

## NORTH HIGHLINE UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCIL

1243 Southwest 112th Street

Minutes of October 7

**Present** – Judy Duff, President; Steve Davis, Vice-President; Scott LaVielle, Corresponding Secretary; Tim Daly; Michael Griffith; Ron Johnson; Ruth-Ann Matthias; Marliza Melzer; Gerald Robison, Mark Warren

**Absent** – Kent Horton; Marlil Lovell, Treasurer

### **OPENING CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

President Duff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- • Councilmember LaVielle made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 16 meeting; Councilmember Davis seconded the motion.
  - -The motion passed unanimously.
- Councilmember Duff recommended that the presentation regarding the NHUAC as a nonprofit organization be removed from the agenda since Councilmember Lovell was scheduled to present, but would be absent for the meeting.
  - -Councilmember Griffith made the motion to remove the presentation of the NHUAC as a nonprofit organization from the agenda. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion.

Approval of the agenda passed unanimously.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

*Corresponding Secretary's Report –*

- • Corresponding Secretary LaVielle reported that letters were addressed to King County Councilmembers Nickels and Pelz regarding the proposed rate increase by Seattle City Light. The letters expressed the NHUAC's adamant disagreement with any differentiation between rates in the unincorporated areas and the City of Seattle as is proposed.
  - -A letter was received from constituent Dick Thurneau regarding the Lake Hicks master plan. The plan currently sets aside 200 acre feet for wetlands, but he requested that it be further studied because he felt the plan might need up to 400 acre feet in order to be successful.

### **Public Announcements-**

- • Councilmember Duff recognized Dave Foster, Legislative Aide to King County Councilmember Greg Nickels, and Josh Stepherson, Legislative Aide to King County Councilmember Dwight Pelz, who were present for the meeting.
  - -Councilmember Duff also announced that a sheet was available for anyone to sign for Bong St. Domingo wishing him a quick recovery from his car accident.

-A governance meeting is scheduled for October 12, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Evergreen High School. Representatives from King County will be present to answer questions and provide information regarding the options of annexation or incorporation for the North Highline area.

-A candidate's night is scheduled for October 26th, 7:00 p.m. at the Highline Senior Center.

-Councilmember Duff encouraged everyone to review the information regarding Initiative 695 available on the back table. Regardless of how one votes, it is important to be well-informed since this issue is proposing to cut at least \$114 million dollars from the County budget.

-The Office of Civil Rights Enforcement will hold a meeting October 28, 9:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Park Lake Boys and Girls Club. It will be an informational seminar for businesses regarding civil rights employment and housing. A meeting for citizens will be held November 3-4 regarding anti-discriminatory laws.

-Councilmember Duff also encouraged the community to consider volunteering to work the polls for the upcoming election.

- Councilmember Griffith notified the community that an abandoned truck is parked in front of Bernie and Boy's supermarket at South 112th and 1st Avenue South. Councilmember Duff suggested contacting code enforcement to address the problem.
- Councilmember LaVielle thanked the community on behalf of the Fire Department. Over \$3,500 was received for the Burn Foundation as of October 2.
- Councilmember Matthias announced that a house was moved into an empty lot on 8th Avenue South and appears to be abandoned.
- Councilmember Robison reminded the community that a meeting will be held October 15, 12:00 p.m. at White Center Pizza regarding the White Center Jubilee Days. The community is welcome to attend.
- Josh Stepherson, Legislative Aide to King County Councilmember Dwight Pelz, notified the community that an informational meeting will be held October 12, 6:30 p.m., at the Beverly Park Community Club, 110 SW 1st Avenue South, regarding the closed methamphetamine house on 5th Avenue South. The departments of the sheriff, code, and health will be present as well as King County Councilmember Dwight Pelz to address the community.

