

**CITY OF SHORELINE
COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS MINUTES**

May 2, 2007
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline Center
Spartan Room

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Ballinger – **Londa Jacques**
Briarcrest – **Bill Bear**
Echo Lake – **Marcie Riedinger, Diane Hettrick**
Highland Terrace – **Allan Bennett**
Innis Arden – **Judy Allen**
North City – **Charlotte Haines, Sally Granger**
Richmond Beach – **David Bannister, Tom Petersen**
Richmond Highlands – **Naomi Hardy**
Ridgecrest – **Patty Hale, Dick Nicholson**
Westminster Triangle – **Mary Jo Heller**

VISITORS PRESENT: Shoreline City Councilmembers Rich Gustafson, Keith McGlashan and Cindy Ryu; Deputy Mayor Maggie Fimia; Shoreline residents David Fosmire, Dan Henry, Terry Scott and Dale Wright; King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson staff member Shari Tracey.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Joe Tovar, Planning and Development Services Director; Rob Beem, Community Services Division Manager; Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator; Office Leona Obstler, Shoreline Police.

I. Call to Order

Chair Patty Hale called the meeting to order. The meeting agenda was approved unanimously. The minutes of the April 4, 2007 meeting were approved.

II. A. Old Business

• **Nominating Committee Report and Election of Council of Neighborhoods Executive Board, 2007-2008**

Charlotte Haines reported for the nominating committee. She said the three existing Council of Neighborhoods Board members are willing to serve again. The nominating committee presented the following slate of candidates: Patty Hale, Chair; Judy Allen, Vice Chair; and Marcie Riedinger, Secretary. Ms. Haines asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, she asked for a motion to elect the slate of nominees. The nominees were unanimously elected to serve another term from June 2007 through May 2008.

II. B. Old Business

• **Current Issues for Planning and Development Services**

Chair Hale introduced Joe Tovar, Director of Planning and Development Services (PADS), who presented an overview of current planning-related issues for his department and the city. Mr. Tovar started by identifying several current City Council Goals which PADS is working on cooperatively with other departments.

First Mr. Tovar said there are some projects that knit several goals together, such as the efforts to look at redevelopment of NE 165th and 5th NE in the Ridgecrest neighborhood. In addition, he said that some goals are geographically based, such as completing the Aurora Corridor

project, planning a civic center/city hall, and completing the Interurban Trail. Mr. Tovar mentioned that the City Council has asked the Planning Commission to review strategic points to guide design of the Town Center projects – the civic center/city hall, Aurora Corridor, Interurban Trail and the conceptual heritage park – and conduct a public process to establish a context to approach these projects.

Mr. Tovar stated the first 1.2 miles of the Aurora Corridor is now complete and this summer the City Council will decide on the design of the remaining two miles. A ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of the first segment of the Aurora Corridor project is scheduled for June 16. The Interurban Trail is almost complete and a ribbon cutting is scheduled for July 14.

Mr. Tovar said the selected development approach for the Civic Center/City Hall project of “develop/design/lease to own” differs in some ways from the more traditional “design/bid/build” process. The selected method accelerates the design process, providing for earlier delivery of the finished product and reduces the risks to the City of cost over-runs. The project timeline includes opportunities for public input this summer to help identify what uses or features the public wants to have in the civic center design.

Mr. Tovar introduced the principle of a form-based code as a new approach to zoning being considered for specific areas like the Ridgecrest commercial area and South Aurora Triangle. Traditional zoning chops the city up in a relatively small number of land use districts and includes a voluminous listing of specific uses that are permitted or prohibited within those districts. The new approach being advocated by the staff is a “form-based” approach which does not focus as much on the activity within the buildings, but rather focuses on design details such as the bulk, shape and design of the building and the lot. He pointed out that with a form-based code and implementing rezoning, the city would have the option for a much greater number of discrete land use zones with tailored bulk, shape, and design characteristics spelled out for each zone.

Mr. Tovar said his department is proposing to use the principles of form-based code for the South Aurora Triangle, the small section of land between Aurora Avenue North, the Interurban Trail, North 145th and North 165th. The proposed code would define what the development looks like, for example scale and form of the buildings. By allowing buildings to be built higher than current code, there is an opportunity to get some public benefits - such as pedestrian access from the Interurban Trail to Aurora. Mr. Tovar invited Council of Neighborhood representatives to the Planning Commission meetings for the hearing process. The Planning Commission will have a study meeting on the proposed new zoning for South Aurora Triangle on June 7, 2007 and a public hearing on July 12, 2007. Both meetings will begin in the Rainier Room of the Shoreline Center at 7 p.m.

