

**CITY OF SHORELINE
COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS MINUTES**

January 11, 2006
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline Center
Spartan Room

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Ballinger – **Larry Moss, Londa Jacques**
Briarcrest – **Stan Terry, Bettelin Brown**
Echo Lake Neighborhood Association – **Dale Wright, Marcie Riedinger**
Highlands – **Bonnie Mackey**
Highland Terrace – **Bob Barta**
Hillwood Neighborhood Association
Innis Arden – **Judy Allen, David Fosmire**
North City Neighborhood Association – **Charlotte Haines, Sally Granger**
Parkwood
Richmond Beach Community Council – **David Bannister**
Richmond Highlands Neighborhood Association – **Naomi Hardy**
Ridgecrest Neighborhood Association – **Patty Hale, Dick Nicholson**
Westminster Triangle Network – **Cathy Marden, Mary Jo Heller**

VISITORS PRESENT: Shoreline Mayor Bob Ransom; Shoreline City Councilmembers Rich Gustafson and Keith McGlashan; Shoreline residents Anna Marchini, Dan Henry, Lee Michaels, Lee Cervený

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Joyce Nichols, Community and Intergovernmental Relations Director; Nora Smith, Neighborhoods Coordinator; Rob Beem, Human Services Manager; George Smith, Human Services Planner; Katie Larson, Shoreline Police Sergeant; Leona Obstler, Shoreline Police Officer; Carol Shenk, City Clerk's Office, Records and Information Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Bonnie Mackey called the meeting to order. The agenda was approved unanimously, with the change that due to illness the City's new Planning Director Joe Tovar would not be present as scheduled for "New Business." The neighborhood representatives then unanimously adopted the minutes of the meeting of November 2, 2005.

II. B. Old Business

• **Item 1 --- Hunger in Shoreline**

Rob Beem, Human Services Manager, summarized his November presentation on hunger in Shoreline. George Smith, Human Services Planner stated the goal of creating a more steady supply of food and funds to the Food Bank at Hope Link, with the strategy of developing 2-3 additional annual food collection events in Shoreline. Mr. Beem asked the Neighborhood representatives how they would like to participate in hunger relief programs. Dale Wright, Echo Lake, asked what percentage of the local post office food drive went directly to the community. Mr. Beem responded that the distribution was not solely to Shoreline but did contribute to Food Lifeline's regional food bank. Dick Nicholson, Ridgecrest, stated that the Shoreline Rotary gives to Norwest Harvest, located at Fircrest.

Mr. Smith recommended attendance at Hopelink's upcoming open house. He suggested that neighborhood groups could join Hopelink's new Food Drive Committee and volunteer, possibly working together on food drives with kits provided by Hopelink. Mr. Smith also pointed out that monetary contributions to the Food Bank purchase significantly more food than spending the same

amount on a food drive because Hopelink can make purchases at reduced prices. Marcie Riedinger, Echo Lake, suggested that the school district could contribute by holding food drives at sports events. Chair Mackey added that The Highlands neighborhood could also collect food donations at its monthly meetings. Patty Hale, Ridgecrest, suggested that in addition to school events, volunteers could set up booths and conduct awareness campaigns at City events such as Swinging' Summer Eve and at community events like the Ridgecrest Ice Cream Social. Judy Allen, Innis Arden, added that Innis Arden decided to donate a percentage of the proceeds from next year's rummage sale to charities. Londa Jacques, Ballinger, noted that it is difficult to locate appropriate food drop-off sites and recommended that such information be included in neighborhood newsletters.

Chair Mackey asked whether grocery stores donate to food banks. Ms. Jacques responded that while stores are willing to donate food, transportation is needed. Nora Smith, Neighborhoods Coordinator, confirmed that Hopelink's new facility can accommodate refrigerated food; volunteers pick it up and deliver it to Hopelink. She then summarized that the Council of Neighborhoods recommends attaching food drives to events like Celebrate Shoreline and Swingin' Summer Eve and that other ideas may emerge through new connections. Bettelin Brown, Briarcrest, Kathy Marden, Westminster Triangle Network, and Patty Hale, Ridgecrest, volunteered to consider looking at additional opportunities.

