In Lieu of Directors Meeting
Monday, June 20th, 2022

I. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE
1. BP220613 - 1 Annexation Map 21013 – Shelli Reid
2. BP220614 - 1 Weekly Administrative Approvals – Shelli Reid

II. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE
1. Tennis courts – Margaret Ruff
2. Fairness Ordinance – Judith Gibson
3. Fairness Ordinance – Rebecca Nelms
4. Title 11 Revisions – Carolyn Nolte
5. Strongly support revisions for Title 11 – Phyllis Arth
6. Attending 6/13 City Council Mtg – Rachel Hager
7. Let Lincolniters Vote for the Fairness Ordinance – Tim Shaw
8. Title XI revisions – Amos Sobotka
9. History of the Novy family – Jaroslav Novy
10. Do Not Rescind changes to Title XI – Barbara DiBernard
11. Question – Chad Winter
Memorandum

Date:   June 14, 2022
To:     City Clerk
From:   Alexis Longstreet, Planning Dept.
Re:     Administrative Approvals
cc:     Shelli Reid, Planning Dept.

This is a list of City administrative approvals by the Planning Director from June 7, 2022, through June 13, 2022:

**Administrative Approval 22042** to Change of Zone 05054F Prairie Village North Planned Unit Development was approved on June 9, 2022, to remove lots 13 and 14, Block 15 from the note 32, concerning mapping revisions for floodplain, on property generally located at 3346 Renegade Boulevard.

**Administrative Approval 22038** to Special Permit 228K was approved on June 13, 2022, to adjust the side yard setback on the north side from 5 feet to zero for an attached garage, on property generally located at 382 West Lakeshore Drive.
We are supporting the effort of keeping Woods park green. We are against building tennis courts at that location. We don't have alot of green areas within the city limits why would you ruin that?
I am disappointed and angry at the members of our City Council who have decided that Lincoln will not be a “fair” city for its citizens. I read this morning of the decision of a majority of that group to rescind the Fairness Ordinance that would provide some legal protections for veterans, disabled persons and LGBT persons. This action is a sad commentary on Lincoln’s occasional boast of acceptance of all. Also this morning I received a message from our mayor describing her anti-bigotry beliefs. I wish that all the City Council members would have such beliefs.

Judith Gibson
1045 N 41st St
Lincoln 68503
402-466-0117
To whom it may concern,

As a long time Lincoln resident I am writing to urge the council NOT to rescind the Fairness Ordinance. It is morally repugnant and ethically dishonest not to recognize that citizens of our city are being discriminated against. No one can or should have to count on a landlord's or employer's sense of personal ethics to function in society.

Sincerely
Rebecca Nelms
Dear City Council,

I respectfully request that the city council NOT rescind Title 11 revisions. As a resident of Lincoln since 1992, educator, and member of the LGBTQ+ community, these protections are overdue. I understand how difficult it is to stand alone and to not align with members of your own community. The right decision is never the easiest.

Yes, I too have seen and experienced what happens when LGBTQ+ youth do not have protections, and the only way to protect the most vulnerable is to pass legislation that intends to protect them. Not only does civil rights legislation protect the most vulnerable, including children, it educates by creating safe spaces for diverse exchanges and community.

Children rely on adults to make the right decisions for them. Yes, they do. Peer-reviewed studies show that supporting LGBTQ+ individuals reduces mental health issues (Schreiber, K. (2016), “Why transgender people experience more mental health issues,” *Psychology Today*). *Pediatrics* published a study that when children are permitted to express their gender identities, they had only marginal “higher anxiety symptoms” and “developmentally normative levels of depression” (Schreiber, 2016; [link](https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article-abstract/137/3/e20153223/81409/Mental-Health-of-Transgender-Children-Who-Are?redirectedFrom=fulltext)). Without legislation, children’s abilities to express themselves are diminished. With all the emphasis on individual identity and “coming out,” it’s a slap in the face to Lincoln’s gender non-conforming youth and adults to not have protections in place to do so.

It’s been repeated that trans community leaders and members have been heard; however, many in the trans community are not publicly out. Without legislation protecting trans individuals, how can their voices be heard? From my experience at public discussions regarding Title 11 revisions, several of the attendees in support of rescinding had only lived in Lincoln a few years; were not fully educated on what Title 11 revisions entailed; and had no sense of LGBTQ+ history. Moving to a vote would provide the opportunity for supporters and city council members who voted in support of the revisions to educate Lincolnites and do the work of making Lincoln a safe place for all.

Finally, Lincoln’s citizens voted for a democratic mayor and city council. This suggests strongly that a majority of the city aligns with what is considered socially progressive. This is the time. The work to include LGBTQ+ citizens as a protected class has been fought for in Lincoln since 1982. The suggestion to have honest conversations is not action. What honest conversations have taken place since 1982? 2012? Right now, the idea of honest conversations looks like another 40 years of inaction.

We may lose the vote but we gain agency when given the right to be heard. I support Title 11 revisions and taking the revisions to a vote.

