

**CITY OF SHORELINE
COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS MINUTES**

JUNE 6, 2007
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline Center
Spartan Room

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Highland Terrace – **Allan Bennett, Bob Barta, Nate Cataldo**
Innis Arden – **Judy Allen**
North City – **Charlotte Haines, Sally Granger**
Richmond Beach – **Sean Quigley**
Richmond Highlands – **Naomi Hardy**
Ridgecrest – **Patty Hale**
Westminster Triangle – **Mary Jo Heller**

VISITORS PRESENT: Mayor Bob Ransom; Shoreline residents Dan Henry and Jeff Johnson.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Tony Burt, Shoreline Police Chief; Kent Baxter, Shoreline Police Operations Commander; Rob Beem, Community Services Division Manager; Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator.

I. Call to Order

Chair Patty Hale called the meeting to order. The meeting agenda was approved unanimously. The minutes of the May 2, 2007 meeting were approved.

II. A. Old Business

• **Summer Planning**

Chair Hale said she would like to confirm participation by specific neighborhoods in the Council of Neighborhoods Book Sale on July 18 at Swingin' Summer Eve. Ms. Hale listed Ballinger, Briarcrest, Echo Lake, Highland Terrace, North City, Ridgecrest and Westminster as participants and neighborhood representatives confirmed the list. Ms. Hale asked participants to review the proposed schedule of volunteer staffing and get any changes to Ms. Smith.

Ms. Hale asked for a few more volunteers to sign up to staff the Celebrate Shoreline carnival game booth, sponsored by the Council of Neighborhoods, on Saturday, August 18. Ms. Hale asked for the sign up sheet to circulate; Ms. Smith will follow up in the summer with reminder calls.

II. B. New Business

• **Highlights of 2006 Shoreline Police Departments Service Efforts and Accomplishments**

Chair Hale introduced Police Chief Tony Burt to present the highlights and trends from the 2006 Shoreline Police Department Service Efforts and Accomplishments report.

Chief Burt reported in 2006 Shoreline Police started the year with four goals:

- decrease Part 1 Crimes (includes serious crimes such as robbery, rape, murder as well as vehicle theft and burglary) with a specific focus on problems in Shoreline: vehicle theft and burglary;
- maintain fast response time under 5 minutes;

- create a coordinated approach to decrease vehicle theft through crime prevention and aggressive enforcement,
- Step up traffic enforcement to address complaints about speeding.

These goals for 2006 were met as follows:

- Part I Crimes decreased;
- Average police response time was 3.91 minutes;
- Vehicle thefts and prowls decreased;
- Increased traffic enforcement resulted in a significant increase in traffic citations and a decrease in traffic complaints.

Chief Burt reported on some of the many valuable programs are run out of the two Neighborhood Storefronts with the help of many volunteers, some of which are unique to Shoreline. He highlighted the cost savings of the court reminder calls: in 2006 volunteers made 5,173 reminder calls which over three years has reduced jail costs by 36%.

To address auto theft, the Storefront officers put together a variety of crime prevention programs including education, outreach to apartments where 28% of all auto thefts occur, and initiating the “club” program which provides low cost steering wheel locking devices. There has been a regionally coordinated effort to arrest individuals who repeatedly steal cars and pursue stiffer sentences.

The Shoreline Police Department participated in a variety of community activities including food drives for HopeLink with elementary schools, Richmond Beach Strawberry Festival, and Special Olympics Torch Run.

Chief Burt reported that on standard benchmarks, the City of Shoreline has a low crime rate, a low number of sworn officers per capita at .95 per 1000 population, and a relatively low cost of \$153 per capita. Shoreline Police Department is able to attract high quality individuals and in 2006 Office Mitch Wright was selected by his peers as “Shoreline Officer of the Year,” Doreen Carlson was selected as “Employee of the Year” and long-term volunteer Angus MacDonald was selected “Volunteer of the Year.”