- **Item 2 --- December Training**

Chair Mackey asked representatives to share their thoughts on the December interaction styles communication training. Ms. Allen said that learning about people's tendency to expect others to "Be Like Me" opened her mind. Ms. Marden stated that she looked forward to the second part of the training on temperament. David Fosmire, Innis Arden, and Ms. Jacques both agreed. Charlotte Haines, North City, felt that the first part of the training dealt with issues that were matters of maturity, and she also felt that the second part would be more interesting. Sally Granger, North City, commented that the pace of the training moved too quickly for her, especially asking participants to choose between communication style categories on the spot. Mr. Nicholson felt that though he had heard these concepts before, Assistant City Manager Julie Modrzejewski's presentation was very helpful. Bob Barta, Highland Terrace, pointed out that the "Get Things Going" style is best suited to the goals of neighborhood association leaders, and so Council of Neighborhood representatives might want to model that behavior. Larry Moss, Ballinger, felt that more role-playing and more in-depth training would be helpful. Ms. Riedinger complimented the presentation by Ms. Modrzejewski and Shoreline Human Resources Director Marci Wright. Mr. Wright felt that the training clarified character differences. There was then unanimous agreement in favor of holding the second part of the training. Joyce Nichols, Community and Intergovernmental Relations Director, commented that the same training had made a great difference in how City staff relate to one another. She suggested that the temperaments training be scheduled for the Council of Neighborhoods meeting in February.

Chair Mackey acknowledged the arrival of Shoreline City Councilmember Rich Gustafson.

III. Public Comment

Shoreline resident Lee Michaels introduced himself and stated that he is interested in forming an association for the Hillwood neighborhood.

Resident Anna Marchini stated that she was also hoping to establish a Hillwood Neighborhood Association.

Councilmember Gustafson thanked attendees for their participation and commented that the City Council needs to heal after a difficult election season.

Chair Mackey acknowledged the arrival of Shoreline Mayor Bob Ransom and Councilmember Keith McGlashan. She then welcomed Briarcrest resident Dan Henry.

Shoreline Police Segeant Katie Larson introduced herself and described her role supervising the Shoreline Explorers, School Resource Officers, and the Police Neighborhood Centers (storefronts). Officer Leona Obstler, Westside Police Storefront, announced the annual Block Watch and Preparedness Training on January 26, which was advertised via the Council of Neighborhoods e-mail list, the City Website, and the Shoreline Enterprise. She then distributed a crime prevention flyer relating to car prowls.

Ms. Haines asked if she could comment on recent political events in the City. She reviewed the history of citizen involvement since Shoreline's incorporation, describing a sometimes antagonistic relationship between the east and west sides of the City. She pointed out that local issues had been resolved through community input and increased attention to east side concerns. She cited the City's achievements, including sidewalk construction, improved traffic safety, improved parks, and establishment of gateways. She noted that the lack of sidewalks on the east side was partially due to residents' objections in favor of tree preservation. She felt that the City and the City Council has been getting a "bad rap" recently.

Mr. Wright concurred that from his perspective, the City has responded effectively to concerns in the Echo Lake neighborhood. Mr. Barta commented that in watching recent City Council meetings, he saw that the Council of Neighborhoods could participate and tap the energy of residents at those meetings. He added that perhaps City Councilmembers could attend the Council of Neighborhoods meetings on a rotating basis. Ms. Haines added that the Council of Neighborhoods used to have a broader view of the City and took a more active role in citywide issues, such as fireworks regulations. She suggested that in light of recent contentiousness, perhaps the neighborhood groups needed to focus more on the City as a whole.

Ms. Nichols commented on another significant improvement in the City's infrastructure that she recently noticed: after twenty days of rain, there had been no major surface water complaints, unlike previous wet seasons. Still, she asked everyone to be sure to clean out their storm-water grates to help prevent drainage problems.

Ms. Smith then introduced Nancy Colfax from the American Cancer Society, who announced the upcoming Relay for Life event, scheduled for May 6 and 7 at the Shoreline Stadium. She invited groups of 8-15 to participate in the 24-hour relay to raise funds for research and cancer patient care.

BREAK

IV. Neighborhoods Roundtable

Marcie Riedinger, Echo Lake, introduced herself as Echo Lake's new neighborhood representative. She announced that the next neighborhood meeting would be dedicated to Shoreline School District activities. Speakers will include School Superintendent Jim Welsh, Echo Lake Elementary Principal Mary Koontz, an Echo Lake teacher Karen Nicholson (who is involved with the schools' laptop program), and the District technology expert Jim Golubich, who will provide information on the upcoming bond issue focusing on technology.

David Bannister, Richmond Beach, introduced new neighborhood representative Starla Hobach and alternate Jill Gardner. He described the association's Christmas tree event, which included an ornament-making party at the Richmond Beach Library, a tree-lighting ceremony, and the annual Richmond Beach caroling party at the Richmond Beach rehabilitation and care center. Richmond Beach was also involved with the City of Shoreline Christmas Ship event, which was attended by hundreds of people. On January 10, the group held its Winter Ice Cream Social, featuring local student musicians, and they collected donations for Teen Hope.

