

**JOINT MEETING
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL
FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
FARMINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Vagnozzi Visitor's Center in Heritage Park, Farmington Road, Farmington Hills
Tuesday, March 28, 2006

A joint meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council, Farmington City Council and the Farmington Schools Board of Education was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at the Vagnozzi Visitor's Center in Heritage Park on Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Mayor Barnett.

FARMINGTON HILLS COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicky Barnett, Nancy Bates, Barry Brickner, Randy Bruce, Jerry Ellis, Kenneth Massey, and Cheryl Oliverio.

FARMINGTON COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Buck, Valerie Knol, JoAnne McShane, Karen Sutherland, and Michael Wiggins.

FARMINGTON SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Bolsen, Jack Inch, Frank Reid, Gary Sharp, and Howard Wallach.

FARMINGTON HILLS REPRESENTATIVES: City Manager Brock, Assistant City Manager Whinnery, Assistant to the City Manager Arbenowske, Special Services Director Boyer, and recording secretary Cheryl Printz.

FARMINGTON REPRESENTATIVES: City Manager Pastue, and City Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell.

FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES: Superintendent Zurvalec, Diane Bauman, Dennis Noe, and Mary Reynolds.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Welcoming remarks were made by Mayor Barnett, Mayor McShane, and President Sharp followed by the introduction of elected officials, staff and School District administrators.

FOCUS ISSUE: The World Is Flat. What does this mean for Farmington/Farmington Hills?

Farmington Hills City Manager Steve Brock introduced the topic. He stated we need to look at where we are going as a community in terms of both economic and geopolitical issues. He noted the question of what does this mean for our future and how are we going to position ourselves in the world. Discussion followed covering the following topics: relevance to how we conduct education and work; promoting Michigan's economic strengths; addressing the needs of all types of students; apathy, sense of entitlement; competition in a global economy; language skills, school district calendar; budget constraints; work ethic; self-discipline; healthy lifestyles; changing work and home environments; leadership opportunities for youth; utilizing competitive advantages such as diversity; competition; and intergovernmental cooperation.

UPDATES ON ISSUES OF MUTURAL INTEREST

A. School District Outdoor Facility Plan

Dennis Noe, Farmington Schools Director of Athletics/PE, gave a PowerPoint presentation of an update on the School District Outdoor Facility Plan. He stated that this is a community project, not just a school project. He noted this was a Facility Master Plan and that curb appeal is important. Mr. Noe stated that this plan is architecturally sound, contains an important exercise component, is handicapped accessible, and provides for a full days use. He thanked the community for their commitment to this plan and stated he is very proud of these facilities.

B. Close the loop on Joe Ohren's Discussion of 2003

City Manager Pastue summarized Joe Ohren's discussion of 2003. He outlined the recommendations that came out of the these discussions which included: increasing revenue through existing grant opportunities; increased cooperation between governmental units; strengthening lobbying efforts at the federal, state, and county levels; developing a joint position statement on new economic realities; shared facilities, resources and volunteers; and viewing individual assets as community assets. Second, he noted that discussion pertained to dealing with rising citizen expectations and demands while recognizing limited resources. Recommendations included increasing volunteer participation to help with money losses from funding cuts and involving the community when making difficult decisions. Third, maintaining community involvement was discussed.

Mayor McShane noted that the community has not jointly come together to utilize these goals and added that the more we come together, the better off our communities will be.

Councilmember Ellis stated that the community needs to take the relationship to the next level of cooperation. In this light he proposed:

1. Have the City of Farmington and the Farmington Schools District appoint a representative to serve on the City of Farmington Hills Redevelopment Committee.
2. Create a joint legislative committee to bring a unified voice to Lansing and Washington and lobby on our joint behalf; and
3. Create a Joint Task Force to look at and devise permanent funding solutions for after school programming. Councilmember Ellis suggested that one elected official and one administrator from each governmental unit serve on the Task Force.

The three entities present concurred with these thoughts. It was suggested that the communities would appoint members to these committees by April 17th.

C. Sprayground

City Manager Brock noted that the City of Farmington Hills is looking at doing a sprayground, with the current proposed location to be at Heritage Park. The City of Farmington is contemplating one at Drake Park. He suggested that this may be an opportunity to partner on this project and locate it at Shiawassee Park, which is centrally located.

Mayor McShane stated that she felt Shiawassee Park could not be utilized for this purpose because long range plans exist and that would change the footprint of that park. Mayor McShane proposed a joint sprayground at Drake Park.

OTHER ISSUES OF INTEREST OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Barnett presented information on the Champion Tree Project. This is a project where the trees that are the hardest of their species are being cloned and planted throughout the country. She noted that there is a heritage tree component, and those trees are being planted also. Mayor Barnett remarked that this may be an opportunity to do a tree hunt. This would promote tree education, environmental awareness, civic responsibility, and stewardship, and it can be done in a collaborative effort as a community wide event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or issues for discussion, Mayor Barnett adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

CITY OF FARMINGTON

JoAnne M. McShane, Mayor

Patsy K. Cantrell, City Clerk/Treasurer

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

Vicki Barnett, Mayor
Kathryn A. Dornan, City Clerk

FARMINGTON SCHOOL BOARD

Gary D. Sharp, President
Howard I. Wallach, Secretary

APPROVED: MAY 15, 2006