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MEMORANDUM

TO: Snoqualmie City Council
FROM: Mark Correira, Fire Chief
DATE: July 8, 2019
SUBJECT: Community Meeting Executive Summary

BACKGROUND

On June 9, 2019, at 7 PM, the Mayor hosted a community town hall meeting to gather more information from the residents about the proposed community center. The City Administration contracted with Una McAlinden of Una McAlinden Consulting & Facilitation, Bellevue WA. Una came highly recommended from other facilitation work she has done in the Upper Valley.

Una engaged with the City multiple times to discuss the format of the town hall meeting. She has a particular way of providing facilitation and she wanted to make sure the city was comfortable and familiar with it. During these meetings, she imparted the importance of a shorter Mayoral presentation and longer facilitation with the community to get more precise feedback about the proposed community center. Una also trained city staff on how to facilitate the small workgroups. She stressed the importance of writing down exactly what the community has said and not translating it to a shorter version. She wanted to affirm the City heard precisely what the community was communicating.

The remainder of this document will focus on the feedback received at this community meeting.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Over 70 (estimated) people attended this community meeting. The attendees were broken-up by age-groups and were asked to work together in these groups. The workgroups ranged from preschool through seniors and retired. Each table was asked the same questions, everyone at the tables were asked to give feedback, and their responses were written down verbatim on large poster paper. At the close of the meeting, each group out-briefed to their input to the entire room.

Una took the information from the meeting transcribed it into a word document, and returned the feedback to the administration.

Communications Coordinator Joan Pliego and I took the raw data and broke them into commonly-themed groups, and transferred them to Excel. A copy of the excel sheet is attached to this memo.

The following are the popular themed groups realized from the Community Meeting:

- Pool
- Building amenities
- Finance
- Programming
- Miscellaneous

Feedback from the town hall found the most common/popular items for the pool-group being "a six-lane lap pool, deep and diving and polo, and a zero and three pool." The building amenities group found "more community and dry space, adequate parking, and family locker rooms" as being the most important. The finance group found "no cost increases or membership details, and YMCA rates or rate increases" as the most important. For programming, "swim lessons, open community hours Lake Sammamish, CPR and first aid training, in junior lifeguard program" as the most important. And, for miscellaneous, "regional pool/work with Si View Parks District, more public input on the facility and pool, and a focal point for track sports" as the most important. All the items mentioned previously in this paragraph had multiple people voicing these opinions. The remainder of the items on the attached spreadsheet only had a comment from one person.

Overall, the feedback from the town hall was excellent. Many people reported appreciating having the opportunity to give feedback about the community center and learning more about what is being proposed. It was also encouraged to have more of these types of engagement meetings in the future. Una's facilitation and program format also received high regards.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this memo or the attached spreadsheet.