

CITY-COUNTY COMMON MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Council Chambers

555 South 10th Street

11:00 a.m.

Present: Roma Amundson, Common-Chair; Tammy Ward, Common-Vice-Chair; Deb Schorr, Christa Yoakum, and Rick Vest (until 11:48 a.m.), County Commissioners; Sandra Washington, James Michael Bowers, and Bennie Shobe, City Council Members

Absent: Sean Flowerday, County Commissioner; Richard Meginnis, Jane Raybould, and Tom Beckius, City Council Members; and Leirion Gaylor Baird, Mayor

Others Present: Nick Cusick, Lincoln Airport Authority Board of Directors and David Haring, Executive Director, Lincoln Airport Authority; Sara Hoyle, Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Human Services; Mindy Rush Chipman, Equity and Diversity Officer, City of Lincoln; Saige Walker, Administrative Secretary to Lancaster County Board; JaMel Ways, City Council Assistant; and Mikayla Johnson, Grant Coordinator, Lancaster County

Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners Staff Meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska web site and provided to the media on February 14, 2022

The Chair, Roma Amundson, opened the meeting at 11:07 a.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

1. Roll Call

Schorr asked for a Roll Call. All were present except Flowerday, Meginnis, Raybould, Beckius and Baird.

2. Approval of Common Meeting Minutes for August 17, 2021

MOTION

Schorr moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the August 17, 2021, Common Meeting Minutes. Amundson, Ward, Schorr, Yoakum, Vest, Washington, Bowers, and Shobe voted yes. Flowerday, Meginnis, Raybould, Beckius and Baird were absent. Motion carried 8-0.

3. Airport Authority Update

Nick Cusick, Lincoln Airport Authority Board of Directors and David Haring, Executive Director, Lincoln Airport Authority

Haring reviewed the LNK Presentation (Exhibit A).

Game Plan

Concerning LNK's plan, he stated it has always been the same. One, protect what we have, don't lose any more, and enhance if possible. Number two, add leisure services. And three, evaluate possibility of ultra-low-cost carriers.

Challenges

Compared to 2019, carriers, markets, flights, and passengers have been halved for LNK. One of the biggest challenges is the Omaha Airport: roughly 20% of the market stays in Lincoln, the other 80% goes to Omaha. LNK's market is about 340,000 people. Comparing LNK to similar sized airports, a healthy air service system should have a 1:1 ratio: if there are 340,000 people in our market, there should be 340,000 people getting on a plane annually. We are at about .46:1. Kayak (largest flight search engine) shows flight search trends have reduced across the board with spikes being seen during holidays such as Christmas and Thanksgiving.

What does this mean for LNK?

Haring has a partner with United and is continuing dialogue with them, American talks have largely stopped due to them cutting back immensely. He believes Delta is a near loss, and LNK won't be able to go back into talks with them for 3-5 years. LNK does not fit Southwest's business model. 'Airline in a Box' concept is being proposed: operating 3-4 days a week, reasonable fares, economic benefits to the community, larger aircraft. Leisure service needs to go where people want to go when they want to go. Winter – Florida, Arizona; Summer – California, Washington; Anytime – Georgia, Texas, Illinois.

Potential Schedules

Could be Wednesday/Saturday, Thursday/Sunday, Friday/Monday. To account for seasonal markets, Memorial Day to Labor Day, Labor Day to Christmas, Christmas to Easter, Easter to Memorial Day. Designed with low-fares, high volume.

Leisure Markets

Analyzing Allegiant's success in Las Vegas shows the leisure market grew by nearly 200%—it also grew non-leisure by 10% and total airport by 17%.

Haring doesn't believe that sometime in the next 12 months is out of the question for leisure flights to begin.

Deb Schorr commented having leisure flights can be used as a recruitment tool to develop and maintain a strong workforce.

4. Gateways for Growth Welcoming Community Planning

Christa Yoakum, Vice Chair, Lancaster County Board of Commissioners; Sara Hoyle, Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Human Services; and Mindy Rush Chipman, Equity and Diversity Officer, City of Lincoln

Yoakum started by introducing Gateways for Growth, a technical assistance program. Lincoln and Lincoln's nonprofits have always welcomed immigrants wrapped arms around them. Gateways for Growth is a way to provide this process with structure. In 2016, Lincoln resettled more refugees per capita than any other community in the United States.

Rush Chipman talked about the New Americans Task Force (NATF), which is a network of nearly 70 organizations and community members supporting Lincoln's immigrant and refugee members. NATF received technical assistance in 2009 from World Education Services (WES) which led to the development of Career Pathways, MyCity Academy, and Professional Connectors. In 2019, NATF held a survey which led to more than 500 immigrant and refugee respondents, shedding light on other barriers. The final plan will be released March 2022, which includes 6 focus areas: Equitable Access, Civic Engagement and Community Connections, Education, Economic Opportunity, Safe and Healthy Communities, and Affordable and Quality Housing.