### **Public Comment-**

- • Mac Yielding addressed the NHUAC as a constituent of District 2. He stated that the current chair of the NHUAC is a representative of District 2 and the chair's vote represents him. He indicated that any attempt to say the chair cannot vote is an attempt to disenfranchise him and that is not acceptable.
- Dick Thurneau said that for the past three years he has provided samples of the water from Lakewood Park to the Council. He distributed current samples taken that morning and inquired as to what was being done to improve the water quality.
- Bob Cook stated that he was present at the September 16 NHUAC meeting and listened to the discussion regarding by-law changes. He said he was involved in founding the NHUAC and felt that allowing the chair to vote was in accordance with original vision and purpose of the council. If one person is not allowed to vote, that would prohibit communication between one position and their constituents. If one person is not allowed to participate, a better option would be to hire a facilitator. He also cautioned the council to seriously consider by-law changes. He was not sure if a by-law change was completely necessary in order to allow the chair to vote, but if the motion continues, he would hope it would be supported.

- Deputy Christine Masters reported on her efforts to patrol Lakewood Park and to address community concerns regarding illegal alcohol use in the park. In talking to neighbors as well as going undercover, she stated that it is unfair to blame the entire problem on the disc golfers. Juveniles are allegedly drinking at the park after hours.
  - -The other issue which is currently a priority is the homicide which occurred at the Tropicana Club. The homicide was determined to be gang-related and on-site security has been hired and the Tropicana is trying to implement a dress code. Law enforcement is pursuing options to shut down the Tropicana Club through any licensing restrictions and address problems related to the club.
- Lana Baker addressed the council regarding a suspected drug house next door to her residence on 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. For the past two to three months there has been a series of problems reported to the authorities. It began with dogs running loose and progressed to it being found to be a methamphetamine lab. Neighbors have also witnessed gun exchanges, but despite constantly contacting the authorities, it has been difficult for the police to arrive in time to witness the actual acts. A neighborhood meeting was held October 6 to discuss how to seek further assistance regarding this matter.
  - -Councilmember Duff reported that she has been trying to get information regarding the situation and had been informed of the following. There are numerous agencies working to solve this situation. From the Sheriff's Department the undercover street unit, the storefront crime office, the anti-crime force, the narcotics squad, and the major crimes department are involved. Animal control, Code Enforcement, the Health Department and King County Councilmember Dwight Pelz's office are also involved. The current issue seems to be coordinating all the agencies and having one contact person for the community. This house is connected to the closed meth house on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Sergeant Roger Thompson from the Sheriff's Department was present to provide further information.
    - Sgt. Thompson stated that narcotics is involved because of the allegations of it being a methamphetamine lab. Currently the prosecutor is waiting to charge them, but the results from the crime lab must first be returned. There are also fingerprints which are being analyzed. As soon as those two pieces of information are returned, charges may be filed. It is the Department of Health's responsibility to determine the contamination of the house and oversee the cleanup. Sgt. Scott Kimere is currently working on organizing the efforts of the various departments and Sgt. Thompson encouraged the neighbors to continue to report incidents. He informed the community to feel free to call 911 to report these incidents. If it is a non-emergency call, the dispatcher will transfer the call to the non-emergency section. It is imperative to call 911 even if officers are unable to respond immediately because it provides documentation and helps collect evidence.
    - Sergeant Scott Kimere encouraged people to call 911 since all non-emergency calls will be transferred. However, the direct number for the non-emergency line is 296-3311 if constituents want to bypass calling 911. The call will be directed to the same place either way, however. He also suggested leaving a message at the storefront for him or Deputy Tony Vowell so that they could follow-up on the incidents.
    - Deputy Peter Lindy reported that he has already recovered three stolen cars from the house and arrested two more people on warrants. There will probably be more cars impounded within the next week. Deputy Lindy stressed the importance of reporting incidents as it will make it easier to resolve this situation.

