



**October 29, 2014 Meeting Notes  
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
Willie Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center**

At 11:33 AM the ninth meeting of the LRcent Committee was called to order by presiding Co-Chair Peter McKinney O'Connor.

Committee Members present during the meeting were: Dr. Sybil Jordan Hampton, Chrystal Gray, Dr. Anika Whitfield, Steve Strickland, Mursheerah Tharpe, Donald Shellabarger, Charles Blake and Troy Laha

Committee Members Not Present were: Kyle Demilt, Kenneth Gill and Khayyam Eddings

Also present were: City Manager Bruce Moore, and other City Staff

**Introductions**

City Manager Bruce Moore began the meeting by introducing the following individuals who are new City Staff:

Emily Cox – Intergovernmental Relations  
Dana Dossett – Director of Community Programs  
Stacy Witherell – Human Resource Director  
James Jones – Assistant City Manager  
Kenton Buckner – Police Chief

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. O'Connor entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2014 meeting. Mr. Shellabarger made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Strickland. The minutes were approved without objection.

**General Financial Report**

Finance Director, Sara Lenehan give a summary update of new sales tax receipts as of the end of August 2014. The total year-to-date proceeds were \$30,737,340 which was up by 1.07% from the previous year. She then briefly went over the capital expenditures as of

September 30, 2014. A total of \$58,891.732 has been encumbered and expended. \$2,675,379 of that amount was spent on Public Works Projects.

**Departmental Updates: (Not every department had updates to report at this time)**

**Department of Public Works**

Public Works Director, Jon Honeywell reported that many of the projects approved by the City Board for the 2013-2015 schedule were now under design and public meetings were being held to allow citizens a chance to review and comment on the designs. Many of these have been bid and are now under construction. He also reported that 81,614 square feet of new sidewalks have been constructed since 2012.

**Little Rock Police Department**

Jim Foster, Administrative Services Manager for the Little Rock Police Department, reported that the Public Safety Radio System Upgrade has been completed is up and running. The 12<sup>th</sup> Street Station dedication took place on September 25 and some minor building alterations were being made and furniture was being installed. He added that the architect for the West Little Rock Station was finalizing a preliminary budget and preparing to advertise for a general contractor.

Recruit School #81 commenced on August 25, 2014 with twenty-nine (29) candidates. They continue to fill 911/311 Communications Call Takers.

**Questions & Discussion:**

Mr. Strickland indicated that he had requested information regarding how the final agreement between the City and the Pankey Community Improvement Association was worked out regarding the cost of the space and other specifics for the future West Little Rock Police Sub-Station. **(The group was given a list of questions that Mr. Strickland had sent via email and the responses to many of his issues which is attached along with other requested documents.)**

Mr. Laha asked when the process would begin to explore options of the mixed use space in the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Station. Mr. Moore responded that the process would begin after the first of 2015 and that it would be a community process. There will likely be a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) or Request for Proposals (RFP).

**Department of Community Programs**

Community Programs Director, Dana Dossett said that they had done some marketing at the recent Arkansas State Fair regarding some of the programs that they provide. She also reported that they now have a data collection system up and running that all providers are utilizing so that they can better track indicators and implementation metrics. Mrs. Dossett went over the number of re-entry training positions that are in place and the success of job placements.

Questions & Follow-up:

Dr. Hampton would like to know what college institutions they are working with in order to help with job placement. And she would also like for the attrition rate to be added to the report.

Mrs. Gray asked for an update on the youth master plan. Dana indicated that a Request for Qualifications has gone out with a deadline at which time a committee would be selected to review the applicants.

**Department of Fleet Services**

Fleet Services Director Wendell Jones briefly went over a list of fleet purchase since the last report given. From July-October those have added up to approximately \$3,897,476.

Mr. Strickland asked about the sole source contracts. It was explained that if there is no other company who can provide a certain piece of equipment that is needed that the City Manager can waive competitive bidding.

**Department of Parks & Recreation**

Parks and Recreation Planner, Leland Couch reported that a groundbreaking for the West Central Community Center took place on October 17, 2014. The dedication of the newly constructed soccer and lacrosse fields at the Natural Steps Ball Complex will be dedicated in the next two weeks.

Questions & Discussion:

Dr. Whitfield asked if there were any plans to have some inner City Ball fields. Mr. Couch said not at this time but the old Western Hills Golf Course could be considered in the future.

Dr. Whitefield also asked who was responsible for the damage to the War Memorial Golf Course after Razorback games. Mr. Couch indicated that the host of any event is responsible for damages and the cost of the repairs.

Follow-up:

Mr. Strickland wanted to know if the City had a relationship with the Lamar Porter Field

**Department of Information Technology**

Melissa Bridges, Network Security Manager, briefly reported that the City's second data center has been completed and is functioning as planned. The cost of this project was \$3,501,559 and was completely paid off in September of 2014.

Questions & Discussion:

Mr. Strickland asked where the data center was located. Mrs. Bridges said that it is located next to the Fire Training Academy off of Murray Road in Southwest Little Rock

Other Items

The Co-Charis Presentation to the Little Rock City Board will take place on Tuesday, November 25 at 4:00pm in the Board Chambers at City Hall. This will be the final meeting of the year.

Mr. Shellabarger made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mr. Laha the meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm.