

# NORTH HIGHLINE UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCIL

1243 Southwest 112th Street

Minutes of November 4

**Present** – Judy Duff, President; Steve Davis, Vice-President; Marlil Lovell, Treasurer; Scott LaVielle, Corresponding Secretary; Tim Daly; Michael Griffith; Kent Horton; Ron Johnson; Ruth-Ann Matthias; Gerald Robison, Stephanie Rodgers; Mark Warren

Absent – Marliza Melzer - excused

## OPENING CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

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

- • Councilmember Duff made a correction to the October 21 minutes on Page 2 changing Margaret Paegler's title from King County Councilmember to Seattle City Councilmember. Also, under the last bullet on Page 4, she corrected the spelling of "leans" to read "liens".
- Councilmember Lovell corrected the spelling of "Tom James" on Page 2 to read "Tom Jahns".
- -On Page 3, under the first bullet, Councilmember Lovell corrected the line to read "The ordinance would expedite building permits and the *abatement* process...".

-On Page 3, bullet 4, Councilmember Lovell stated that her grammatical preference would be to begin a new sentence at "Councilmember Griffith already testified...".

-Councilmember Lovell felt that "association" should be capitalized on Page 6, line 7 under the first heading.

➤ The corrections were accepted. Councilmember Davis made the motion to approve the minutes and Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion.

-The motion passed unanimously.

• Councilmember Duff stated that due to Bong St. Domingo's auto accident, it was not possible to mail the November 4 agendas to the community. However, the legal obligation to advertise the meeting was fulfilled by publicizing the meeting in the *Highline Times*.

-Councilmember Duff suggested to amend the agenda by adding the discussion of writing a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers requesting them to deny the Port of Seattle's application for a wetland permit regarding the Third Runway.

- ■ -Councilmember Horton made the motion amend the agenda to reflect Councilmember Duff's suggestion. Councilmember Davis seconded the motion.

Approval of the agenda passed unanimously.

## • • COMMUNICATIONS

*Corresponding Secretary's Report* –

- Councilmember LaVielle reported that a letter was received from a constituent regarding illegal signs posted in the North Highline area advertising a real estate business. Councilmember LaVielle said that the issue would be pursued and King County would be contacted.

-Councilmember Duff reported that she had visited the specified locations and found that one sign appeared to have been removed and one still remained. She reiterated that the NHUAC would investigate the issue.

- Councilmember Duff reported that a letter was sent to former NHUAC Councilmember Delfino Munoz thanking him for his services. A letter was also written to David Gualtieri, Supervising Transportation Planner, Transportation System Planning Section, King County, thanking him for his work regarding the Transportation Needs Report.

- Councilmember Davis stated that letters were sent to all candidates who applied for appointment to the NHUAC thanking them for their interest and stating the results.

### **Public Announcements-**

- Councilmember Horton reported for the Highline School District Citizen Advisory Committee which has been reviewing the possibility of a school bond. The committee has concluded its six-week investigation and is finalizing its recommendations to send to Superintendent Joe McGeehan. Dr. McGeehan will take the committee's findings under advisement and in approximately a month will make his own recommendation to the Highline School District Board of Directors.

- Councilmember Lovell reported as one of the councilmembers who was present at Corps of Engineers public meeting regarding the Third Runway. She stated that there were approximately 10-12 city representatives and legislators present as well as representatives from private companies. The Port of Seattle filed for an application to relocate wetlands in order to prepare for the Third Runway. It is available to the public at the Corps of Engineers office at 4725 East Marginal Way. The Corps of Engineers must receive all public comment by November 13 and the Department of Ecology deadline is November 23.

-Councilmember Lovell stated that a meeting will be held at November 9, 7:00 p.m., at the Boulevard Park Library to notify the community of registered sex offenders who have registered in the community.

- Councilmember Matthias reported that the November 11 Des Moines Memorial Drive Veterans' Day ceremony was cancelled due to a lack of volunteers.

- Councilmember LaVielle asked for the community's donations of toys and food for the Christmas Outreach Program. The deadline is December 18 to accept new toys and canned food. Also, if there are any suggestions of a family who could use assistance for the holidays, please contact Councilmember LaVielle at 243-0330 by the first week of December.

- Councilmember Duff reported that a public hearing is scheduled for November 9, 5:30 p.m., regarding the proposed Seattle City Light rate increase. The meeting will be held at the Seattle City Council chambers.

-A public hearing regarding the King County Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for November 15, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the Kent Senior Activity Center in the Smith Dry Crafts Room.

-The November 2 election absentee results will be 100% counted, and the results will be certified

November 17.