### Treasurer's report

Councilmember Duff reported that the balance was \$6247.06

### Committee Reports

- • Councilmember Davis reported that applications were still available for the open NHUAC position and would be accepted until the end of the meeting. Three applications were submitted from Michael Prime, Stephanie Rogers, and Candy Ratzburg. Copies will be made and hand-delivered to the councilmembers and interviews will be held during the October 21 meeting. Each candidate will have five minutes to introduce themselves and then the council will have the opportunity to ask questions.
  - -Councilmember Davis reported for the budget committee that the NHUAC will be submitting their 2000 budget priorities and a presentation will be made during the meeting.
- Councilmember Griffith reported for the cultural arts committee. Due to the diversity represented in the community, he is proposing to organize an international festival for the North Highline area. Members from the local ethnic communities and other various community members would be incorporated.
- Councilmember Robison reported for the land use committee that the comment period expired for the satellite dish farm in the Top Hat area and it was approved.
- Councilmember Matthias reported for the Des Moines Memorial Drive Committee. A ceremony is scheduled for November 11 at Sunnysdale Elementary School, but a time has not yet been set. Work from 188th South to Des Moines and 194th will begin in spring of 2000. Work within the North Highline area from South 128th north will probably commence in 2001.
- Councilmember LaVielle reported that code enforcement gave until October 8 to clean up the property at 9840 28th Avenue Southwest. If nothing is done, fines will be levied and it could possibly go into abatement.
- Councilmember Duff reported that she testified at the Seattle City Council regarding the proposed Seattle City Light rate increases which would require the North Highline area to pay higher rates than the City of Seattle. She entered into the record a letter from King County Councilmembers Nickels and Pelz expressing their support of equal rates as well.
  - -The proposal for the NHUAC to co-sponsor a candidates' night with the League of Women's Voters was not possible due to time constraints, but the council may still discuss whether they would like to host their own.
  - Regarding Lake Hicks, Councilmember Duff spoke with Robin Cole, King County Parks CIP Section, who informed her that the County has received the draft plan and it is now undergoing an internal review. The proposed plan will be released in November at which time it will be reviewed by SEPA. It is the expectation that at this point water quality will be addressed as well as the issue of flooding.
  - Councilmember Duff reported on the meeting regarding Unincorporated Area Councils with King County Executive Ron Sims. She briefed him for the North Highline Area on issues such as the airport, surface water management, and other issues.
- Councilmember Griffith made a motion of personal privilege to break for three minutes which passed unanimously.

## **ACTION ITEMS – BY-LAWS SECOND READING**

- Councilmember Robison made his motion for a by-law change which read as follows: "Add section V:D6: The President of council meetings and committee chairmen in committee meetings may participate in all discussions and in all votes, unless doing so would violate the conflict of interest or other provisions of these by-laws." Councilmember LaVielle Scott seconded the motion.

### **Councilmembers' 1st Discussion of Second Reading**

- Councilmember Robison noted the controversy surrounding the motion for a by-law change to allow the president and committee chairs' voting rights. He stated that his feeling is as elected representatives they should have that right. The council does not have a separate body of officers and since the officers are still elected by the community as representatives, they should be able to represent their district. There is no harm in allowing that person to have a choice, but there is substantial harm in prohibiting. The first two presidents decided not to vote and that was between them and their constituencies, but the president should have that choice and the motion was proposed in order to clarify the issue and put it to rest.
- Councilmember Melzer stated that this issue was introduced because there was concern among some constituents regarding how the meetings were being run. They expressed the feeling that the chair was biased and partisan. Councilmember Melzer said she has a responsibility to bring up concerns from any constituent and that the council is not a vehicle to further anyone's personal agenda. The council is supposed to be nonpartisan and that is not possible with a partial chair. All councilmembers should receive the same information from the chair regarding all subjects. Councilmember Melzer asked that councilmembers review this issue beyond what they feel may gain them popularity points with some of their peers. In closing, she referred to Robert's Rules of Order.
- Councilmember LaVielle reinforced that the chair is an elected official and represents the people in their district. They have an obligation to represent those constituents and he stated that he personally feels the current president has integrity and runs the meetings in a manner to accomplish the priorities of the agenda and achieve as much as possible to benefit the community. He stated he has no knowledge nor have any other councilmembers indicated that they feel the president is trying to divide the council. He felt it was unfounded and, unfortunately, a personal attack. He expressed regret that it had come to this point and hoped that the issue could be put to rest by approving the current motion.
- Councilmember Johnson indicated that he didn't believe the by-law change was absolutely necessary because he interpreted Robert's Rules of Order to allow the chair to speak and vote. He said he believed it is imperative for all councilmembers, whether they are chair or an influential member, to be honest and forthright in all that they do and put the interests of the community first. He agreed that muzzling the chair of the council or of committees is not the way to go because input is needed from everyone. He was unclear why this needed to be authorized through the by-laws and was a bit concerned about that, however.
- Councilmember Duff stated that for the September 16 meeting she provided all councilmembers with a working informational sheet on by-laws and distributed it on her own paper. She stated that she firmly believed that the past presidents should have voted as well and tried to address this issue long before her own tenure. Regarding the by-law change, she felt it was important because whereas Robert's Rules of Order allows the chair of the council to vote, it does not allow the committee chairs to vote. At every level, there should be full representation.

