

CITY OF NEW HOPE  
4401 XYLON AVENUE NORTH  
NEW HOPE, MINNESOTA 55428

City Council Minutes  
Work Session Meeting

October 27, 2010  
Conference Room

**CALL TO ORDER** The New Hope City Council met in work session pursuant to due call and notice thereof; Mayor Hemken called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Council present: Kathi Hemken, Mayor  
John Elder, Council Member (left at 7:25 p.m.)  
Andy Hoffe, Council Member  
Eric Lammle, Council Member  
Daniel Stauner, Council Member

Planning Commission present: Jeff Houle, Chair  
Jim Brinkman  
Roger Landy  
Ranjan Nirgudé

Staff present: Kirk McDonald, City Manager  
Curtis Jacobsen, Director of Community Development  
Eric Weiss, Community Development Assistant

**Review Draft City Center Guiding Vision and Principles**  
**Item 11.1**

Mayor Hemken introduced for discussion item 11.1, review draft City Center Guiding Vision and Principles.

Ms. Sherri Buss, project manager with TKDA, reviewed the items discussed at the previous joint work session.

Buss began with reviewing the Public and Community Gathering Spaces section. The group discussed the need for a gateway to Civic Center Park as it was felt that the park was too hidden. There was also discussion about the need for a community center in New Hope. A possible public-private partnership was suggested.

The group moved on to the Business portion of the document. The group highlighted the need to secure an anchor store in the area as well as a grocery store to generate traffic. It was decided that although office space may not be a huge component of redevelopment, it may be needed to maintain retail uses.

The Housing section was discussed next. There was some talk regarding height limitations on housing developments, but the group determined no height limitations should be placed on housing in the City Center as the group wanted to encourage redevelopment and not place limitations on the market. It was agreed that City Center is a unique area of the city and if taller buildings belong anywhere in New Hope it would be within City Center.

In conversations related to the Environment section, the group decided a possible signature piece of City Center could be a system of mini parks and green spaces. The group expressed its interest in ensuring that City Center was unique and had a “softness” to it.

The Financial section was discussed without much comment.

Finally, the group discussed next steps. It was decided that another panel discussion would be held including developers and staff/elected officials from other cities. The panel would offer advice on the visioning document and suggest next steps and implementation pieces.

Bringing the document forward to the community was important to those in attendance. A business open house will be held in January and a community-wide open house sometime later in the winter.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. as there was no further business to come before the Council at its work session.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Weiss  
Community Development Assistant