Please do not rescind.
Thank you for listening,
Carolyn Nolte
940 South 20th
Lincoln, NE 68510
Dear Council Members,
Please support the revisions for Title 11.
Lincoln should reflect national legislation in vocabulary and philosophy.
I strongly support these updates.
Phyllis LM Arth
5919 Deerwood Drive
Lincoln NE 68516
Hello,

I am writing to inform the City Council of my intention to appear at the 6/13/2022 meeting to review a claim. The letter I received states that I must call the office prior to 6/13, but I did not receive the letter until Friday 6/10 when I got home from work (too late to call). I will also call Monday morning.

Thank you,
Rachel Hager
Dear Members of the City Council,

I am writing to urge you to send the Fairness Ordinance to the public for a vote. Please do not rescind the ordinance. That would be a terrible setback in efforts to assure human and legal rights of all people living within Lincoln.

We must extend protections to all of our citizens. The fears and prejudice of a small vocal minority has prevented the extension of basic human rights protections to all Lincolnites for too long.

Please do not rescind the ordinance. Do not put off a public vote on this important issue. I am confident that the citizens of Lincoln will do the right thing and vote in favor of protecting the rights of all members of our community.

Thank you.
Timothy F. Shaw

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Tim Shaw
7440 Laura Lynn Ct.
Lincoln, NE 68516
402-432-4646
timothyfshaw@gmail.com

"Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by stupidity." -- Hanlon's Razor

(In philosophy, a razor is a principle or rule of thumb that allows one to eliminate ("shave off") unlikely explanations for a phenomenon or avoid unnecessary actions.)
Council members,
Do not rescind the Title XI revisions. They are necessary for the health and safety of all Lincolnites.
This is 2022, not 1982. Please act like it.

Regards,

Amos Sobotka
940 S 20th St
Lincoln, NE 68510
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me introduce myself. My name is Jaroslav Novy (1951), my father was Jaroslav Novy (1925) and my grandfather was also Jaroslav Novy, who was born in 1895 in Czechoslovakia, in the small village of Olesnice nerby Nemecky Brod town.

One of my grandfather's brothers was Jan Novy, who was born on January 3, 1888 in Olesnice. Jan Novy moved to the USA in about 1910 and became a farmer as John Novy in Nebraska. He lived in Omaha, probably at 6244 South 39th Street, Omaha, NE 68107. Most likely, his son John F. Novy Jr. also lived, perhaps born on September 20, 1912 in Omaha. He could live at 4024 S 50th Street, Omaha, but also at 8111 Sandalwood Drive, Lincoln, NE 68510.

In the years 2019 - 2021, I compiled the history of the Novy family, which dates back to 1650 and the entire history is already published in books.

I managed to find and contact at least a few still living descendants of my grandfather's siblings. I was able to get their memories of the family and also eventually give them a book on family history.

However, I have not yet been successful in finding descendants of the Novy family who have lived and I assume still live somewhere in Lincoln, Omaha, or elsewhere in Nebraska. I think that they would also be interested in the history of the family and their roots.

Hope never dies, I try all possibilities, that's why I address you. If possible, any information or contact or your advice would be very valuable to me.

Unfortunately, access to the City of Omaha Council website is not available to me, so I do not know the appropriate email address. If you can kindly forward my mail to Omaha City Council, I would be very happy.

Thank you for any answer.
Sincerely,

JN
Dear Council Members,

I ask you once again not to rescind the revisions to Title XI. First, Lincoln must be in compliance with federal law to compete for federal funds and for a diverse workforce. Second, the changes to Title XI are the right thing to do, the just thing to do.

Councilman Bowers said on February 14, 2022, that when he attended his first City Council meeting 10 years earlier, the vote for the fairness ordinance "filled me with hope for the future . . . Kids want to know they belong in our city." Rescinding will not make our youth feel safer, as proponents claim. Do Not Rescind.

Sincerely,
Barbara DiBernard
1045 N. 41st Street
Lincoln, NE 68503
402-466-0117
bdibernard@gmail.com
I realize each City Government that exists establishes what are priorities as they go forward. That being said, out of curiosity, can you explain why the City of Lincoln has chosen to not invest funds in improving or building a youth baseball complex? As a baseball family, we travel to other locations such as Des Moines, Council Bluffs, and Paola, KS (population 5000), Kearney and all of these places have very nice complexes and are hosting several large baseball tournaments per year. As you might guess the economic impact to Lincoln would be substantial (hotels, food, shopping, gas, etc...) Lincoln is so far behind in this area. As I said, city governments decide what is important to them and act accordingly, but it is hard to understand why an investment like this wouldn't be very beneficial economically to Lincoln.

I would like to bring up a related issue as well. Someone was nice enough to donate lighting for the Optimist Fields off of the Hwy 77 Bypass. One person in one house complained that they would bother them and now the city won't allow the lights to be installed. How were the lights at the Elks Field on Normal, the lights at the Mahoney Fields, lights at the Densmore Fields on South 14th all Ok'd to be put up. There are plenty of homes of people living around those areas.

I have also heard stories about people with the ability to donate good amounts of money to assist in the funding and the City has not reciprocated the interest and says they don't want to have to manage the fields.

Anyway, I am just a citizen that is frustrated in the lack of good fields to play baseball or softball on in Lincoln. I get it that money is always a factor. Thanks for any input.

Chad Winter

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