

**CITY OF SHORELINE
COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS MINUTES**

March 7, 2007
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline Center
Spartan Room

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Briarcrest – **Bill Bear, Charlie Brown**
Echo Lake – **Marcie Riedinger, Diane Hettrick**
Highland Terrace – **Bob Barta, Allan Bennett**
Innis Arden – **Judy Allen, Stacy Gillett**
North City – **Charlotte Haines, Sally Granger**
Richmond Beach – **David Bannister**
Richmond Highlands – **Naomi Hardy**

VISITORS PRESENT: Shoreline Mayor Bob Ransom; Shoreline City Councilmembers Rich Gustafson and Keith McGlashan; Briarcrest resident Dan Henry.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Relph, Public Works Director; Jesus Sanchez, Public Works Operations Manager; Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator.

I. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Judy Allen called the meeting to order and said Chair Patty Hale was on vacation. The meeting agenda was approved unanimously. Allan Bennett corrected the spelling of his name and Naomi Hardy said she had given Nora Smith a correction of the wording in her Richmond Highlands neighborhood report. The minutes of the February 7, 2007 meeting were approved with these changes.

II. New Business

A. Presentations

• **Introduction of Mark Relph, Public Works Director, City of Shoreline**

Vice-Chair Allen introduced Mark Relph, new Public Works Director who worked for 15 years in Grand Junction, Colorado as both a manager and then department director in the Public Works Department.

Mr. Relph described some of his work experience and said that one of his passions is to create walkable communities. Mr. Relph noted that many of the issues he dealt with in Grand Junction Colorado were related to double-digit growth that was occurring in that area of Colorado. Mr. Relph said that he is happy to be in the City of Shoreline.

In response to questions about the City Hall/Civic Center Project, Mr. Relph and Mr. Jesus Sanchez described key elements of the design-build / lease-to-own approach under consideration as an alternative to the traditional design/bid/build approach. They highlighted the guaranteed maximum price, transfer of risk to the private developer, predictability and mitigation of liability as key elements of the lease-to-own approach. Mr. Sanchez confirmed that other public entities in the state have utilized the lease-to-own approach.

Neighborhood representatives asked questions and expressed interest in a variety of topics relating to the City Hall/Civic Center project. Ms. Riedinger asked if an artist would be part of

the design team. In response Mr. Sanchez said yes, an artist will be part of the design team and part of the public discussion will be whether the art might be functional, or stand-alone or part of design elements that promote stewardship. Mr. Bear asked if costs will be kept down. In response Mr. Sanchez said one reason to build and own the city hall is to protect tax payers from the uncertainty of leasing - and one benefit of the proposed design-build / lease-to-own approach is the guaranteed maximum price gets settled up front. Mr. Bennett asked if it is practical to build for a 100 year time horizon. In response Mr. Sanchez said yes the building is designed to be functional in 100 years even if the exact use changes. Mr. Sanchez pointed out that if the amount the City might spend in 25 years on a design-build / lease-to-own project where the City owns the building at the end is less than the City would pay as a tenant, the City is saving taxpayers' money.

- **Public Works Operations Division CIP Projects for 2007**

Jesus Sanchez, Operations Manager for Shoreline Public Works Department, said there are two types of CIP projects: long range projects which are currently under discussion with the City Council to get direction on priority and authority to proceed - and short range projects, including street overlays and sidewalks which will be carried out in 2007.

Mr. Sanchez said he would describe key elements of the street overlay process:

- The City of Shoreline negotiates annually with King County for street overlay; the County is able to negotiate good prices from contractors due to the volume of work they bid;
- The City identifies streets throughout the city that have fallen below our average performance measure rating of 78-79. This high rating means our streets are generally in very good condition;
- The City spends \$700,000 per year on street overlay. The City Council committed to maintaining the same level of funding after I-695 cut funding;
- City road staff inspect overlay as it is put down to assure quality.

Mr. Sanchez distributed maps of proposed street overlays and sidewalks for 2007. The priority for sidewalks were identified in the Transportation Master Plan, focusing on creating connections to schools, and between locations such as parks and schools. In response to questions Mr. Sanchez said 2007 projects that are not implemented this year will roll over into 2008. He also confirmed that the city meets with utility districts to coordinate under group utility work amongst providers.

III. Old Business

Vice Chair Allen said that at the February meeting the group talked about taking on a project or focus as a Council of Neighborhoods. Later in the February the Board met to discuss how to proceed.

The Board would like to focus first on getting inactive neighborhoods rejuvenated and identifying some tangible ways for the Council of Neighborhoods to support struggling neighborhood associations. Ms. Allen said the Board would like to discuss this more and bring some ideas to the group next month.

