CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA
AGENDA AND NOTICE OF MEETING

Regular Workshop Session of Monday, September 29, 2014
Library Meeting Room – 5:30 p.m.

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

II. **DISCUSSION**
- A. Child Care Study Group Update
- B. Joint Meeting Update/Protocol
- C. Others

III. **ADJOURNMENT**

****PLEASE NOTE....the workshop will be followed by a Committee of the Whole meeting with the members of the School Board in the Governors' Room at 6:30 p.m.**

Office of the City Administrator
Todd Prafke

TP/bal

CITY OF Saint Peter
WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor Strand
Members of the City Council

DATE: 9/26/2014

FROM: Todd Prafke
City Administrator

RE: Child Care Study Update

ACTION/RECOMMENDATION

None needed. For your information and discussion only.

BACKGROUND

As part of the workshop on Monday evening, I will provide an update on recent Nicollet County action related to waiving fees for child care startups. In addition I hope to have information for you on a training opportunity that is being recommended by the study group.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this agenda item.

TP/bal

CHILD CARE STUDY COMMITTEE
INTERIM REPORT TO SAINT PETER CITY COUNCIL

This intent of this report is to provide an update about the discussions of the group and the Committee's position on various issues thus far.

Original members of the group include:

Shannon Prososki	Kid's Corner
Brad DeVos	St Peter Community Child Care
Rhonda Prince	St Peter Community Child Care
Calie Afdahl-Doble	Child Care Aware of Minnesota
Ed Lee	Chamber of Commerce
Jane Timmerman	Recreation and Leisure Services
Jeff Brand	City Council
Jeff Olson	School District #508
Ytive Prafke	School District #508
John Kvamme	City Council
Kristina Guth	Nicollet County
Larry Taylor	Taylor Corporation

Please note that from time to time others have participated in the group discussions.

Work of the Committee:

Attendance has been good through the three meetings that have been held thus far. Meetings are casual with City Administrator Prafke acting as the convener and group facilitator. Agendas have been provided and followed. Each meeting has lasted about an hour.

The Committee has reviewed data from a number of sources including data developed by local providers, Nicollet County, Child Care Resource and Referral, Saint Peter Schools as well as demographic data from a number of sources including Census, State Demographer's Office and the Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA). Survey material was collected using the Chamber of Commerce and its web and Facebook pages.

Committee's Opinion on number of slots needed:

The Committee's strong opinion is that there continues to be a substantial need for child care slots in the Saint Peter community. There is clearly more need for infant slots and toddler slots with infants being the highest and more pressing priority. While exact numbers are hard to ascertain, the development of a minimum of 12 infant slots should be a priority. Toddler slots of similar number are also needed.

Opportunities to develop childcare slots:

The Committee reviewed a number of different ideas and opportunities to create the slots they believe are needed within the community. Those ideas and opportunities fall into two primary categories which are Long Term and Short Term.

Long Term Opportunities

- More additional square footage for one of the current centers at the Community Center
- Development of a new center facility
- Continue to explore opportunities with the School District related to their facilities planning
- Review opportunities for reuse of Grandview
- Work with Gustavus on new or modified facilities
- Additional work with local businesses or real estate professional who may own space that could be modified

Short Term Opportunities

- Promotion of in-home opportunities through the reduction or elimination of the fees associated with licensing, which includes both City and County fees, tied to incentives in the target age groups
- Provide additional discounted rents at the Community Center for development of more slots in the targeted age groups
- Host a child care fair to get both potential providers in touch with potential users.
- Provide business and child care learning workshops through the City or School District that would make it easier for in-home service providers to understand the business and standards that can make them successful.

Challenges to additional slot development:

- The Committee identified a number of challenges to development of additional slots.
    - Lack of facilities or buildings that are suitable for this use.
    - Cost of facilities
- Improving economy meaning that past providers or potential future providers have many employment opportunities and development of private in-home business is not easy.
- Seeking out community partners to provide assistance including the business and public sectors. Often businesses do not understand the correlation between workforce development and daycare opportunities.
- Infant slots do not provide a sustainable business model. The cost to care for infants, primarily due the rations of provider to child means the providers do not make money. While this is believed to be the community's most pressing need, the cost is higher and the revenue is unable to support the costs.

Next Steps:

The Committee will meet in July to further explore a couple of the ideas, both long and short term, listed above. Should the Council wish to provide any additional direction or commentary the Committee will continue to work to find ways to grow slots within the community.

Should Councilmembers wish to have access to the data reviewed by the Committee, please let me know and I will be happy to provide the specific data.

CITY OF Saint Peter
WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor Strand
Members of the City Council

DATE: 9/26/2014

FROM: Todd Prafke
City Administrator

RE: Joint Meeting Update and Protocol

ACTION/RECOMMENDATION

None needed. For your information and discussion only.

BACKGROUND

As part of the workshop on Monday evening (which precedes the joint City Council/School Board committee of the whole meeting), I will provide an update on the meeting, the meeting process and additional explanation regarding the report you were provided in the packet for the last Council meeting. A copy of that report is attached for your reference.

If you have any questions or concerns on this agenda item prior to the workshop, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this agenda item.

TP/bal

CITY OF
Saint Peter
WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor Strand
Members of the City Council

DATE: 9/16/2014

FROM: Todd Prafke
City Administrator

RE: Parks Board Recommendation – Joint City/School District #508 Facility

The list provided below was developed by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regarding the joint City/School District #508 parks facilities at their September 15th meeting. It will be utilized by the Council and School Board as a starting point as we move forward in project planning:

- Two baseball diamonds; and
- Ten multi-use fields; and
- Five softball diamonds; and
- An eight tennis court complex; and
- Parking lots to meet the needs of all fields; and
- A trail system; and
- Restroom, concession facilities to meet the needs of all fields; and
- Ten acres of land for picnic area including playgrounds; and
- Five acres of land for a new indoor recreation center; and
- One indoor hockey rink; and
- Four outdoor basketball courts; and
- One golf chip and putt area.

Also, please note that this list represents total fields so the Parks Board meant for it to represent needs for both City and School.

TP/bal