Recommendations

Hoyle stated these recommendations come from a long, comprehensive list from the steering committee and community feedback.

1. **Equitable Access** – Welcoming Center, outreach and advisory teams, Welcoming Community Coordinator, increase awareness of MyLink, and continue partnership with Star Tran.
2. **Civic Engagement and Community Connections** – increased awareness of opportunities, expand connectors program, promote and increase funding for naturalization programs and access to legal resources, support city-wide celebrations, share civic engagement opportunities (voting, participation on boards and public meetings, etc.)
3. **Education** – early childhood partnering with Lincoln Littles, making sure refugees know about scholarships and have a system for applying, and train staff on implicit bias.
4. **Economic Opportunity** – creating and supporting local minority and immigrant owned business, partner with Chamber of Commerce and others to establish one-stop shops for immigrant entrepreneurs and educating on workers' rights and safety.
5. **Safety and Healthy Communities** – Spoke with Lincoln-Lancaster County Emergency Management on how to reach everyone with important community safety and emergency alert information in multiple languages.
6. **Affordable and Quality Housing** – Provide information in multiple languages, increase affordable housing, increase awareness of new homebuyer education and resources.

Commissioner Deb Schorr asked Hoyle about the plan to increase education to the immigrant and refugee population.

Hoyle responded saying they will have a public launch at the end of March and after that they will use this information to provide education and encourage participation of our community members.

Yoakum and Schorr spoke briefly about the many opportunities for mentors to make a huge difference by talking at Kiwanis Clubs, Church Clubs, etc.

Washington commented that this was much needed and thanked Yoakum.

Amundson commented that she finds it amazing when driving around Lincoln and seeing immigrant owned businesses – and not only at the North 27th corridor.

5. JBC ARPA Funding

Sara Hoyle, Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Human Services and Mikayla Johnson, Grant Coordinator

Lancaster County in partnership with City of Lincoln, allocated \$15 million to provide support to non-profits. Hoyle stated an RFP was issued to the community and they responded with over \$88 million in requests and 64 requests. The process started with an external review panel comprised of local funders, the second step was the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) who reviewed the applications and previous recommendations and made their own, then forwarded it to the County Board who made the ultimate decision. Johnson added of the 64 applications, 30 were chosen and Sara's staff will be notifying recipients today with the press release being sent out tomorrow. (Exhibit B)

Ward asked if Hoyle knew how many applications were eliminated at each stage. Johnson responded that some requests came in for several thousands and Hoyle thought that JBC could meet their needs in a different manner, so they were weeded out. The dwindling down happened primarily at the local funder level and the JBC who at that point had a good understanding and felt the same about who would be recommended by the quality of application and need.

Ward thanked Hoyle for her work, Schorr recognized Jenni Ryan for her participation with the background technical work as well as Bowers for the professional handling of the JBC meetings.

Before adjourning, Ward introduced the new Assistant to the City Council, JaMel Ways, who started in December. Yoakum introduced Saige Walker, the new Administrative Secretary to the County Board who started in January.

6. Adjournment

MOTION

Schorr moved and Washington seconded to adjourn at 11:57 a.m. The motion carried 7-0 with the absence of Vest who left at 11:48 a.m.

Submitted by Saige Walker, Administrative Secretary to the County Board

Exhibit A:



Exhibit B:

2022

JBC ARPA Applications Recommended for Funding

Agency	Project	Amount Requested	Review Team Recs	JBC Recs	Final Recs
Boys & Girls Clubs	Youth & COVID-19: Continuing Community Response, Recovery, and Resilience	\$210,680	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
Catholic Social Services	Racial Equity Expansion	\$792,735	\$226,000	\$226,000	\$226,000
Cedars Youth Services	Safety & Stability in Service Delivery	\$2,829,227	\$400,000	\$500,000	\$813,835
Center for Legal Immigration Assistance	Recovery Project through Legal Immigration Services	\$250,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Center for People in Need	Diaper Van	\$600,000	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$130,000
CenterPointe	South Street Health & Well-Being Center	\$5,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$3,000,000
Child Advocacy Center	Room to Heal Capital Campaign	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Community Action Partnership	Head Start	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000
Community Action Partnership	Gathering Place Facility Improvement Project	\$971,500	\$96,500	\$96,500	\$96,500
Cultural Centers of Lincoln	Multicultural Center	\$13,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
Educare of Lincoln, Inc	Meeting the Basic Needs of Lincoln's Families & Advancing Racial Equity	\$463,241	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
Family Service Lincoln	Youth STEAM Center	\$666,850	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000
Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools	Student Emergency Fund	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
Fresh Start	Capital Renovations	\$274,350	\$274,350	\$274,350	\$274,350
Friendship Home	Shelter & Services for Survivors	\$931,000	\$300,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Good Neighbor Community Center	General Support	\$355,000	\$355,000	\$355,000	\$355,000
HopeSpoke	Infrastructure Improvements to	\$615,720	\$300,000	\$70,000	\$70,000