

**CITY OF SHORELINE
COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS MINUTES**

April 05, 2006
7:00 p.m.

Spartan Room
Shoreline Center

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Ballinger – **Larry Moss**
Briarcrest – **Stan Terry, Bettelin Brown**
Echo Lake– **Dale Wright, Marci Reidinger, Diane Hettrick**
Highland Terrace – **Bob Barta**
The Highlands – **Bonnie Mackey**
Hillwood
Innis Arden – **David Fosmire**
North City – **Charlotte Haines, Sally Granger**
Parkwood –
Richmond Beach – **David Bannister**
Richmond Highlands– **Naomi Hardi**
Ridgecrest – **Patty Hale**
Westminster Triangle – **Kathy Marden, Mary Jo Heller**

VISITORS PRESENT: Shoreline City Councilmembers Keith McGlashan and Cindy Ryu; Jeff Lewis, Forward Shoreline Chair and President/ CEO of Shoreline Bank; King County Department of Natural Resources Solid Waste Division staff Neil Fujii, Lisa Williams and Polly Young; Shoreline residents Gretchen Atkinson, Bill Bear, Yvonne Benedict, Larry Bingham, Wendy DiPeso, David Endicott, Dan Henry, Christopher Johns, Elaine Phelps, Larry Steele, D. Stephen, Lisa Thwing, Maryn Wynne, Marlin Gabbert and Dom Amor.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Joyce Nichols, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Director; Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator; Officer Deneese Elfenson, Shoreline Police Department; Carol Shenk, Records and Information Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Bonnie Mackey called the meeting to order. The meeting agenda and the minutes of the March 1, 2006, meeting were approved unanimously.

II. New Business

• **Jeff Lewis, Forward Shoreline Chair; President/CEO, Shoreline Bank**

Chair Mackey introduced Jeff Lewis, to discuss Forward Shoreline's mission and the issue of neighborhood sustainability. She then introduced Larry Steele, Forward Shoreline Vice President and owner of Aurora Rents, Gretchen Atkinson, Forward Shoreline Government Relations Committee Chair, Dave Endicott, Forward Shoreline Executive Director, and Forward Shoreline member Dom Amor.

Mr. Lewis began his presentation describing the origins of Forward Shoreline in 2004, when a group of residents, community leaders and business owners came together to analyze what they could do to make Shoreline a better place for their children and grandchildren. The group determined it needed to focus on Shoreline's good qualities, acknowledge, welcome and encourage capital investment, and define Shoreline to the outside world. Mr. Lewis gave examples of the positive in Shoreline, such as the Shoreline School District, Shoreline Community College, community safety, the Fire District, the parks system, strong and vibrant neighborhoods, its history as a major transportation corridor, ethnic diversity and international connections, stable small businesses, the Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Arts Council, and strong regional demographics. He said that these assets make Shoreline an attractive place for capital investment, including recent developments such as Top Food and Drugs, Shoreline Bank's new building on Aurora, Sky Nursery's continuous reinvestment, future development plans at Echo Lake, Shoreline Community College's plans for a new automotive training center, the new Gateway Plaza, Central Market, and the Interurban Trail Pedestrian Bridge over Aurora Avenue.

Mr. Lewis referenced the book, *The World is Flat*, by Thomas Friedman, which discusses how organizations have to be introspective and willing to change in order to align with the world around them. He then described how investment benefits communities by enhancing shopping opportunities, increasing property values, providing new job opportunities, increasing revenue for City services, and creating more attractive business and residential communities. He then noted that since 2003, there has been at least \$221 million in commercial and public capital investments in Shoreline.

Mr. Lewis described how neighborhood representatives could help Forward Shoreline by articulating the benefits of investment, defining what types of commercial investments would benefit neighborhoods, and providing ideas for a Shoreline town center. Naomi Hardy, Richmond Highlands, asked Mr. Lewis if he was involved in the planning charrettes for 175th St. – 185th St. He stated that he had attended meetings and noted that 175th St. is increasingly regarded as the "center" of Shoreline. Ms. Hardy stated that she preferred that each neighborhood have its own center, such as North City, so that residents don't need to travel far to shop. She noted that the customers for Shoreline's large shopping centers come from other cities.

