

**CITY COUNCIL & HSB JT SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 11, 2010 @ 7:00 PM
LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
MINUTES**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor James Kallander called the Council & HSB Joint Special Meeting to order at 7:00 pm on May 11, 2010 in the Library Meeting Room.

B. ROLL CALL

Present for roll call were *Mayor James Kallander*, Council members *Jim Kacsh*, *David Allison*, *Bret Bradford*, *EJ Cheshier*, *David Reggiani* and *Robert Beedle*. Council member *Keith van den Broek* was absent. Also present were City Manager *Mark Lynch* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

Health Services Board President *David Allison* and members *Kerin Kramer*, *EJ Cheshier*, *John Renner*, *Sandra Aspen* and *James Kacsh* were also present. Health Services Board member *Kristin Smith* was absent.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/Reggiani S/Bradford to approve the agenda.

Vote on motion: 9 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent (van den Broek, Smith). Motion carried.

D. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST- None.

E. COMMUNICATIONS BY AND PETITIONS FROM VISITORS

1. Audience comments regarding agenda items - None

F. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kallander said that *Keren Kelley* had to quickly leave for Anchorage due to a family medical emergency and therefore, could not be at this meeting – he hoped that things went well for her.

2. Discussion of the direction that health care should go in Cordova

Allison said that one cannot answer this question without broad community support or a strategic plan in place. He thinks we can all agree that we want to provide good quality health care to the community as best as we possibly can. He thinks the intent of this agenda item is to throw options out there like whether NVE should take control of the hospital, or whether someone like Providence should come in and take over the hospital. He said that even if the State does not come through with grant money to pay for the strategic plan, then we need to pay for it anyway. He opined that the City cannot continue to support the hospital at the level it has been supporting the hospital at over these last few years.

Kacsh agreed with the strategic plan.

Aspen agreed but is concerned that we don't repeat history.

Cheshier said that we are at a crossroads and hoped that we would explore all options. He hoped we could combine some services, keep from duplicating services, and maybe figure out a whole new business plan for the hospital.

Allison asked for Council direction to the Health Services Board. He said the HSB wants to move in some direction but they want support and direction as to which way to go. He said they need a CFO, they need an administrator who can give his/her focus to the hospital. He said there are lots of options and they should all be explored. He said he hasn't made his mind up yet.

Renner said he feels like the HSB is just spinning its wheels. He said he feels like his directives are meaningless.

Bradford wondered if it would be hard to get an administrator since we are about to undergo the strategic plan and they may believe that they are here only temporarily. **Allison** responded that we have to at least explore that option – we should be honest about the situation. He doesn't believe that we can afford to wait 12 months for the strategic plan to be done.

Reggiani said that he thinks the highest priority is to get a CFO in to assist with the interim administrator. In the meanwhile we need to get moving on the strategic plan. **Mayor Kallander** asked **Angela Arnold** about the State funding. She thought they might not give us the amount we asked for but she thought they would give us some and soon.

Bradford said it would be money well spent to get this thing started even if the State doesn't fund it.

Mayor Kallander agreed with **Bradford** about hiring a new administrator in the middle of a strategic planning process. He wondered what the job description would be and what the term of the job would be. **Bradford** said it could also be a large financial burden to hire a new administrator. **Bradford** also said that his vision for where health care in Cordova should go is certainly to minimize the City's involvement and he's spoken to many people who feel the same way. **Mayor Kallander** said that the business model over at the hospital has been looked at over the past 5 – 6 years by numerous different Health Services Board members, numerous Council members, numerous administrators, and the model continues to fail. He asked the current Health Services Board if they felt that a new administrator could make this thing work. **Renner** said that the HSB formed a committee to do some due diligence and answer exactly that question and they voted unanimously to go out to hire for a new administrator who could represent the hospital's interest regardless of which way the strategic planning went. **Allison** said that he doesn't think that advertising the position could hurt but possibly not advertising could hurt us. He said by the end of tonight's meeting the HSB needs to know if they should hold someone's feet to the fire to advertise for an administrator or not.