Mr. Bennett asked are there are constraints because of utilities? Mr. Tovar said no. Mr. Bear asked what would stop 12 story buildings from being built in other parts of the City. Mr. Tovar said the City Council ultimately decides what will be allowed where. Simply because a 12 story building may be appropriate in one land use district does not mean that it is appropriate in another.

Mr. Tovar highlighted that in regional planning growth estimates to the year 2040, Shoreline’s population increases from the current population of 53,000 to add another 68,000 to 103,000. This growth is the same order of magnitude as other local cities; the State Office of Financial Management projects the State’s population growth as another million people every 12 years, and approximately 60% of that will be the greater Seattle area. Regardless of whether this

growth occurs in the next ten, twenty, or fifty years, Mr. Tovar said that all the trend lines show upward economic activity in the region and a corresponding upward trend in population growth.

Mr. Tovar mentioned that the 2010 Speaker Series has been developed to give insight and an overview to the community on planning-related issues. The public is invited to hear some dynamic speakers; details are available on the city's Web site.

Mr. Tovar said another initiative this year to meet Council Goal #5 the Comprehensive Housing Strategy which considers many questions, including "how do we accommodate the needs of our emerging population while also retaining the character of our neighborhoods?" The Comprehensive Housing Strategy Advisory Committee is addressing these questions, and will bring recommendations to public meetings later in 2007.

Mr. Tovar said Council Goal # 6 to create an "environmentally sustainable community" is being addressed by reviewing what the City is already doing and hiring a consultant to review what more we could do within existing resources. There will be public meetings on recommendations in the late summer or fall.

Mr. Tovar said the City is also considering the Cascade Agenda proposed by the Cascade Land Conservancy. On June 4, the City Council will consider a resolution of intent to become a Cascade Agenda City. The intent of the Cascade Agenda is look at growth over a longer timeline – 100 years – and make choices about how to keep the urban areas attractive for growth and keep the rural areas rural. He noted that the Cascade Agenda does not drive the rate or amount of growth in the region or that would come to Shoreline. Rather, it helps cities to focus on how to gracefully accommodate whatever growth comes, whenever it comes.

Mr. Tovar mentioned that the City staff is tracking a Point Wells comprehensive plan amendment which has been proposed for consideration by the Snohomish County Council. The proposal would enable Point Wells to accommodate a large development including retail, over 1000 units of housing plus a marina. Currently this area is unincorporated Snohomish County, but the only access identified so far is through Shoreline. There are many questions to be asked and answered about annexation, traffic impacts, whether it will have businesses.

Mr. Tovar invited Council of Neighborhoods representatives to contact him with any questions at 546-3227.

- **Summer Planning**

Ms. Hale said each year the Council of Neighborhoods participates as a group in two summer events. We need volunteers to help run the summer events which include: Swingin Summer Eve Book Sale on July 18 and Celebrate Shoreline on August 18. Chair Hale asked for neighborhoods to indicate whether they intended to participate in the book sale tonight and by June be willing to designate two volunteers to help staff the sale.

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

Ms. Hale asked whether the Council of Neighborhoods wanted to take July and August off as is the traditional schedule and the group concurred.

IV. Public Comment

Mr. Dale Wright, Echo Lake resident and representative of Vision Aurora, made a presentation about his analysis of the cost of the first phase of Aurora. Mr. Wright said there were three separate costs: the cost of the project itself, the cost to the City of Shoreline, and the cost to the Shoreline tax payer. Mr. Wright presented the conclusions of his analysis: the estimated project cost of the first phase is \$31.7 million which translates to \$26.4 million for the first mile (phase one is 1.2 miles); the cost to the City for the first phase is \$2.9 million; the cost to the taxpayer is \$54 per capita for the Aurora Project itself and an additional \$70 per capita for underground wiring.

Shari Tracey, representing King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson reminded the representatives of the Town Hall on Public Health at Meridian Park Elementary on May 3. Ms. Tracey said Mr. Ferguson would like to speak at any neighborhood association, and has requested to come to the Council of Neighborhoods in the fall.

Ms. Hale recognized the hard work of Mr. David Bannister who is leaving the Council of Neighborhoods after serving as a neighborhood leader, and a representative of Parkwood 1996-1998 for and a representative of Richmond Beach from 2001-2007. Ms. Hale presented Mr. Bannister with a Certificate of Recognition signed by the mayor. Ms. Hale also recognized David Fosmire, a neighborhood leader in Innis Arden and Council of Neighborhoods representative from 2004-2006, and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the mayor.

V. Neighborhoods Roundtable

Allan Bennett, Highland Terrace – reported the neighborhood had an April work party at the Highland Terrace Elementary “living classroom” site and a neighborhood plant exchange and social gathering on April 14. The neighborhood does an annual mailing and keeps updated information on the neighborhood Web site.

