Additional City Council Announcements May 5, 2009

A. Information Needed by Council Staff

1. Two sign-up sheets, in the form of calendars, for May and June will be circulated for the purpose of selecting dates for Council Members to attend the budget meetings listed.

Would Council Members please select one or more budget meetings that they are able to attend?

2. Bees, via pollination, are responsible for 15 to 30 percent of the food U.S. consumers eat. But in the last 50 years the domesticated honeybee population—which most farmers depend on for pollination—has declined by about 50 percent, scientists say. (National Geographic, October 5, 2004)

This decline in bee population is largely attributed to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). Although little is known about the actual causes of CCD, bee populations seem to be more prone to diseases and parasites as a result, which may be avoided by good management practices by beekeepers. Until the 1980s, Salt Lake City allowed apiaries (beehives) in agriculturally zoned areas. Because of the killer bee scare, the use was no longer permitted. As a result, Salt Lake City does not currently allow people to keep bees, because it is not listed as a permitted use.

To accommodate the practice of beekeeping, and to combat the issue of a decreasing bee population, Council Member Christensen is interested in beginning a Legislative Action permitting beekeeping in Salt Lake City. Cities such as Seattle, Washington, Vancouver, British Columbia and Denver, Colorado have amended their code to allow for beekeeping in residential areas, and have been effective in creating an ordinance allowing beekeepers to responsibly and reasonably manage their apiaries in an urban environment. The State of Utah has in place, a registry of beekeepers in the State. Currently, there are 53 registered beekeepers in Salt Lake City.

Would the Council be supportive of this Legislative Action?

3. Provided the new process the Council utilizes to approve grant funding within the Consent Agenda, an outline of the grant applications is below. The details of the grant are also attached. If you have any objections, please speak with a member of staff.

| Grant Reference Title | Grant Amount | Grant Program |
|---|--------------|---|
| Justice Court DUO Staggered Sentencing Study | \$ 28,381.00 | State Justice Institute/Technical Assistance Project |
| | \$ | |