Addressing the issue of sustainable neighborhoods, Mr. Lewis stated that having a vibrant collection of neighborhood retail sectors as well as a town center can enhance neighborhoods overall, and that these different types of commercial areas are complementary.

Charlotte Haines, North City, asked if Shoreline Bank is considering opening a branch in North City. Ms. Hardy said that this idea was an example of supporting neighborhood retail centers. Resident Elaine Phelps asked Mr. Lewis to explain the difference between Forward Shoreline and the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Lewis acknowledged Councilmember Cindy Ryu, who is also President of the Chamber of Commerce, was present at the meeting. He then explained that the Chamber's mission is to advocate for its members, while Forward Shoreline is focused on attracting new investment through public relations. He described the organizations' roles as complementary.

Shoreline resident Christopher Johns asked how people can join Forward Shoreline. Chair Mackey encouraged those interested to contact Dave Endicott. She then acknowledged additional Forward Shoreline members present in the audience, Marlin Gabbert and Shoreline City Councilmember Keith McGlashan. Responding to resident Dennis Lee, Mr. Lewis explained that Forward Shoreline is a non-profit organization, and its role is informational, similar to a chamber of commerce, rather than a charitable organization.

Resident Maren Wynn asked about membership rates. Mr. Lewis explained the rate structure and invited people to attend Forward Shoreline's May 12 meeting. Resident Wendy DiPeso stated that membership fees exclude lower income residents and businesses. She felt that stable neighborhoods are composed of a mix of economic demographics, and she expressed concern that the interests of Shoreline's growing senior citizen population and young families would not be represented. She suggested a more inclusive membership. Mr. Lewis responded that he hoped for input of this sort from neighborhoods and agreed that Forward Shoreline does need a diversity of socio-economic representation. Dave Endicott added that as an organization Forward Shoreline needs funding to operate, but that membership is not required in order to attend meetings or to receive mailings. Mr. Lewis closed saying that Forward Shoreline wants the community involved in its planning for the future.

BREAK

- **Neil Fujii, Managing Engineer, and Lisa Williams, First Northeast Transfer Station Renovation Project Manager, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Solid Waste Division**

Chair Mackey announced that the King County First NE Solid Waste Transfer Station would be closing May 1, 2006, for eighteen months for renovations. She introduced King County Solid Waste Division representatives Neil Fujii and Lisa Williams. Mr. Fujii stated that the renovated transfer station will be recognized nationally and internationally, as the first LEED-certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) solid waste facility, through its use of sustainable and environmentally friendly features. He provided background on the site, which was a landfill in the 1950's and then converted to a solid waste transfer station by King County in the 1960's. Lisa Williams described the plans for the new facility, which include new ramps connecting to I-5 so that King County's long-haul trucks will no longer have to use neighborhood streets to go in and out of the facility, expanded recycling opportunities, and a state-of-the-art facility using rainwater reclamation and an energy-efficient design. In addition, as part of the project mitigation, there will be enhancements to the adjacent section of Thornton Creek, including native plantings. Councilmember Ryu asked if the plans include the required 100-foot setback from the stream, and Ms. Williams responded that they did. Patty Hale, Ridgecrest, asked if the facility's use fees would increase. Mr. Fujii responded that fees would be consistent with those throughout the County.

Ms. Hardy asked for clarification on the improvements. Mr. Fujii explained that the expanded recycling might include electronics, metals, and large appliances. In addition, the improved compaction system will allow for closed-top hauling and more efficient management of waste. Polly Young, also from King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Solid Waste Division, added that the types of household recyclables currently handled at the facility will continue to be accepted free of charge.

Councilmember Ryu suggested that some of the mitigation funds be used to set up alternative recycling sites during the renovation. Ms. Young stated that residents will be asked to use curbside recycling, other King County solid waste transfer stations, and those of Snohomish County and Mountlake Terrace. Joyce Nichols, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Director, stated that part of the mitigation funds will likely be used to fund the City's Clean Sweep recycling events, possibly increasing their frequency.