Ms. Allen said the idea of creating a menu of options piggybacking the City's efforts on Block Watch and Emergency Preparedness is still first on the list, but the Board thought it would be best to focus these efforts initially on getting every neighborhood active.

Related to this idea of neighborhood rejuvenation Ms. Allen asked Ms. Smith, Neighborhood Coordinator, to tell the group about a training opportunity in the end of March. Ms. Smith described the Asset Based Community Development community organizing training taking

place on March 30 and 31, and invited neighborhood representatives to send one or two neighborhood representatives. Ms. Smith said the City would pay the registration fee for neighborhood representatives to attend.

III. Public Comment

Officer Leona Obstler, Westside Neighborhood Police Center, said that Officer Sue Sherwood has taken over coordination of Block Watch. Officer Obstler encouraged residents to call either Officer Sherwood or Officer Obstler to ask for help with Block Watch.

Officer Obstler encouraged neighborhood representatives to spread the word to keep doors and windows locked and think about home security, citing a recent example of an intruder entering an unlocked sliding glass door off a second story balcony.

IV. Neighborhoods Roundtable

Marcie Riedinger, Echo Lake – reported the February meeting with a slate of speakers from local non-profit social service providers was eye-opening, learning how many residents struggle with everyday living. Ms. Riedinger recommended the topic for other neighborhoods.

Judy Allen, Innis Arden – Ms. Allen invited everyone to the Innis Arden annual garage sale on Saturday, March 10, which raises approximately \$10,000 each year. Upcoming neighborhood events include wine tasting and Easter egg scramble. Ms. Allen reported she attended an inspiring training in Scottsdale where a crayon image was used to describe focusing on what you have rather than what others have that you don't, with the motto "stop counting crayons, just start drawing."

Charlie Brown, Briarcrest – reported that Sunshine Coffee on 27th Ave NE is a popular spot with Shorecrest High School students, who leave a significant trail of litter on their route home. Mr. Brown asked for help in solving the problem and wondered if a trash container might be possible.

Bill Bear reported that at the February meeting John Marek, Traffic Services, reported on the Neighborhood Traffic Action Plan. Mr. Bear said there had been a lot of neighborhood input and many traffic measures had been implemented which makes people feel like their input is meaningful. Mr. Bear said the topic at the February meeting would be land use, a hot button topic in Briarcrest, and in April the neighborhood is planning an Anniversary Party.

Naomi Hardy, Richmond Highlands – commented that Currents is a very well written newsletter. Ms. Hardy said that the Dayton Wall repair is in process and commented that she would prefer sidewalks to asphalt pedestrian pathways. Ms. Hardy said would like the Council of Neighborhoods to look at the big picture issues, and that she is concerned about the cost of Cascade Cities Agenda and who might have to pay for it.

Bob Barta, Highland Terrace – reported that their leadership group will be reviewing the neighborhood Web site to determine if any of it needs retooling. Neighbors Gloria and Herb Bryce are having a native plant work party on March 10 at the Fremont Trail project. Mr. Barta invited everyone to come visit the Fremont Trail and take a peaceful walk on it. Future plans include a plant exchange on April 14, a work party on April 21 at Highland Terrace Elementary classroom. Mr. Barta said he is very interested in the City's upcoming Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team program.

David Bannister, Richmond Beach - reported the March 13 meeting on emergency preparedness was one of their lowest attended meetings. Mr. Bannister said you never know what combination of factors makes some meetings well attended and others not. The community association is discussing implementation of their dream project, installing poles with banners on Richmond Beach Road between 15th and 20th Ave NW. On May 5 Richmond Beach will host its annual Strawberry Festival.

V. Neighborhoods Program Report

Neighborhood Coordinator Nora Smith said there were so many events happening this Spring that she created a list which is provided in the folders. Ms. Smith highlighted a couple of opportunities:

- March 20 there will be a workshop for public input on the new Civic Center/City Hall project at Meridian School at 6:00 p.m.
- There are multiple opportunities for training on emergency preparedness training listed on the hand out.
- The city's Web site has a sign up to receive regular email updates on City programs or projects of interest to you at www.cityofshoreline.com. Go to the lower right hand corner of the front page and sign up under "Get Email Updates."

VI. New Business --- Neighborhood Representative

Neighborhood representatives discussed a variety of topics. Mr. Barta suggested that implementing a neighborhood Web site is way to communicate today. Mr. Barta mentioned that Allan Bennett is assisting a couple of other neighborhoods in getting Web sites up. There was a discussion about how the city could support neighborhood Web sites, and several questions were asked including whether neighborhood groups could have space on the city's server, and whether the City's Web site could link to neighborhood Web sites. Nora Smith said she would pose these questions to the staff team currently working on a redesign of the City's Web site.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.