- Councilmember Robison announced that a meeting regarding the White Center Jubilee Days is scheduled for November 5, 12:00 p.m., at White Center Pizza.

### ***PUBLIC COMMENT***

- • Mac Yielding inquired as to whether there was ever a public vote regarding the approval of the Third Runway. If not, he inquired as to why there wasn't since it is funded by public money.
- Councilmember Horton responded that the Port of Seattle is generally a very autonomous entity and the public votes to elect the Port Commissioners, but their vote was not required to construct the Second Runway nor was it needed to approve the Third Runway.

### ***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

- • Councilmember Robison reported for the Zoning/Land Use Committee that a liquor application was submitted by the Fenix Club.
- Councilmember Johnson reported for the Parks Committee that North Shorewood Park has received the new and improved entry sign that was requested. Also, the contract has been signed to install pedestrian "landing lights" on 16th Avenue SW between South 100th and South 107th. The installation of handicapped ramps is now occurring at South 107th.
- Councilmember Davis reported for the Budget Committee that the Executive planned to present the revised budget November 4.
- Councilmember Duff provided further information regarding the budget cuts. Approximately \$106 million will be cut from the operating transit budget, \$10.5 million from public health and \$5.4 million from criminal justice.
- Regarding the operating transit budget, the budget cuts will begin in February 2000 and continue through May/June 2001. They will include cuts to bus drivers, maintenance and administration. Approximately 200,000 service hours will be cut with the effort to protect core and peak-hour services as much as possible. Approximately 52 bus routes may be affected either through reductions or elimination.
- About \$10.5 million will be cut from the public health budget. There is a proposal to use money from the emergency reserve and that might postpone cuts until April 1, 2001. After that, there will be a reduction in services and a possible closure of clinics.
- Criminal justice will experience \$5.4 million in cuts during the first quarter of the year 2000. A general outline of proposed cuts are \$241,000 from District Courts, \$326,000 from the Superior Courts, \$382,000 from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, \$271,000 from the Sheriff's Office, and \$261,000 from the Parks and Recreation budget. Councilmember Davis added that there is the possibility of 19-30 deputies being cut.
- Councilmember Matthias reported for the Des Moines Memorial Drive Committee. A meeting was held the morning of November 4. It is expected that the first section of the project will be completed in 2000, and the entire project will be finished by 2004.
- Councilmember Warren reported as the chair for the King County Comprehensive Plan committee.

Councilmembers Davis, Duff, Horton, Johnson and Rodgers and community member Tom Jahns will be serving on the committee. The first meeting is scheduled for November 8, 7:00 p.m., at the fire station and the public is invited. The first two chapters will be discussed.

- Councilmember LaVielle stated that the drug house at 9840 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southwest has been entered into the abatement process. All notices were re-posted at the house at on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.

-Councilmember LaVielle also reported that a pedestrian was struck in the crosswalk at South 104<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> SW. It was not a fatality, but the pedestrian suffered a broken leg.

- Councilmember Johnson updated the NHUAC regarding the NHUAC website. It is not possible to register with the suffix of ".gov" since that is now reserved for federal agencies. Instead, an application will be submitted to use the designation ".org".

- Councilmember Lovell reported that there is \$5,000 remaining from the CAP Governance Committee budget. The committee is looking into having that money reallocated towards the sub-area plan. Citizens Bonnie Liebel and Candis Ratzburg have a meeting with King County Executive Ron Sims to generally discuss the possibility of a sub-area plan.

- Councilmember Duff informed the NHUAC that a flow restricting T was removed from the line that the Lake Hicks pumping system discharges into SW 116<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> SW. The goal is to make the water level lower and is an interim measure for the winter. They are also working to improve the water quality.

-Last year Surface Water Management (SWM) spent money on hydrological work on the Lake Hicks' Master Plan study. They're requesting \$60,000 of SWM money for next year.

-\$380,000 was also requested for the basin plan studies for Miller and Salmon Creeks. Interlocal agreements should also be adopted in a few months.

-The King County Building Code Advisory and Appeals Boards is accepting nominations for people to serve on their board of appeals. Applications are due January 1. Councilmember LaVielle volunteered to put his name forth. Councilmember Robison also encouraged the application to be advertised for anyone else who might be interested.

-Councilmember Duff reported on the status of the Cops Grant. A letter was sent to Sheriff Reichert in June 1999 requesting an accounting of the money and the status of the brochures. The NHUAC has not received that information and Councilmembers Davis and LaVielle will be drafting another letter requesting that data.

-Councilmember Duff also offered any further assistance in addition to the committee packets that were distributed. She hoped that the NHUAC committees would continue to move forward.