Ms. Williams returned to the sustainable features of the new facility. She described its improved storm water filtration system, and she stated that the facility's office building will be constructed

using recycled materials. She then announced that there would be a public meeting on the renovation on April 19 at Meridian Park Elementary School.

Ms. Nichols thanked King County Solid Waste for being an outstanding partner to the City.

Shoreline resident Yvonne Benedict asked about the overall lack of landfill space in the region. She encouraged King County to provide donation sites so that people will have an alternative to throwing away usable items. Mr. Fujii stated that there is currently a donation site at the station and that the new facility would also have one. Ms. Young then distributed publicity materials asking residents to secure loads when hauling and to report violators.

Chair Mackey thanked Ms. Williams, Mr. Fujii, and Ms. Young for their presentation.

- **Establishing a Nominating Committee for Election of Officers**

Chair Mackey asked for volunteers to the Nominating Committee and volunteered herself. Charlotte Haines, North City, Dale Wright, Echo Lake, and Larry Moss, Ballinger, were appointed.

III. Public Comment

Chair Mackey recognized Councilmembers Ryu and McGlashan. She invited Officer Deneese Elfensen to speak. Officer Elfensen announced that a \$15 million burglary case in the Highlands, dating from 2004 to 2005, had been solved and resulted in a conviction. She invited people to attend the April 20 Briarcrest Neighborhood meeting regarding efforts to prevent vandalism. Nora Smith expressed hope that increased block watches and other crime prevention activities will result from the meeting. Officer Elfensen reminded residents of the bicycle registration program. Ms. Hardy commented that Shoreline's police chief had helped her neighborhood fight mail theft several years ago.

Councilmember Ryu spoke as President of the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce. She thanked Officer Leona Obstler for bringing the Business Watch program to the attention of the Chamber, who will be adding a link from its Web site to the King County Sheriff's Office business registration page. She also conveyed Mayor Bob Ransom's and Councilmember Janet Way's regrets for not being able to attend tonight's meeting.

Ms. DiPeso recalled Economic Development Manager Tom Boydell's presentation at the last Council of Neighborhoods meeting. She said that she agreed with his definition of sustainability as being associated with a healthy environment, quality of life, basic human services, education, responsive government, and stable neighborhoods, as opposed to explosive growth. She said that citizens are challenged to remain informed and to participate, in particular in housing issues.

Councilmember McGlashan, co-president of the Shoreline Public Schools Foundation, announced that for the first time the organization had raised over \$112,000, which would provide funding for grants to schools. Ms. Hale asked if the school district was considering selling the Cedarbrook property, to which Councilmember McGlashan responded that the foundation has no involvement in the issue. Ms. Hale then provided public comment as a resident, informing those present at the meeting that Dwight Stevens has yard signs available for the Parks Bond measure.

Bob Barta, Highland Terrace, encouraged neighborhood representatives to participate in the Emergency Management Council, to become CERT certified, to set up citizen response teams, and to learn about local use of auxiliary communications systems in emergencies.

BREAK

IV. Neighborhood Roundtable

Marci Reidinger, Echo Lake, reported that there would be a dedication of the new Red Cross facility on Carlyle Hall Road on April 24. The recent Echo Lake meetings had presentations on the Parks Bond and Kruckeberg Gardens, disaster preparedness presentations from the Shoreline Fire Department spokesperson and Hamm radio operators, as well as neighborhood traffic issues and schools. On April 21, the Planning Commission will discuss the plans for development at the south end of Echo Lake.

Larry Moss, Ballinger, reported that the neighborhood walk is tentatively scheduled for mid-May. The group is developing its monthly newsletter and is still planning for weekly open houses at Starbucks.

David Bannister, Richmond Beach, reported that Dick Deal, Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director, and Bill Clements provided information on the parks bond at the last meeting. In addition, King County Metro presented information on the Brightwater outfall. The next meeting will include an update on the Hidden Lake Pump Station sewer project. On April 2, the neighborhood is holding a cleanup at the Richmond Beach Community Park, and on May 6 it will hold its annual Strawberry Festival.

Bob Barta, Highland Terrace, announced that the April 18 meeting will include Joe Tovar, Shoreline Planning and Development Services Director, Matt Torpey, City of Shoreline Planner, and Planning Commissioners David Harris and Will Hall. The topic will be long-range planning to accommodate housing needs for families.

