augustus learned about communication, conflict management, and how to effectively work as a council and with staff and the community. He was most interested in the personality shape discussions, recognizing different personalities and how those personalities may cause conflict. He also attended a class on time management, which included advice to wear a watch, and be like children in the way they get the most out of every day. He learned about how councils work, including biases and different ways of voting. There should be a copy of the Council Policies and Procedures available at every meeting. He also enjoyed a presentation by Becky Longheart on how communities can encourage random acts of kindness.

C. Rees attended meetings focused on recreation in the fall conference. One city was able to find other sources of revenue for parks and trails, including trades and collaboration with other cities. It was also noted that many people can't afford organized recreation activities, so free open space is important. They recommended having a recreation citizen's advisory committee for planning

and grant applications. They also encouraged online registrations for recreation activities. She also attended several communication classes that pushed social media. Attorney David Church talked about council meetings and gave advice to councils, such as: consensus is not always a virtue; councils should do things, not just plan to do things; accept the limitations of the position; meetings should not be too long or too unfocused; time limits should be placed on discussions.

C. Zappala attended a presentation by Mark Fenton on making communities more livable and walkable. People would rather walk or bike to a small retail area than a big box store. To achieve a walkable community it's important to plan for it, not so much in the appearance of the store, but in the details, such as bike racks, strategic parking, etc. Don't be afraid to say no to the standard template. Websites now rate communities on walkability; higher ratings lead to higher property values. Walk audits will show what impedes or contributes to walkability. To brand the city as a recreation hotspot the city can sponsor Bike the Benches—a mountain bike race down to Pleasant Grove—or Mahogany Challenge, challenging people to get up to Mahogany Peak.

David Bunker attended a communications meeting and learned that Sunday is the best day to get social media out, because it is the most read day. Websites should be completely revamped every 3 to 5 years. The city needs to be better at telling stories, because that is what people like to read. He attended a conflict style conference in St. George. Conflict is an opportunity to grow and there is value in everyone's conflict style.

Chandler Goodwin attended a Q&A with David Church centering on annexation initiatives and the role of the Planning Commission. The minimum duties of the Planning Commission outlined in state code, additional duties can be granted by city code. Cedar Hills grants the Planning Commission conditional use approval. He also attended a land use appeals training. Land use appeals are not common in Cedar Hills. They require no public hearings because the decision is based on law and fact, not public opinion.

This work session was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. by Mayor Gygi.

Colleen A. Mulvey, CMC
City Recorder