### **Personal privilege**

- Councilmember Griffith reminded the council that there is not an official parliamentarian on the council and no one has the right to rule on the interpretation of the rules. He called a personal privilege and made the motion to table the argument and reconsider it at the future discretion of the chair. Councilmember Daly seconded the motion.
- Upon further discussion, Councilmember Griffith withdrew his motion and Councilmember Daly rescinded his second.

### **Councilmembers' 2nd Discussion of Second Reading**

- Councilmember Robison stated that he was integral in drafting the original by-laws and feels that the current by-law change is in keeping with the original intent. The purpose of the council was to encourage as broad of participation as possible and not to be bogged down with procedural debates. He stated that this option seemed to be the best way to simplify this issue for now and the future.
- Councilmember Davis expressed his support for the motion and felt it was time to move on and settle this issue.
- Councilmember Melzer referred to her interpretation of Robert's Rules of Order. She reiterated that regardless of how it was received by the council, she brought forth the issue as a concern from a constituent.

### **Call for the question**

- Councilmember Griffith called for the question and Councilmember Robison seconded the call.

**The call for the question was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: Johnson, Melzer**

### **Vote on the motion to amend the by-laws**

**The motion was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: Melzer**

### **COUNCIL ACTION – TRANSPORTATION NEEDS REPORT**

- David Gualtieri, Supervising Transportation Planner, Transportation System Planning Section, King County, clarified questions regarding the TNR process. Since March 1999, three unincorporated councils have provided input to incorporate into the 2000 TNR Report. The 2000 Report has since been modified and is called the "Change Report". In the copy provided to the NHUAC, these changes made between 1999 and 2000 are outlined in the H section. Any suggestions made now will be incorporated into the next TNR.
- **VOTE: PROJECTS TO BE INCLUDED IN A CATEGORY CALLED THE SECOND TIER:**
  - H-224

H-247

H-250

**The motion was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

**Abstentions: Melzer**

- ➤ **VOTE: TO AMEND THE FOURTH PRIORITY IN THE FIRST TIER BY COMBINING H-253 AND H-36.10 AND EXPAND TO THE SEATTLE CITY LINE**

**The motion was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

**Abstentions: Melzer**

- ➤ **VOTE: COMBINE H-173.10 AND H-173.20 TO BE CONSIDERED AS ONE PROJECT**

**The motion was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Melzer, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

- ➤ **VOTE: FIRST TIER PROJECTS:**

H-173.10/H-173.20 H-248

H-249 H-251

**The motions were accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Melzer, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

- ➤ **VOTE: FIRST TIER PROJECTS:**

H-241 H-252

**The motions were accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

**Abstentions: Melzer**

- ➤ **VOTE: FIRST TIER PROJECTS:**
  - H-277 H-278

**The motions were accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

**Abstentions: Griffith, Melzer**

- ➤ **VOTE: FIRST TIER PROJECT:**
  - • Councilmember Robison proposed that the pathway project at SW 98<sup>th</sup> from 26<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> from the White Center Citizen Advisory Group to be included in the first tier.

**The motion was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

**Abstentions: Melzer**

- ➤ **VOTE: FIRST TIER PROJECT:**
  - • Councilmember Duff proposed that analysis for bike lanes, turn lanes, curbs, and crosswalks at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW from Roxbury to SW 128<sup>th</sup> from the White Center Citizen Advisory Group be included in the first tier.

**The motion was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Robison, Warren**

**Opposed: None**

**Abstentions: Melzer**

## **COUNCIL ACTION – NHUAC 2000 BUDGET PRIORITIES**

- • Dave Foster, Legislative Aide to King County Councilmember Greg Nickels, provided information regarding the 2000 King County budget process. King County Executive Ron Sims will present his proposed budget to the King County Council on October 11. The King County Council traditionally passes the final budget the Monday prior to Thanksgiving. Before that time, there will be four public hearings: Interlake High School, Bellevue on October 19, Burien City Hall on October 20, North Shore Senior Center on October 26, and the King County Courthouse on October 28. All the meetings are at 7:00 p.m. and are open to the public. Foster also explained that the budget will have to be rewritten to accommodate approximately \$114 million in cuts if Initiative 695 passes. Therefore, this year's process could potentially be different than in the past.

