

**CITY OF SHORELINE
COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS MINUTES**

June 07, 2006
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline Center
Spartan Room

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Ballinger –**Larry Moss**
Briarcrest – **Stan Terry, Bettelinn Krizeck Brown**
Echo Lake– **Marci Riedinger, Diane Hettrick**
Highland Terrace – **Alan Bennett, Bob Barta**
The Highlands –
Hillwood
Innis Arden – **Judy Allen,**
North City –**Sally Granger**
Parkwood –
Richmond Beach – **David Bannister**
Richmond Highlands– **Naomi Hardy**
Ridgecrest – **Patty Hale, Dick Nicholson**
Westminster Triangle – **Mary Jo Heller**

VISITORS PRESENT: Shoreline Mayor Bob Ransom; City Councilmember Keith McGlashan; former Councilmember Larry Bingham; Shoreline residents Dan Henry, Dwight Stevens, Dale Wright, Greg Logan, Richard Johnsen, Anna Marchini, Glinda Matthews; Therapeutic Health Services Manager Ellis McDaniel.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Joyce Nichols, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Director; Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator; Officer Denise Elfenson, Eastside Police Neighborhood Center; Officer Leona Obstler, Westside Police Neighborhood Center; Carol Shenk, Records and Information Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Patty Hale called the meeting to order and requested an amendment to the agenda to include a discussion with a representative of the Hillwood neighborhood regarding efforts to organize a new neighborhood association. The amended meeting agenda and the minutes of the May 5, 2006, meeting were approved unanimously.

Chair Hale then introduced herself as the new Chair and introduced new Council of Neighborhood Officers Marci Riedinger, Echo Lake, as Vice Chair, and Judy Allen, Innis Arden, as Secretary. She thanked the past officers for their two years of leadership and added that former Chair Bonnie Mackey, who was not present, would be thanked at the September meeting. She added special thanks to Dale Wright and Dwight Stevens who served as Chair in previous years.

Joyce Nichols, Community and Intergovernmental Relations Director, presented certificates of appreciation to Patty Hale, Dwight Stevens and Dale Wright for their service on the Council of Neighborhoods. She commented on their contribution to the City over the years, first commenting on Patty Hale's service since the City's incorporation as a Police Neighborhood Center Volunteer, a Parks Board Member, and a longtime dedicated Ridgecrest Neighborhood Association representative, among other contributions. She next recognized Dwight Stevens for

his role as a founder of the Echo Lake Neighborhood Association, his involvement on numerous City boards and other organizations, and his involvement in the City's incorporation and early years. Ms. Nichols last spoke of Dale Wright's service on the Council of Neighborhoods and in other capacities, and his steady, thoughtful leadership and generosity to his neighborhood and the City.

A. New Business

Hillwood Neighborhood

Chair Hale introduced Ms. Anna Marchini, representative of the Hillwood Neighborhood Association, which has requested "observer" status on the Council of Neighborhoods. Chair Hale explained that a new neighborhood group must be represented at four meetings of the Council of Neighborhoods with observer status before being granted full status with the right to a vote. Ms. Marchini stated that she and a few others were developing ideas for re-activating the neighborhood association and would welcome input from other representatives. Chair Hale thanked Ms. Marchini and invited her to contact Council of Neighborhoods representatives for assistance.

