

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 21, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber – Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue North

PRESENT: Mayor McGlashan, Deputy Mayor Eggen, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember McConnell, Councilmember Winstead, Councilmember Salomon, and Councilmember Roberts

ABSENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Eggen, who presided.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL

Deputy Mayor Eggen led the flag salute. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, all Councilmembers were present with the exception of Mayor McGlashan, who was scheduled to arrive late.

3. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

Julie Underwood, City Manager, provided reports and updates on various City meetings, projects, and events.

Councilmember Winstead provided a brief report on the Planning Commissioner appointment process. She noted that there were 17 applications and seven people were interviewed. She thanked everyone for taking the time to apply and interview.

4. COMMUNITY GROUP PRESENTATION

(a) Friends of Fircrest

Cheryl Felak, Friends of Fircrest, presented information about what Fircrest is, what it does for the community and how the community supports it and its residents and families. She discussed the goals and projects of Friends of Fircrest, which benefit not only Fircrest residents but others in the Shoreline community with developmental and intellectual disabilities. She shared information regarding a proposed Shoreline Universal Kinetic Park.

Mayor McGlashan arrived at 7:28 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Eggen asked about community support for Kinetic Park.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

a) Maria Walsh, Shoreline, Treasurer, Friends of Fircrest, urged people to open their minds and see what could be done if the state department is not in control of Fircrest.

b) Tony Dondero, Shoreline Patch, commented on how to contact Patch.

c) Tom Jameson, Shoreline, discussed the Planning Commissioner appointee process and how the process is subject to the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).

Ian Sievers, City Attorney, responded to the City manager regarding the OPMA. She replied that the Council committee held the interviews in an open meeting. Mr. Sievers added that the interviews could have been done in closed session and that they can be considered as deliberations, but it was done openly.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Councilmember McConnell, seconded by Councilmember Winstead and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Councilmember Winstead, seconded by Councilmember McConnell and unanimously carried, the following Consent Calendar item was approved:

(a) **Appointment of Planning Commission Members**

8. STUDY ITEMS

(a) Neighborhood Program Update

Rob Beem, Community Services Division (CSD) Manager, and Nora Smith, Neighborhoods Coordinator, provided Council with an update on the Neighborhoods Program. The following citizens joined the City staff in the presentation; Jack Malek, Vice Chair, Richmond Beach Community Association and Patty Dooley, Secretary, Ballinger Neighborhood Association. They explained that the Neighborhoods Program was established in February 1996, shortly after the City incorporated. Ms. Smith explained that the Council of Neighborhoods was established because the City Council supported high level of citizen participation and recognized that Shoreline residents wanted improved access to government decisions that affected their community. The Neighborhoods Program supports the Council of Neighborhoods (CON), individual Neighborhood Associations and networking among organizations that strengthen the Shoreline community. A variety of Neighborhood Mini-Grants have spawned activities and projects such as the Outdoor Movie Night and improvements such as the work on Densmore

Avenue & North 188th Street. New partnerships forged between neighborhoods have created community-wide activities such as Shoreline Youth Jam and the 4 Corners Brewfest.

Ms. Dooley commented that there are a lot of apartments, four churches, and a diverse population in Ballinger. She stated that there are neighborhood meetings, a movie night, and a community garden. She added that the neighborhood lacks sidewalks, which prevents people from interacting.

Mr. Malek from the Richmond Beach Neighborhood Association commented on their programs and activities. He noted that they have from 13 to 14 community events each year.

Ms. Smith concluded the presentation by discussing the challenges and benefits of the Council of Neighborhoods (CON). Mr. Beem noted that the neighborhood coordinator position will be a job share in the future.

Councilmember Roberts asked which neighborhood associations had Facebook pages and websites. Ms. Smith replied that there are nine which have their own sites, but Microsoft is no longer providing the free websites (Office Live). Councilmember Roberts asked if the City could host neighborhood websites, to which Ms. Smith replied that it would raise some issues about website content. She added that there are groups that would prefer not to have the City control it. Councilmember Roberts confirmed with Ms. Smith that the relationship between the City and neighborhood associations is that the City will support these independent associations, but will not create organizations that wouldn't exist on their own. Additionally, she said the City pays their premiums for commercial liability. She further explained that CON is not a legal entity. Councilmember Roberts asked what the Council can do to empower the neighborhood associations. Ms. Dooley replied that they are allowed one mailing per year at the City's expense and she said it would be nice for the associations to communicate more via mail with neighbors. Mr. Malek responded that making communication easier would help.