3. Council direction to HSB on what HSB's focus should be
 - a. how to proceed (facilitator/strategic planning process)

M/Reggiani S/Cheshier that City Council directs the City Manager to solicit applications for a strategic community health planning project facilitator/consultant.

Reggiani said he believes the highest priority should be to hire a CFO and secondly we need to jump on this strategic plan. **Cheshier** agreed. **Mayor Kallander** said he would add that the facilitator should be acceptable to NVE as well. **Reggiani** concurred. **Allison** wanted to ensure that we were working together on this and not have two competing strategic plans.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (van den Broek). Motion carried.

Discussion returned to what to do about going out for advertisement for a new hospital administrator. **Allison** said that the Code and the Charter are conflicted concerning the role of the HSB and the Council in reference to the hospital and the hospital administrator. He said as the HSB President, he was here tonight to get a ruling from Council on whether the HSB was going to administer the hospital and the administrator or did Council want to do that – he needed to know. **Cheshier** said he would like to hear Council members weigh in on whether they want to advertise for an administrator or not. **Cheshier** said he thinks that the HSB should support and help the administrator they have now. **Kacsh** said one shouldn't undermine the will of the majority of a board – then why have a board at all. **Reggiani** said that he is very comfortable with the job **Keren Kelley** is doing and the pathway will emerge during the strategic planning process. **Beedle** said he would be ok going out to advertise for a CEO. **Kramer** said that she did not attend the meeting

where the vote on advertising took place. She does not believe that going out to hire would send a very good message to hospital employees. She said **Kelley** is moving forward, implementing new programs and they look to her for leadership. **Mayor Kallander** asked if there was ever discussion about asking the current interim to put in more hours at CCMC. **Allison** said there was never a consensus of the HSB to adjust the contract at all.

4. Modification of Health Services Board Bylaws & City Code & City Charter so as to not be in conflict with each other

M/Reggiani S/Cheshier to postpone item 4 until after the strategic planning process is completed.

Allison said we are going back to bylaws that are from 1993. **Kacsh** said he is not in favor of the motion. **Aspen** said that this would be one year without direction for the HSB, and we don't know where we stand. **Allison** said we are open to challenge because we are not following the bylaws we are under. It still doesn't answer the question as to who the administrator reports to. **Renner** asked Council to not contribute to more frustration on the part of the HSB; they spent 5 hours on a Saturday reworking these bylaws. **Bradford** said he doesn't see harm in passing the bylaws. **Reggiani** said his motion was postponing item 4 which reads "Modification of Health Services Board Bylaws & City Code & City Charter so as to not be in conflict with each other". **Cheshier** said he also sees no problem in passing bylaws, but he is not in favor of changing code.

M/Reggiani S/Cheshier to amend the motion by postponing only part of item 4, i.e. the part that says... & City Code & City Charter so as not to be in conflict with each other".

M/Reggiani S/Cheshier to withdraw the amendment and the main motion.

M/Cheshier S/Bradford to adopt the bylaws as amended by the HSB secretary – to add one sentence (under Article IV. 4. EVALUATION OF ADMINITSRATOR. A first sentence should be inserted and reads: The board shall adopt a procedure by which the administrator is evaluated.)

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (van den Broek). Motion carried.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – None.

H. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Kramer congratulated everyone on new bylaws.

Aspen echoed those comments.

Allison said he appreciated the support on the bylaws and said it has been a long time coming. Many people had worked on these over the years. He wondered if the next step is to review the code and the bylaws and see if there are any recommended changes – he said he would be happy to do that. **Mayor Kallander** told **Allison** he would have an item on the next Council agenda.

Bradford thanked the Health Services Board.

I. ADJOURNMENT

M/Reggiani S/Allison to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Hearing no objection, **Mayor Kallander** adjourned the Special Meeting.

Approved: July 7, 2010

Attest: _____

Susan Bourgeois, City Clerk