Trail Concept for the I-5 Corridor, 175th-185th

Ms. Hale then introduced former Shoreline City Councilmember Larry Bingham, who presented the idea of building a pedestrian trail behind the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) new sound wall being constructed along the west side of Interstate 5 from N. 175th Street to N. 185th Street. He stated that the trail would help fulfill the vision of the City's first Council to connect neighborhoods by trails. Naomi Hardy, Richmond Highlands, asked if the air quality and noise along the trail would be a problem for pedestrians due to its proximity to I-5. Mr. Bingham deferred to Mayor Bob Ransom's knowledge of air quality issues. Mayor Ransom stated that he had no data regarding air pollution adjacent to a freeway as compared to a residential street. He expressed concern that this project should have been included in the recently passed Parks Bond. Mr. Bingham responded that no new purchase was required for this trail, assuming the school district would allow access across a small parcel as a gateway to the trail. Alan Bennett, Highland Terrace, asked who would provide maintenance for the trail, to which Mr. Bingham responded that maintenance would be transferred to the City's Parks maintenance staff. Greg Logan, Highland Terrace, asked if there had been any input from residents whose properties abutted the proposed trail. Mr. Bingham answered that fence lines might have to be moved, and that neighborhood input would most likely be solicited by the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services. Responding to Bob Barta, Highland Terrace, Mr. Bingham stated that the trail would be, at the closest, 100 feet from homes and that the minimum distance from the wall to the edge of the trail was ten feet. Mr. Bingham added that the trail could provide access to Meridian Park by closing off the street, making the area safer for children. Mary Jo Heller, Westminster Triangle, asked if any other information was available about this concept. Mr. Bingham replied that the planning was just at the beginning stages. Ms. Nichols noted that the Parks Bond included \$2.5 million for trails, not all of which had been committed to specific projects, and that a citizen committee will most likely assist in recommending how the funding will be used. Chair Hale agreed that the bond issue was partly designated to connect existing trails, and she thanked Mr. Bingham for approaching the Council of Neighborhoods as a sounding board for the idea.

Shoreline Police Neighbor Center Program

Officer Leona Obstler, Westside Police Neighborhood Center, and Officer Denise Elfenson, Eastside Police Neighborhood Center, provided a summary of neighborhood storefront activities. Officer Obstler acknowledged neighborhood representatives who have volunteered

and been involved in storefront activities. She stated that volunteers contribute 400 hours per month to the storefronts. Since the program's inception in 1996, volunteers have provided many services, such as vacation house checks, citizen park patrols, crime prevention through environmental design surveys, false alarm reduction, updating E-911 business emergency contacts, victim call back program, Block Watch mapping, senior interaction groups and senior house-checks, providing safety presentations and child ID kits, assisting with the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program, and pet licensing. Officer Obstler credited Mayor Ransom for initiating the City's nationally recognized court notification program, which saves the City \$100,000 per year and has resulted in a 36% reduction in missed court dates. Citizen volunteers save the City money and allow police officers to focus on crime prevention and other community programs. Storefront Officers provide many programs, including landlord training, the Citizens' Academy, the retail theft program, School Safety Patrol, Block Watch, Business Watch, court transports, the anti-Auto theft program, Project Home Safe gun lock program, Among other activities, they also provide emergency management training, serve as School Resource Officers, attend community notification meetings for recently released Level II and Level III sex offenders, provide annual training and recognition for police volunteers, and attend neighborhood meetings and events. Storefronts also serve as a repository for City documents such as Council meeting agendas.

Bettelin Krizek Brown, Briarcrest, asked about a police helicopter that had been in the neighborhood that day. Officer Elfenson explained that this flight was a test run for when the helicopter would be landing at Briarcrest Elementary on June 9 as part of a summer food and donation drive for Hopelink.

Chair Hale thanked Officers Elfenson and Obstler for all their work and for their support of volunteers.

B. Old Business

Summer Planning

Chair Hale announced that she hoped to confirm plans for summer events. Four neighborhoods - Echo Lake, Westminster Triangle, Ridgecrest, and North City - have signed up for the Swinging Summer Eve Council of Neighborhoods Book Sale, to be held July 26, 5:30-8:30 pm at Cromwell Park. She invited others to sign up for work shifts and encouraged neighborhoods to set up their own book collection sites. Chair Hale reiterated that in order for a neighborhood group to share in the proceeds, it has to provide at least two volunteers to cover a three-hour shift. Ms. Heller added that since Swinging Summer Eve is largely a children's event, neighborhoods should seek donations of children's books. Chair Hale agreed and added that CDs are also welcome. She said that as well as being a fundraiser, this event would help neighborhood representatives make contact with other residents, and there would be a "meet and greet" table to inform people about neighborhoods associations.