Mary Jo Heller, Westminster Triangle – reported that the neighborhood traffic advisory process has been started and that the elementary school closures and the potential of children crossing Aurora has been getting neighborhood attention. Ms. Heller requested that every neighborhood report on what type of newsletter they produce.

David Bannister, Richmond Beach – reported they have a monthly newsletter and a Web site. The April meeting discussed parks, including a new park at the pump station site. The neighborhood had a park clean up at Richmond Beach Community Park in anticipation of the Strawberry Festival and commented that the Parks Department has done an excellent job in maintenance. The annual meeting in May will include elections.

Tom Petersen, Richmond Beach – announced the upcoming Strawberry Festival on May 5, to coincide with the Library Arts Festival, at Richmond Beach Community Park, - with food, games, sports, and live music.

Londa Jacques, Ballinger – reported planning is underway for the second neighborhood traffic action planning meeting. Planning is underway to plan a Ballinger Walk in the summer starting at Brugger’s Bog. Ballinger is in the process of building a Web site and has done an occasional mailing when they’ve been able to use city mailings.

Naomi Hardy, Richmond Highlands – reported that from July 5 to August 31 the Dayton hill will be closed and cautioned that west side residents will have to pick their routes around construction.

Charlotte Haines, North City – reported concern about the closure of North City Elementary. In mid-May Parks Department will install flower baskets in North City business district. On May 22, North City will have a joint meeting with Ridgecrest. See Patty Hale's comments for details.

Bill Bear, Briarcrest – reported a nice 10th Anniversary Party on April 28. About 100 people enjoyed lasagna dinner and dance lessons and had a lot of fun. The neighborhood has a newsletter distributed through block contacts. Neighborhood concerns were raised regarding the addition of a sidewalk on the east side of 25th Ave NE; one neighbor got input from residents and worked with the city to address roadway and sidewalk design issues to the satisfaction of the neighbors. Affordability of housing is an issue of great concern.

Marcie Riedinger, Echo Lake – reported the April was an open house with John Marek, Associate Traffic Engineer, reporting on the work of the neighborhood traffic advisory committee. The May meeting will include speakers on Block Watch, Ready Neighborhood, and crime prevention. In June King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson will speak, and there will be a presentation on the Brightwater Project.

Patty Hale, Ridgecrest – reported that Ridgecrest sends out meeting notices for events held approximately every two months but does not have a newsletter. The neighborhood has no Web site; however they can publish events on a free Web site hosted by a local real estate agent. In researching abandoned vehicles, Ms. Hale reported citizens can now call Shoreline Customer Response Team at 546-1700 instead of King County.

Dick Nicholson, Ridgecrest – reported the annual April green gardens meeting and plant exchange was well received. The annual meeting on May 22 will include election of officers and Officer Sue Sherwood and Customer Response Team representative Randy Olin addressing topics of crime prevention, how to tackle graffiti, abandoned vehicles, and safety programs. In August the neighborhood will sponsor the annual ice cream social which drew more than 1000 people last year, and the Around the Sound Community Band will play.

Diane Hettrick, Echo Lake – the neighborhood has a newsletter published nine times per year, 6-12 pages, to about 500 people. The neighborhood has an email distribution list of about 90 people.

Judy Allen, Innis Arden – reported that Innis Arden installed a wide variety of plants in the reserves in April. The community has tennis lessons open to children in the neighborhood. 10th Ave NW is closed as part of the trunk sewer replacement. Gail Marsh did an emergency preparedness meeting in April. In an ongoing effort to discourage solicitors, Judy purchased some sample license plate sized signs; she showed the group for review priced at \$10/each.

Officer Leona Obstler clarified that commercial solicitors must be registered with the City and carry a license and non-profits must be registered but not carry a license.

Several neighborhood representatives reported getting survey calls about garbage and recycling collection and wondering if they were legitimate or part of a scam.

Ms. Haines reported North City Business Association is planning a meeting to examine issues related to the recent arson on 15th Avenue NE, graffiti, loitering and other crime prevention.

V. Neighborhoods Program Report

Neighborhood Coordinator Nora Smith asked whether representatives could meet on another night to inform research on alternative meeting room options. A meeting room in Spartan Gym is available on Thursday nights and would be free to the city; there were several representatives who could not meet on Thursdays. Ms. Smith said she would research other options.

Mr. Rob Beem, Community Service Division Manager, noted that Joyce Nichols has taken a new job as a policy advisor to the City of Bellevue Utilities Department. Mr. Beem acknowledged Ms. Nichols longstanding dedication to the City and the neighborhoods, and encouraged representatives to call Ms. Nichols directly to say good bye since she was unable to attend this month's meeting.

VI. New Business --- Neighborhood Representatives

No new business.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.