During the question and answer period, neighborhood representatives asked Chief Burt to respond to a variety of topics. Ms. Haines asked the Chief’s opinion on a teenage curfew. Chief Burt said there is a debate on the effectiveness and he personally doesn’t believe a curfew is effective given that there is no facility to take teens to if they are picked up.

Ms. Allen asked if Police could be of assistance with activities such as paintball and campfires in the reserves in Innis Arden. Captain Baxter reported that the Fire Department recently held an interdepartmental meeting to discuss problem-solving for fires in areas inaccessible to the Fire Department, specifically beach fires. Captain Baxter reported there will be another meeting on June 26 to discuss next steps and coordination with Richmond Beach, Innis Arden and the Highlands to get signs posted, no trespass letters on file, and maps for the officers to better prepare them to make arrests.

Ms. Allen commented that a call center operator indicated that he didn’t have time to take her call and she has received other unprofessional responses. Chief Burt indicated that responses Ms. Allen was reporting were not appropriate and he encouraged Ms. Allen to call him, or Kent Baxter, to report any inappropriate call center conversations and tapes of the call can be pulled.

Ms. Heller complimented the Police Department in their work with the neighborhood on potential drug house. She also inquired whether activities of prostitution and drugs on Aurora had changed since the early days of the City. Chief Burt responded that these activities are less visible, though some activities such as prostitution have moved to other locations and the internet.

Mr. Quigley asked what Chief Burt's thoughts were on privatizing the police force. Chief Burt replied that he is not an unbiased information source, and he sees the value of the economy of scale of King County Sheriff's Office providing service to contract cities. The city has access to expensive equipment and specialty units such as the SWAT Team through King County which it couldn't afford otherwise. Mr. Quigley asked if you end up with personnel who don't know the city as well. Chief Burt said officers are required to make a two year commitment, and Shoreline has a low turnover rate because officers like to work here.

Ms. Hardy stated that a Police station open house or tour for residents would be a positive form of outreach.

Mr. Bennett asked who defines priorities for the Police Department. Chief Burt said there are a variety of inputs. The community sets priorities by identifying what's important to them, for instance the City Council responded to the community last year by funding another traffic officer. Second the Chief and Captain Baxter review data and crime trends and identify what needs attention, such as developing programs to respond to the rise in auto thefts and burglaries over the last few years.

Chief Burt gave some summer crime prevention tips. Contract cities combine forces to create a party patrol which targets areas of frequent end-of-year teenage parties. The police departments send letters to the schools which communicate with parents and kids that there will be increased enforcement at the end of the school year. Bike cops are out on the new Interurban Trail to establish a message early that the trail is user-friendly. Shoreline recently participated in the DUI Task Force with Washington State Patrol and Edmonds to stop driving under the influence. On July 4 the Police Department will step up staffing to address the fireworks ban, but Chief Burt emphasized there is no way to keep up with the call load in a condensed period of time. Last Chief Burt emphasized the importance of locking doors and windows in the summer in warm weather.

IV. Public Comment

Mr. Jeff Johnson, Richmond Beach resident, commented on behalf of a group of 20-25 neighborhoods called "20th Avenue NW Neighbors." Mr. Johnson reported this group is concerned about real estate development patterns and the impact on the economic diversity of the neighborhoods. The group commissioned a study of 673 housing units in area west of 20th Ave NW from Saltwater Park to Woodway and found 16% of the houses are valued over \$1 million. Mr. Johnson reported he is concerned that some existing residents won't be able to afford to stay in the neighborhood, and this will negatively impact the character of the neighborhood. Mr. Johnson said he is presenting to variety of groups, asking them to look at the mix of homes and nature of neighborhood as defined in the character of neighborhood provisions that are in the city development code under sections 20.050.060 A, B and C. Mr. Johnson thinks attention needs to be focused on the number of units, size and scale of development, value of units, and the mixture of types of units in a neighborhood.