Chair Hale moved on to discuss the Council of Neighborhoods carnival game tent at Celebrate Shoreline on August 19, for which two volunteers were needed per game. Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator, passed out a sign-up sheet and stated that the booth will be open from 11 am to 5 pm, but priority time for volunteers is immediately after the parade, between 12 and 2 pm, tapering off until 5 pm. Ms. Hardy asked if youth could volunteer. Ms. Smith replied that high school students can work independently, and junior high students can be paired with adults. Chair Hale mentioned that the Police Explorers' speed pitch equipment would be used as a fundraiser for Hopelink, and not affiliated with the neighborhoods carnival game booth.

Next, Chair Hale summarized plans for a late-summer or early-fall candidate forum for the seats of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell and congressman Jay Inslee and other races. Chair Hale, Stan Terry, Briarcrest, and David Bannister, Richmond Beach, have volunteered to plan this event.

Chair Hale said on National Night Out Against Crime, August 1, Block Watch and neighborhood groups traditionally hold block parties or other community events. She encouraged representatives to participate that night and reminded them that a right-of-way permit is required to close off streets.

II. Public Comment

Ellis McDaniel, Therapeutic Health Care, introduced himself and stated that his non-profit business would like to make a presentation to the Council of Neighborhoods at a future date.

Greg Logan, Highland Terrace, commented on the potential impact on the Highland Terrace neighborhood of the Highlands utility yard project. He stated that 200,000 square feet of forested area would be cleared for the 90,000 square foot utility yard, and he complained that neighboring areas were not asked about the project prior to its approval by The Highlands and the City. He expressed hope that in the future neighborhoods could work together on plans that might impact one another.

Bob Barta, Highland Terrace, provided a report on the Citizen's Emergency Response Training (CERT) that he, his wife, and nine other residents received. He emphasized that citizens need to be able to help themselves in an emergency. Highland Terrace CERT Coordinator Trevor Rainwater has been working with Alan Bennett, posting citizen emergency response information on the new neighborhood website. Mr. Barta also showed his emergency kit with supplies in a "Recovery Bucket."

III. Neighborhood Roundtable

David Bannister, Richmond Beach, reported that over 1,000 people attended the 4th annual Strawberry Festival, and he thanked the City for its support of the event. At the annual board meeting on May 9, two new members were elected to the nine-person neighborhood board. He also said the Richmond Beach neighborhood garage sale was successful. Maps will be available at the Richmond Beach Library for the annual Richmond Beach Garden Tour to be held on June 10. Pizza Mia is donating proceeds from lunch sales from June 26-28 to the neighborhood association for beautification projects. The association is planning to increase promotion of its National Night Out Against Crime event taking place at Richmond Beach Library Park. Finally, they held the planning meeting for the Sandcastle Building Contest co-sponsored by the City during Celebrate Shoreline.

Dick Nicholson, Ridgecrest, noted the upcoming 10th anniversary of the Ridgecrest Neighborhood Association and that he and Chair Hale were founding members. He reported that at the annual meeting they had appointed a new board member, making a board of seven. At the same meeting, Shoreline Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Director Dick Deal provided information on the Parks Bond and Dave Endicott made a presentation on behalf of Forward Shoreline. In August, the neighborhood will be holding its annual Ice Cream Social. In response to Chair Hale, Mr. Nicholson noted that people might be interested in contacting Community Bands Northwest for music at neighborhood events which they provide free of charge.

Naomi Hardy, Richmond Highlands, commented that high school students who live within a mile of the school must walk from home and may not have a safe route. She said that the City has planned to improve pedestrian access next year. She also noted that in 1997 it was neighborhood associations that initiated legislation banning fireworks in the City, and therefore they could have similar success in proposing stricter regulation of door-to-door solicitors.