Councilmember Winstead thanked the speakers for their work and said this is volunteer-based and takes a lot of time. She said she hopes the social media piece helps bring people together.

Deputy Mayor Eggen said he has not seen any communications from the CON, but assumed that any pressing policy issue would come from them. He said he would love the opportunity for the Council to interact with the CON and discussed a rumor about separating a part of Aurora corridor into a neighborhood. Ms. Smith said that the City's Economic Development Manager floated an idea about a new neighborhood as higher density is created on Aurora Avenue.

Mayor McGlashan stated that he appreciated the comingling of neighborhoods in the various activities.

Councilmember Hall left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

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At 8:37 p.m., Mayor McGlashan called for a five-minute break. The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

(b) Human Services Update

Rob Beem, Community Services Manager, provided an update of the Human Services Program in preparation for the 2013/2014 biennial human service funding process. In 2009, the Human Service Task Force, a group of 17 residents, updated the City's Human Service Plan. The 2009 Plan Update focused on identifying and increasing individual and community assets and capacity to address problems. The plan identified the following seven critical issues: 1) basic needs and poverty; 2) older adults; 3) barriers to service; 4) youth and young adults; 5) refugees and immigrants; 6) people with disabilities; and 7) raising young and elementary school children. The 2012 City budget allocates \$480,000 to local human service agencies to support the provision of direct services to residents.

Mr. Beem then presented a table summarizing the 2012 human service agency funding. He outlined the City's three roles and funding programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), major and minor home repair, housing acquisition, sidewalk accessibility, and green streets. He discussed the agencies the City contracts with for human services. He reviewed the City's accomplishments, including the housing/transportation partnerships, census, American Community Survey, earned income tax credit, the preservation of 139 units of affordable rental housing, and being in leadership positions on the Northshore/Shoreline Community Network and the NUHSA Community Resource Team. He noted that there are more families in greater need in Shoreline and highlighted specific numbers. He reviewed the human service allocation process and displayed a chart of what level the City supports the eight critical issues.

Mr. Beem responded to a comment from Councilmember McConnell concerning the ad hoc committee. Councilmember McConnell supported continuing allocations and had concerns about the ad hoc committee. Councilmember Salomon communicated that the youth accounted for one percent of the spending, and Mr. Beem added that the City has a fairly robust focus in the City's teen program, but housing homeless youth is not addressed. He added that the University of Washington is trying to help and the funding the City provides to homeless youth is really through the contract with Teen Link. He added that ten percent of the funding has gone to raising younger children. He felt the teen program is doing a good job.

Councilmember Winstead said she started serving on the human services ad hoc committee several years ago and was overwhelmed by the paperwork. She said there are some tough choices and felt the City has struck a good balance and was in favor of letting that committee go. She added that she is proud of the work done by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department with the youth in the community. Mr. Beem noted that some of the funding the City allocates to the Center for Human Services goes to substance abuse and youth issues.

Councilmember Roberts discussed the CDBG information and funding challenges. He asked if the City gets more value from larger agencies versus smaller ones. Ms. Underwood responded that many of the services are discretionary, so it will come down to a discussion of the Council's

priorities. Councilmember Salomon commented that he would like to identify what the City has to reduce if spending is approved elsewhere.

Deputy Mayor Eggen supported the first two recommended actions from Mr. Beem and asked if the ad hoc committee ever weighed in on determining the City's human service priorities and the plan itself. Mr. Beem responded that the committee did, and it came to the conclusion that if reductions need to be made, the City should focus funding on its core human services, the Senior Center, the Center for Human Services, and Hopelink. Deputy Mayor Eggen also commented on the Veterans Levy funds distribution to the north end and Mr. Beem responded that until a different metric is realized, those funds will continue to be distributed in that manner.

Mayor McGlashan concluded that CDBG funding has been a hot topic at the Community and Economic Development Steering Committee meetings at the National League of Cities. He concluded by stating that Council consensus was not in favor of ad hoc committees.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:28 p.m., Mayor McGlashan declared the meeting adjourned.