V. Neighborhoods Roundtable

Naomi Hardy, Richmond Highlands – reported she has asked some neighbors to help with the carnival game booth at Celebrate Shoreline; she is concerned about the costs to save rural land under the Cascade Agenda; and she likes Currents for both the research and the writing.

Sean Quigley, Richmond Beach – announced the Strawberry Festival on May 5 was very successful. In the summer the community association will sponsor a National Night Out Against Crime neighborhood gathering, and host the Sandcastle Building contest on August 19 in conjunction with the Parks Department.

Charlotte Haines, North City – reported there was a good turn out for the May 22 meeting with Customer Response Team member Randy Olin talking about graffiti and code enforcement and Officer Sue Sherwood discussing crime prevention. North City and Ridgecrest will hold the Annual Ice Cream Social on Thursday, August 16 at Paramount Park. Bicycle racks have been installed on 15th Avenue NE and there are more bicyclists in the shopping area with the three lane configuration.

Nate Cataldo, Highland Terrace – Nate Cataldo introduced himself as a new representative of Highland Terrace neighborhood. **Bob Barta** reported that Jerry Shuster and Jessica Williams presented information about the new Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team (NEST) program at the May meeting and he hopes this program could be presented to the whole Council of Neighborhoods. The neighborhood continues to work on maintaining the Fremont Trail and the Living Classroom at Highland Terrace Elementary, which includes working with kids of all ages. The neighborhood will participate in the summer book sale and Celebrate Shoreline carnival booth.

Mary Jo Heller, Westminster Triangle – reported that after Mr. Tovar presented information about proposed form based codes for South Aurora Triangle, a meeting was held by the City with the Westminster Triangle neighborhood on May 29. Neighbors are concerned about the potential of 150' buildings, and possible negative effects on housing values. Ms. Heller would like the process to slow down. She invited all residents to the meeting on June 7 on form based codes.

Patty Hale, Ridgecrest – reported that earlier in the spring the Ridgecrest Neighborhood participated in a visioning process for the commercial corner of NE 165th and 5th Ave NE with University of Washington landscape architecture students, hired by the City of Shoreline. The students presented four options on a spectrum from “do nothing” to buildings that are ___ stories. There have been three offers on the Bingo Hall on this corner.

The Ridgecrest and North City neighborhoods will sponsor the annual Ice Cream Social on Thursday, August 16 and expect as many as 1200 people. New this year will be a request for donations to the Hope Link food bank.

Judy Allen, Innis Arden – reported that four cars have been broken into recently during construction hours for the sewer replacement project. Ms. Allen reported that she has ordered 200 “No Soliciting” signs if anyone wants to order some from her. Innis Arden Club recently adopted the major neighborhood roads and a segment of Richmond Beach Road, and during a weekend collection filled nine bags full of garbage. In response to the ongoing problem of harmful activities in the reserves – dirt bike jumps, paintball, and air soft guns – the

neighborhood is ordering small window stickers for cars of residents to more easily identify unwanted visitors.

V. Neighborhoods Program Report

Neighborhood Coordinator Nora Smith reported:

- Aurora Corridor Ribbon Cutting is Saturday, June 16 at 12:30. Everyone in the Council of Neighborhoods should have received a post card invitation;
- There will be an additional Arterial Speed Study meeting on Wednesday, June 27 at Meridian Park Elementary at 6:30 pm;
- There will be a meeting on form based codes proposed for South Aurora Triangle on Thursday, June 7 at the Fire Department Headquarters;
- The phone survey about garbage and recycling services conducted in April was legitimate and provided information for the garbage RFP for a new contract between the city and a hauler.
- Grand Marshall nomination forms for the 2007 Celebrate Shoreline parade are included in the blue folder;
- Neighborhood Night Out Permit Submittal packages are also included in the blue folder for use with those residents who want to sponsor a night out event and close the street – a permit is required.

VI. New Business --- Neighborhood Representatives

No new business.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.