

Tuesday - June 20, 1998

Burton Street Recreation Center

134 Burton Street

7:00 p.m. - Community Meeting

Present: Mayor Leni Sitnick, Presiding; Councilman Earl Cobb; Councilwoman Barbara Field; Councilman Thomas G. Sellers; and Councilman O.T. Tomes; City Attorney Robert W. Oast Jr.; City Manager James L. Westbrook Jr.; and City Clerk Magdalen Burleson

Absent: Vice-Mayor Edward C. Hay Jr. and Councilman M. Charles Cloninger

The following topics were raised by residents and addressed by City Council and City staff: removal of gate on Collins Street near Hall Fletcher School; lack of minority representation in the Asheville Police Department and need for retention and promotion of African American officers; Burton Street Recreation Center ("Center") needs air conditioning; the Center needs to be renovated; the Center's grounds need to be landscaped and work performed on the ballfield area ; the Center needs additional parking; there is a need for more fire hydrants in the Burton Street area; there is a need for mailbox in the Burton Street area; residents want more police patrol and presence in the area to help deter the selling and buying of drugs and other illegal and immoral activity that takes place; the Center needs to be painted on the inside; request for police officers to be stationed at the Center to help deter the selling of drugs at night at the Center; need for a stop sign at the intersection of Ivy and Boyd Street; water leak on Buffalo Street; request to legalize drugs to reduce crime; need for fire alarm boxes in the area; possibility of a police officer living in the community; suggestion for a citizens on patrol program being started in the area; request for personnel to be available in the West Asheville Resource Center; need for speed breaker on Burton Street; request for a permanent Director at the Center; suggestion that Police officers use cameras to catch criminal activity; need for more jobs for the youth; why the street paving stopped right before 87 & 89 Argyle Lane; request to see if the operation of a garage on Argyle Lane complies with the zoning designation; request to see why cars are being stored on Argyle Lane in conjunction with the garage located on that street; need to stop the commercial encroachment into the residential neighborhood at the head of Burton Street; request that the City Council contact legislators to abolish the Civil Service law which will help in the hiring of minorities in the Police Department; and the need for a cohesive plan to include African Americans in all aspects of economic development.

Mayor Sitnick adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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CITY CLERK MAYOR

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