Patty Hale, Ridgecrest, reported that the neighborhood is getting prepared for Earth Day, in part by cleaning up and mulching around street trees. She thanked Dick Nicholson for his work on the 100 trees planted in the neighborhood over the past eight years. She said that the Ridgecrest/North City plant exchange and garden meeting in March was very successful and brought out residents who don't normally participate in neighborhood activities.

Naomi Hardy, Richmond Highlands, complemented the behind-the-scenes work being done at the City in obtaining grants for improvements like the new pedestrian signal at 180th and Aurora and the Interurban Trail and Pedestrian Bridge. She also suggested that a tree should be planted along the Interurban Trail near the planned central plaza to be used for holiday lighting in the future.

Stan Terry, Briarcrest, reported on the vandalism problems that Officer Elfensen would be addressing at the next meeting. Incidents included broken store windows, car windows shot out, damage to Shoreline Christian School buses and computers, and vehicle theft. He stated that the Mini-Grant project to replace the kiosk is completed. On April 22, Earth Day, there will be an "Ivy Out" work party at South Woods from 9am-noon. Finally, the neighborhood group will be working on the second half of its mini-grant on April 29-30, from 9 am-3 pm, planting street plants along the east side of Hamlin Park.

David Fosmire, Innis Arden, reported that the annual Innis Arden rummage sale was a success, and \$1,000 will be donated to Teen Hope. King County Metro will attend the next

meeting to discuss sewer project impacts in the neighborhood. On Earth Day, Innis Arden will be holding an "Ivy Out" work party in the reserves.

Charlotte Haines, North City, reiterated Patty's positive comments on the gardening event. She brought up the subject of the need for athletic activities for Shoreline youth, especially now that schools are cutting programs. She announced that Shoreline Univac will be forming five teams and invited others to participate. She noted that the North City project is receiving national recognition as an example of investment in a neighborhood business area. There followed discussion on the amount of new housing being built around North City, including apartments, town homes, and condominiums. Ms. Haines stated that the new developments are putting density where it belongs along the corridor, rather than within single-family neighborhoods, and that this density is creating a customer base for North City businesses. Mr. Wright commented that this type of development is the essence of the 20-year plan to develop density along arterials.

Bettelin Brown, Briarcrest, expressed concern over the character of new development along 145th St. She felt that the large scale is not supported by the area's infrastructure. Ms. Brown reported that she had taken Mr. Boydell on a tour of the area.

Kathy Marden, Westminster Triangle, reported that cut-through traffic resulting from drivers avoiding construction on Aurora Ave. N is endangering pedestrians in the neighborhood. She emphasized that as the weather warms up, there will be more children on the street, creating a greater hazard. The group will be holding its quarterly cleanup in May and is in search of a replacement for their newsletter editor, who recently left the area. Ms. Nichols responded that she would follow up with City staff regarding the traffic impacts from the Aurora Corridor construction.

Larry Moss, Ballinger, asked if neighborhood boundaries are permanently defined. Ms. Nichols responded that the Ballinger area was defined when it was annexed to the City. Mr. Terry noted that people who live near neighborhood boundaries are really part of communities on either side of the boundary.

V. Neighborhoods Program Report

Ms. Smith pointed out the Earth Day flyers and announced the various Earth Day activities being held by the City over a week-long period. Events include "Ivy Out" at several city parks in addition to the neighborhood events such as Innis Arden's and an Echo Lake weeding party, and the City's annual Natural Yard Care event. She advised representatives that they will receive invitations to the upcoming Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, to be held on April 28. Finally, she asked representatives to take the available literature on the First NE Transfer Station project and asked them to inform their neighbors of the upcoming closure.

VI New Business --- Neighborhood Representatives

Patty Hale asked if any representatives were interested in forming an ad hoc committee to organize a city-wide candidate forum for the upcoming state election. Mr. Terry volunteered, and Mr. Bannister stated that he would appoint a representative from Richmond Beach. Ms. Hale commented that she supported Ms. Hardy's idea of planting a holiday tree in the city's center along the Interurban Trail, and Ms. Haines concurred.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17pm.