- Councilmember Rodgers reported for the Neighborhood Anti-Drug Committee. The landlord of the former meth house at 12225 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South has been fined \$250 twice for illegally entering the premises. He sent someone to tow the cars, but is not cleaning up the house. The attorney for the Health Department sent a request to the prosecutor that the landlord be ordered to clean it up. Over 50 signatures have been obtained from the neighbors requesting it be cleaned and the house then be demolished.

-Progress is being made in relation to resolving the meth house on 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Officers were able to make undercover drug purchases and obtain a search warrant which was executed November 3.

One person was arrested on existing warrants and two arrests are pending. Unfortunately, all abatement requests have been put on hold until January 2000. When that hold is released, that property will be eligible for abatement provided that the landlord does not comply.

- Councilmember Davis informed the council of a homicide which occurred November 28, 5:00 p.m., at the Fairway Apartments. The victim was shot in the head and suffered brain damage. A search warrant was conducted in Burien and the suspect was apprehended and confessed to the shooting. It was determined to be drug-related.

***KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASA PROGRAM (COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE) LEN AND PAT SCHROETER, CASA VOLUNTEERS***

- • Len and Pat Schroeter presented information regarding the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA). The program was founded in 1977 and there was such a positive response that every state now has a CASA program and there are over 60,000 volunteers. CASA volunteers represent children in legal proceedings where the child is a dependent of the state. The children have often been abandoned or abused sexually and/or physically. The CASA determines what is in the best interest of the child and represents them accordingly. The CASA volunteers remain with the case for the entire duration until it is resolved or the child is no longer considered a dependent of the state.

-CASA volunteers must be over 21 years of age, have no criminal record, three positive references and a commitment to remain with their cases through litigation. All prospective volunteers are interviewed by staff members who determine whether the program is an appropriate match. Volunteers complete a 24-hour training program and are then sworn in by a judge and considered a formal representative in the King County Superior Court system. Their status is considered equal with that of the attorneys.

-Most cases average two to three years before they are resolved, but some cases can take up to 5 years. During the first two or three months when volunteers are becoming acquainted with their cases, the time commitment averages 10-15 hours a month. Volunteers are also required to periodically submit reports to the presiding judge.

-Len and Pat expressed what a privilege it is to work with the children and that it is a wonderful opportunity to make a positive difference.

***KING COUNTY ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE RECOVERY OF DISORDER AND DAMAGED BUILDINGS – PRISCILLA KAUFMANN, SENIOR PLANNER, DDES, AND BEVERLY FERRATO, PLANS EXAMINER, DDES***

- • Priscilla Kaufmann, senior planner, DDES, King County, and Beverly Ferrato, Plans Examiner, DDES, King County, presented regarding the development of a King County ordinance for the recovery of buildings damaged in disasters. In creating an ordinance to deal with this issue, King County looked to areas such as Los Angeles and Oakland who have dealt with natural disaster issues. A committee was formed with people from both the public and private sector including representatives from the City of Seattle, University of Washington, and Boeing. Aspects of the ordinance include that the disaster ordinance has no effect unless a disaster is declared. The primary topics the ordinance addresses are rapid abatement, damage assessment/penalties, and repair standards.

***Rapid Abatement***

- 1. Rapid abatement is necessary following a disaster because the standard abatement procedures are not fast enough. Buildings or structure which pose an imminent risk to

people and property in surrounding areas need immediate attention.

2. The typical risks qualifying a building for rapid abatement include the risks of it collapsing on an adjacent building or on a public street.

3. A rapid abatement posting commences the rapid abatement process. The postings are as follows:

-reviewed green visibly okay

- -limited entry yellow some risk to whole building

-sections restricted orange risk to minor portions

-unsafe red dangerous

### ***Damage Assessment/Penalties***

- 6. Damage assessment will be determined after a licensed professional reviews the situation and approximates the repair costs.

7. Damage assessment is triggered by a posting of "unsafe". The designation of "unsafe" includes un-reinforced masonry and residential repairs costing more than \$30,000.

8. Damage assessment penalties are based on the existing enforcement provisions. The initial penalty is \$500 and ongoing penalties for commercial properties can be up to \$2,250.

### ***Repair Standards***

- 9. The primary factors regarding repair standards are based on the damage level, a ratio of damage to the original capacity of the building.

10. A critical building is defined as one of the following: a high occupancy building with a code A, E, or I determination over 300 occupants, a building with un-reinforced masonry, a story of 4 or more stories, an essential facility such a police or fire station and hospitals, hazardous waste uses, or buildings located in a seismic hazard area.