### **• NHUAC 2000 BUDGET PRIORITIES**

The following were the proposed NHUAC 2000 Budget Priorities as outlined by the council and are listed by King County agency.

**General:**

- ○ 1. Third runway mitigation.
- 2. U.A.C. operations funding.\*
- 3. Continuing economic revitalization of the greater North Highline area including a specifically funded sub-area zoning plan for the entire North Highline area.

\*Funding should meet but not exceed \$10000.00 due to the pending incorporation of the council.

**Parks:**

- ○ 1. Lakewood Park flooding.
- 2. Maintain and improve existing parks.
- 3. Replace removed playground equipment at Arbor Lake Park.
- 4. Funding for a new park at the north end of Boulevard Park.
- 5. Continue to maintain existing after-school and summer programs and replace those programs that were discontinued in 1999.
- 6. Complete improvements to North Shorewood Park.

**Roads:**

- ○ 1. Fund North Highline Area priorities as listed in the Transportation Needs Report.
- 2. Boulevard Park and White Center Citizen Advisory Groups' road and pedestrian safety recommendations.
- 3. Highline School District pedestrian safety recommendations.
- 4. Pedestrian safety by neighborhood.

**Public Safety:**

- ○ 1. Maintain Sheriffs Office Storefront funding for the North Highline Area.
- 2. Increase anti-drug / narcotics enforcement programs in the North Highline Area.
- 3. Implementation of Cops Study Grant Study recommendations and publication of brochure.
- 4. Maintain or increase Sheriffs Office staffing levels in the North Highline Area.
- 5. Fund additional prosecuting attorney positions to work on civil narcotics abatement hearings.

**Community Services:**

- ○ 1. Fund a study for the equitable distribution of human services throughout King County.
- 2. Maintain Highline Senior Center Funding.

3. Maintain and expand youth activities in the greater North Highline area.

- ○ 4. Fund home maintenance assistance for low-income seniors and disabled persons living in the North Highline area.

**Metro:**

- ○ 1. Implement a ride-free zone for the White Center, Top Hat and Boulevard Park areas.
  - 2. Maintain "Access Bus" service levels and routing.
  - 3. Expand the south fair ride-free zone from the Seattle city limits to the Burien Park & Ride lot.

**Water and Land Resources:**

- ○ 1. Development of White Center Pond to Lakewood Park greenbelt and trail.
  - 2. North Highline Surface Water tax dollars to be spent in the North Highline area.
  - 3. Add staff position dedicated specifically to North Highline surface water and urban flooding programs.
  - 4. Continue planning and funding of the Central Puget Sound Basin Plan.

**Wastewater:**

- ○ 1. Public sewer grants.
  - 2. Septic system maintenance grants.

**Solid Waste:**

- ○ 1. Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan.
  - 2. Free green disposal at the Bow Lake disposal facility.
  - 3. Annual spring cleaning and curbside pick-up.
  - 4. Composting program including compost bins.
  - 5. Empty garbage bins in downtown White Center.
  - 6. Provide and empty garbage bins in Top Hat and Boulevard Park Areas.

**Department of Development and Environmental Services:**

- ○ 1. Maintain or increase funding for Code Enforcement Officers in North Highline.
  - 2. Continue to streamline building permit process.
- Councilmember Johnson made the motion to accept the NHUAC 2000 Budget Priorities and Councilmember LaVielle seconded the motion.

**The motion was accepted.**

**For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Johnson, LaVielle, Matthias, Melzer, Robison**

**Opposed: None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Councilmember Duff asked whether there was a motion for the NHUAC to sponsor a candidates' night. No motion was made.
- Councilmember LaVielle made the motion to adjourn and Councilmember Davis seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna N. Duff

Recording Secretary, NHUAC

CC: Greg Nickels/Dave Foster

Dwight Pelz/Josh Stepherson

Brian Derdowski

Bong St. Domingo

Nancy Weaver