Sally Granger, North City, invited people to attend the June 17 antique Corvette car show at NE 177th St. and 15th Ave. NE.

Stan Terry, Briarcrest, reported that at their annual meeting, the neighborhood association reelected the board, with John Melusky as Assistant Director and Charlie Brown as Treasurer. The Secretary position is still open, and Ms. Brown and Mr. Terry will continue to serve as representatives to the Council of Neighborhoods. A five-year Neighborhood Traffic Action Plan for the neighborhood will be presented at the June 9 meeting. There will be several Block Watch parties and a neighborhood-wide party at Briarcrest Elementary for National Night Out Against Crime on August 1. The Mini-Grant-funded planting party has been rescheduled to August 26-27 due to limited plant availability in spring. Ms. Brown noted that she had attended the opening celebration for the Northgate redevelopment project in Seattle. She thanked the Council of Neighborhoods for having given her the opportunity to represent Briarcrest.

Mary Jo Heller, Westminster Triangle, reported that they would be holding their annual meeting and making plans for National Night Out Against Crime.

Diane Hettrick, Echo Lake, reported that King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson will be attending the next neighborhood meeting to discuss the Brightwater project's impacts on the neighborhood, among other issues. The association will also receive an update on Phase II of the Aurora Corridor Project and the costs of the Aurora project. Echo Lake property owner Harley O'Neil will discuss plans for development of a possible wetland boardwalk at the south end of Echo Lake. Marci Riedinger, Echo Lake, added that the board will be meeting with PCRS Director Mr. Deal. She discussed neighborhood monitoring water quality of Echo Lake and City efforts to work with developers to improve the lake's water quality. Ms. Riedinger reported that the Board attended Sky Nursery's redevelopment meeting, and she spoke well of the plans. Finally, she expressed concern over homeless people sleeping in Echo Lake Park.

Judy Allen, Innis Arden, announced that the neighborhood is offering tennis lessons for children in the Shoreline area, ages 6-17, from beginning to advanced-intermediate skill level. For National Night Out Against Crime, Innis Arden will be holding a five-mile walk as they did last year.

Bob Barta, Highland Terrace, reported that he had been reelected Director and Greg Logan had been elected Assistant Director of the neighborhood association. Mrs. Barta had been elected as treasurer, and Dr. Mona Fahoun and Alan Bennett will be the backup Council of Neighborhoods representatives. Mr. Bennett has developed a Web site for the association. Mr. Barta next reported that under the leadership of Tia Barrett, Landscape Chairman for Highland Terrace Elementary School, nearby neighborhoods and the school's PTA worked on maintaining and improving the school's urban forest, which will in the future serve as a "living classroom." Mr. Bennett provided a printout of the new Web site. He complimented the City on the success of the Aurora Corridor closure during the placement of girders for the Interurban Trail Pedestrian Overcrossing.

IV. Neighborhoods Program Report

Ms. Smith provided Celebrate Shoreline Parade Grand Marshall nomination forms, and pointed out upcoming Ivy Out events and community comment forums being held by the City Council on the 2007-2008 proposed Council Goals. Chair Hale recommended preparing for the forums by evaluating the goals and vision prior to attending. Ms. Smith then distributed informational cards to share with neighbors on ways to end hunger in Shoreline during the summer.

Chair Hale invited Mayor Ransom to speak. He encouraged people to attend the Council forum. Mayor Ransom then explained that Therapeutic Health Care would be moving from its site on Midvale Ave. N. to Aurora and 165th, and that there would be a public meeting about this relocation. He spoke well of the clinic as a neighbor, having worked in the same professional building where it was housed.

Chair Hale recognized Councilmember Keith McGlashan, who announced that the placement of the girders for the Interurban Trail Pedestrian Overcrossing bridge over N 155th St. is tentatively scheduled for July 6. The street will be closed while work is done to place the girders.

V. New Business --- Neighborhood Representatives

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.