

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS COUNCIL OF CLARK COUNTY

MAY 12, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Doug Ballou at 7 p.m. Those in attendance were: Bud Van Cleve, NE Hazel Dell; Susan Gilbert, Enterprise/Paradise Point; James Olson, Pleasant Highlands; Sue Lintz, E Minnehaha; Linda Moorhead, CC Community Development; Sue Groth, Port of Vancouver; Mike Cooke, CC Sheriff's Office; Lynn Rust, Columbia River Crossing; Carley Francis, Columbia River Crossing; Tony Lintz, citizen; Fred Sandrez, Pleasant Highlands; George Vartanian, Fairgrounds; Holly Gaya, CC PIO; Doug Ballou, NACCC; Barbara Anderson, N. Salmon Creek; Sandra Bennett, East Fork Frontier; Art Stubbs, Green Meadows; Steve Stuart, County Commissioner.

Sue Lintz of E. Minnehaha presented Holly Gaya with a plaque to reward her for all her dedication to the neighborhood associations. Following her presentation, George Vartanian presented Holly with another plaque, and then Art Stubbs presented her with a third plaque. Her total is now FOUR PLAQUES. Each plaque represents several neighborhood associations totaling approximately 22 associations in all. Each plaque was a big thank you for Holly's continued hard work and effectiveness as a County liaison and for her huge contribution in helping to make our associations more visible as well as more viable. Following the awards an informal reception was held with cake and sodas served to all meeting attendees. Sue and Tony Lintz provided the refreshments.

Doug announced that NACCC sent to Rep. Deb Wallace a letter of support of the "Take a Second Look" proposal which would allow an individual with medical, mental or learning disabilities to identify themselves to the 911 system through a doctor's note, and subsequently through an identifying code on the individual's drivers' license or ID card.

The Parks Foundation Dozer Day is May 17. For further information contact www.parksfoundation.us. May 17 is also the Parade of Bands day in Hazel Dell.

On May 31 from 9:30 – 12:30 is the mini conference on "Making the Front Porch Connection" sponsored by Community Choices of 2010 which will discuss how to create safe, active communities. It will be held at Kings Way Christian School (First Church of God) on 78th St. and is open to all who wish to strengthen connections in their community. Registration is required. Cost is \$15. Call 360-567-1067 or e-mail at cc2010admin@vancouverusa.com. Several scholarships are available for neighborhood leaders. Contact Holly for more information.

The Neighborhoods USA Conference will be May 21-25 in Hampton, VA with Holly Gaya, Bud Van Cleve, Barbara Anderson, Doug Ballou and Bridget Schwarz attending along with city neighborhood association representatives. Next year's meeting will be in Spokane and we will try to have a large group attend since it will be geographically closer.

STEVE STUART – BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Stuart attended the meeting to urge all neighborhood associations to do all that we can to bring more people into “the fold”. He said that people want to be involved but are sometimes too intimidated to come to meetings. He asked all of us and NACCC as well to expand our reach and to try to get more people involved. He mentioned that it was important that neighborhood associations who had formed to deal with a single issue continue to be active after the issue has been resolved. There then ensued a discussion of how best to hear whether citizens want light rail and how should it be financed. Three operative questions might be 1. Should Clark County voters say “yes” or “no” and how do they wish to finance it (tax or tolls)? 2. If light rail did not increase taxes to operate and maintain, would they vote for it? 3. If it cost \$\$ (whatever the number may be), would they vote for it? A discussion ensued as to whether it should be put to a vote or whether it should be in the form of a more comprehensive scientific survey. The survey was more popular. Commissioner Stuart appreciated our input.

LINDA MOORHEAD, CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Linda gave a presentation on what the county is doing to include pets in disaster planning procedures. She said that all local and state disaster plans must include a plan for pets. Clark County has been involved for two years in conjunction with the Red Cross, Humane Society, CRESA, CC PIO, Executive Horse Council, veterinarians, fire and law personnel. She said that 60% of Clark County residents have pets. Most people have their own plan for pets but the various entities are working on getting contracts with schools for human and pet shelters next to each other during a disaster. Rescue and transportation as well as shelter and care are the most important. Resource lists will become available and volunteers will be needed to sign contracts to help during a disaster. She said that pet owners should have a disaster kit of food, water, and medical records stored. For more information, the FEMA website has excellent in-depth information. For further information, contact Linda at the county or her e-mail Linda.Moorhead@clark.wa.gov.

CARLEY FRANCIS, COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING

Carley announced that for the Columbia River Crossing project a Draft Environmental Impact Statement has been published for review and comment and it covers six basic issues: Congestion, safety, freight movement, transit, bike and pedestrian path connections, seismic safety. She explained that the DEIS does not provide recommendations or a financial plan but compares different options. It also shows property-by-property impact. There is a 60-day public comment period beginning May 2 and ending July 1. There will be a number of question and answer sessions during this period as well as two public hearings and open houses. For all this information, visit the CRC website www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org.

There was no neighborhood roundtable due to time restraints but all were reminded that the next meeting would have no speakers and the entire meeting will be dedicated to neighborhood issues.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Gilbert, Secretary

Review and Approved by Doug Ballou, May 14, 2008.