



## Minutes for Mount Rainier Mayor and Council

### Work –Session

Date: January 17, 2012

Place: One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier MD 20712

Presiding officer: Mayor Malinda Miles

Councilmember's present Ivy Thompson, Brent Bolin, Jimmy Tarlau and William Updike

Councilmember's absent: None

Staff present: none

Reviewing agenda

Motion to approve agenda

Councilman Brent Bolin

Second Councilwoman Ivy Thompson

Vote 4-0

Street Gang Violence and Youths

Introducing Team Mass , a Mount Rainier based group that wants to help teens.

This group would like to bring team society to Mount Rainier so teens will have a place to go and spend time doing positive things. They feel there is nothing in Mount Rainier for teens and they set a good example. Some of the things they have to offer is tutoring, working with computers, music and exercising. We are for Mount Rainier against violence and society and trying to combat some of the violence. Teens from 15-21 is the age group we would like to work with.

Councilman Updike:

The Civic Center could have a gym and the second floor of the library space maybe a gym. It's a place to provide young people with a place to hang out. Thanks for the work you do.

Mayor Miles:

Mount Rainier needs to put something in Park& Planning's budget. We should ask to have a meeting with the chair and participate in their budget development.

Councilman Bolin:

I thank the Mayor and would like to add that in Bladensburg around the river there is opportunity to do hiking and learn to paddling and some active recreation.

Mayor Miles:

We need to have some type of transportation. Park & Planning requires ID and some of the parents can't get the kids to Park & Planning to get the ID.

Councilman Updike:

We can find ways to correct those spaces by using the Call a Bus to take the kids and get a group together to do some canoeing, hiking and other things. We have some resources to fix some of the problems.

Mayor Miles:

Chief Scott is assigning an officer to work with them. The group wants to have a meeting with Chief Scott.

Permanent Barriers at Perry Street

Councilman Bolin:

The structures there are now looking temporary. We are now taking steps to move to something more permanent. The structures there are designed to be temporary. I met with Chief Scott, Luther Smith and Captain Stoots and Jan Townsend of the Neighborhood Design Center. The intersection has some difficulty and some things need to be worked out. It's a good opportunity to put something there that will work. It will be a street scraping project.

Purchasing Ordinance

Councilwoman Thompson:

The purpose for a purchasing ordinance is to codify current practices. So that everyone is aware of what the policy is for purchasing. Anything under \$5000.00 does not require three quotes but does require approval by the council.

This codifies the current way the city does business.

Councilman Updike wants to take a look at being able to add green to the ordinance in the future.

Code Enforcement Compliance Committee

The Mayor want a committee to come before we lien and go to court on code enforcement issues.

Councilman Tarlau:

The residents feel the citations given by Code Enforcement are petty. I think a committee might delay the process of going after more serious violations.

Councilwoman Thompson doesn't think a committee will make things any better.

Councilman Bolin:

The city could make the notice of violation look a little less intimidating.

Councilman Tarlau:

If they don't like the city manager's decision than they can appeal to the committee. It should be selective and we are not mediators.

Councilman Bolin:

I agree with that Idea.

Councilwoman Thompson:

Unless the residents are professionals and the code I don't think residents should be doing unless they have a background in it.

Councilman Tarlau doesn't think the committee should get involved in mediating.

Councilwoman Thompson disagrees with a committee and feels that residents should call City Hall. Staff is being by past.

Mayor Miles wants some input on how to handle residents who have cursed staff and feel that the city is on the side of staff.

Councilman Updike:

The committee could be for those cases of conflict to do mediation.

Councilwoman Thompson:

Having a committee takes away from what we are trying to do. We want to have a city that is clean and Code Enforcement is a part of that.

Councilman Tarlau:

The committee should only be involved when they go to the city manager and can't get the problem resolved and then come to us.

Councilman Bolin:

It's a lot to ask residents to serve. This is a controversial decision.

Councilman Updike wants to hire mediator instead of a committee.

Mayor Miles feels there needs to be some avenue for the residents because Code Enforcement isn't always right. The Mayor thinks there should be some place the residents can go other than the city manager. She states that many of the small liens have been kicked out and sent back.

Councilman Updike asks staff to look into PG County mediation and tell us what it is about.

Councilman Tarlau:

I have concerns about mediation going outside the city and it will be a delaying process. We don't want these things to drag out.

Councilwoman Thompson:

We could use mediation for our rental properties as well.

Councilman Updike:

I think the codes should be reviewed and put some common sense into it or change things that aren't working for the city.

Kaseem Baker (MNPPC)

Once we know who the recognized councils are we invite them to participate in the county wide recreation council. If you don't have a recognized council things that cost money you don't get the opportunity to use those resources.

Mayor Miles:

By consensus the Mount Rainier Youth and Recreation Committee is the recreation council for Mount Rainier. We will need a formal appointing resolution at the next meeting. Jeannelle will look up the old ordinance.

Tyrese Robinson:

Ms. Robinson introduces herself as the committee chair for the Mount Rainier Youth & Recreation Committee and wants to know where they go next and wants some clarification on what their roll is.

Adrienne Charles speaks of the pop up restaurant concept in vacant buildings.

Councilwoman Thompson:

You must give staff a lot of lead way to work on this. We are there but we need to get the property owners on board.

Adrienne Charles says she has a list of food trucks that service Maryland and you can use the faces of empty buildings for other events.

Councilman Tarlau states that this option should be discussed with MRBA.

Develop Criteria for the 3200 block of Rhode Island Avenue. Mayor and Council opened up for proposals from two developers with a deadline for 1-13-2012 for them to submit proposals based on the criteria sent to them. As of close of business on 1-13-2012 we had received no proposals. The city manager sent a letter to the Mayor and Council that outlined some thoughts from staff. The Council has looked at getting someone to lobby for \$4999.00 for the city in Upper Marlboro.

Councilman Bolin:

I think the letter from the city manager sounds good.

Councilman Updike:

I have concerned about the hourly rates from Development Consulting and Contracting before we've seen their rates. I would like to add their charge to be our representative not only in Upper Maryland but our representative if a development proposal should come in.

Councilman Tarlau:

I have concerned about a person doing the marketing for the development.

Councilman Bolin wants to find the five best green developers and the five best in fill developers and ask who wants to partner with us and that should be our approach.

Councilwoman Thompson:

The site has some challenges. WE own some of the property notall WE have to discuss what we are willing to accept on what we own.

Mayor Miles:

They are excellent pieces of property and we have to find the right developer that wants to do something with that property.

Motion to adjourn

Councilman Tarlau

Second Councilman Updike

Vote 4-0