Londa Jacques, Ballinger, introduced co-representative Larry Moss. She announced that they had received funding for neighborhood signs and that they plan to set up Neighborhood Chats at

Starbucks with guest speakers to draw the neighborhood together. They are also working with the Shoreline Historical Museum and the Shoreline Library to plan for neighborhood walking tours in July. Mr. Moss explained that as someone who travels by foot and by bus, he feels that people view cities differently when they travel mainly by car. He expressed hope that through the tours, people will learn about the neighborhood as well as notice the new sidewalks, which make walking more pleasant.

Bob Barta, Highland Terrace, reported that the December meeting focused on disaster readiness. The association's January meeting dealt with demographic changes in Shoreline, primarily the predicted decrease in school-age children. He was concerned that developers are not building family-friendly and affordable housing, and he felt that the neighborhoods and the City should create a vision for development that would encourage families to move to Shoreline. He said that the Highland Terrace neighborhood is building a Website which will help busy neighbors stay informed. Mr. Barta closed thanking Ms. Smith for her assistance and good ideas.

Dick Nicholson, Ridgecrest, said that the group has been working on replacing street trees. Through the neighborhood group's multi-year efforts, Ridgecrest now has 100 street trees. In addition, Shoreline Rotary planted ten trees at the new Ronald Bog Arboretum. Ms. Hale added that their neighborhood Board meetings have been moved to Tuesday nights so that members can attend City Council meetings regularly.

Bettelin Brown, Briarcrest, discussed neighborhood boundaries and suggested that neighborhoods should overlap to reflect natural groupings. She reported that she has been participating in the South Woods Preservation Group, and she invited people to attend "Ivy Out" work parties the third Saturday of each month. She closed discussing the need for neighbors to have access to homes so that they can help when residents who live alone pass away.

Charlotte Haines, North City, reported on the Christmas tree-lighting festival. She stated that attendance was down from previous years due to the weather and construction, but she anticipates a great turnout next year after the North City project is complete. Ms. Hale added that the "Santa" at the event was especially kind to developmentally disabled adults who attended.

David Fosmire, Innis Arden, reported on the holiday party in December. He reminded the Council that the annual Innis Arden rummage sale scheduled for March, with a percentage of the proceeds going to charity.

Kathy Marden, Westminster Triangle, said that her group is holding a pizza potluck party to bring out residents, including families. The group is working on updating its list of residents and is considering development of a Website in order to involve more people in neighborhood activities. Mary Jo Heller noted the caroling event was held in December.

Chair Mackey, The Highlands, reported on the success of the annual Christmas party, which included a Christmas pageant and singing.

Judy Allen, Innis Arden thanked Mr. Fosmire and his wife Shelley for their contributions to Innis Arden and its rummage sale. She brought up the issue of regulating door-to-door solicitors, and informed the group that solicitors must carry a City-issued I.D. Chair Mackey noted that Shoreline's senior population is especially vulnerable to fraud. Ms. Smith clarified that only commercial solicitors are required to have the license, not representatives of 501(C)(3) organizations or political canvassers.

V. Neighborhood Program Report

Ms. Smith announced that the annual Block Watch meeting would take place on January 26 and that the City was still seeking volunteers for the January 27 One-Night Count of the Homeless. She reminded the Council that starting in February, the Council of Neighborhoods would return to its regular schedule, meeting the first Wednesday of each month. She said that the Shoreline City

Council may issue a proclamation for Neighbor Appreciation Day, which is February 11, and she asked people to talk to their neighbors and appreciate their contributions to one another's lives. Ms. Smith then announced that Dick Decker will resume "Ivy Out" work parties in Shoreline parks, and she invited all to participate.

Mayor Ransom commented that the upcoming City Council meeting agenda includes business regulation and licensing, and he suggested that people bring up the issue of door-to-door solicitation at that meeting. Mr. Barta added that through effective neighborhood Block Watch programs, he hoped the City could develop a reputation of not tolerating crime.

Ms. Heller announced the kick-off for the Shoreline school levy and bond measure, and she reminded the Council that yard signs and buttons were available.

Councilmember McGlashan announced that *Seattle Magazine* had published an article on The Reserve cottage housing project located on NW 199th St. and 15th Ave. NW. He stated that the Reserve will be holding an open house the following Sunday, which may be of interest to those evaluating the merits of cottage housing in Shoreline.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17pm.