11. Standards for "at-risk" buildings include apartments over parking areas, structures built in areas prone to soil liquefaction or landslide hazard areas.

- The timeframe for solving the situation would be adjusted according to the results of the studies. Factors such as the availability of contractors or engineers would be considered. The timeframe for solving the situation would be determined once you enter into an agreement outlining what would be needed to accomplish the repairs. If one does not comply with that agreement, fines would be levied.
- A public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 6:00-8:00 p.m., at the DDES office in Renton. Information regarding the ordinance as well as directions to the meeting are available on the DDES website which can be found by following links available at [www.metrokc.gov](http://www.metrokc.gov).

## ***COUNCIL PRESENTATION – INSURANCE INFORMATION REGARDING THE NORTH HIGHLINE UNINCORPORATED COUNCIL***

- Councilmember Lovell stated that an application has been sent to an insurance company requesting information and estimates and more will be sent soon. Responses can be expected within 4-5 weeks. Councilmember Lovell was designated as the person who would research the various options and then return to the NHUAC with recommendations.
  - Regarding the issue of incorporation, Councilmember Duff provided a briefing as to the status. The NHUAC is considering incorporating as a nonprofit organization which costs \$30 initially and then \$10-15 per year plus any necessary attorney fees. Councilmember Robison indicated he would be willing to draft the articles of incorporation without charge.
- Councilmember Horton made the motion for the NHUAC to incorporate. Councilmember LaVielle seconded the motion.

### **Council Discussion**

- Councilmember Horton stated that incorporation was important because the NHUAC is providing a community service and it seems appropriate that councilmembers should at least have limited protection from being sued.
- Councilmember Duff encouraged the NHUAC to consider action before the end of the calendar year so that it would be possible to include the fees in the 1999 budget.
- Councilmember Johnson inquired as to whether other unincorporated area councils have incorporated and was informed that all other councils have either incorporated or are in the process of considering incorporation.

**The motion was accepted.**

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

**Opposed: None**

- Councilmember Robison stated that he would draft the papers for the by-laws, operating procedures and any other articles of incorporation.

### **COUNCIL ACTION – TOP TWO PRIORITIES FOR PRESENTATION AT THE DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' CABINET MEETING**

- Councilmember Duff reported that King County Executive Ron Sims scheduled a November 5 meeting so that his cabinet could become better acquainted with the UACs and their concerns. Councilmember LaVielle was to attend and it was recommended that the NHUAC determine two priorities for their area for discussion at the meeting.

### **Priority Suggestions**

1. Maintain funding for public safety
2. Surface Water Management/Basin Plan/Lake Hicks Master Plan Implementation Funding
3. Sub-area plan

4. Pedestrian Safety/Roads
5. Third Runway –Truly mitigate impacts
6. Disparity of Human Services

### Council Discussion

- Councilmember Davis felt that both Lake Hicks and public safety would be top concerns since they could really suffer from budget cuts resulting from I-695.
  - Councilmember Horton commented that the sub-area plan would speak to economic development.
  - Councilmember Rodgers advocated for public safety and felt that safety issues must first be addressed before businesses could flourish.
  - Councilmember Duff endorsed the Third Runway as an issue of community concern. She stated that the impacts of the Third Runway were a top concern for the community and that the NHUAC should take a stronger position to represent the community's concerns. Even though King County has expressed support for the construction of the Third Runway, she felt that there were still issues to be addressed. The NHUAC must remain vocal in order to ensure that money would be allocated to resolve the problems which would be caused within the North Highline area.
- Councilmember Lovell felt that presenting it as one of the NHUAC's top two priorities would accomplish little and there were better things for which to advocate.
- Councilmember Warren felt that it was an obligation to the community to continue representing the North Highline throughout the Third Runway process. It would at least elevate awareness and perhaps help with mitigating impacts.
- Councilmember Horton reaffirmed the importance of elevating awareness because the impacts will be huge.
- Councilmember Johnson recommended pedestrian safety be considered as a priority since there has been some progress in gaining the attention of the King County Roads Division. In order to encourage revitalization in the area, supporting pedestrian safety is necessary.

### **VOTE:**

- 1. Maintain funding for public safety.

*For: Daly, Davis, Duff, Griffith, Horton, LaVielle, Lovell, Matthias, Rodgers, Warren*

2. Surface Water Management/Basin Plan/Lake Hicks Masterplan Implementation Funding

*For: None*

3. Sub-area plan

*For: Daly, LaVielle, Lovell, Robison*

4. Pedestrian Safety/Roads

*For: Daly, Davis, Griffith, Johnson, Matthias*

5. Third Runway – Truly mitigate impacts

*For: Daly, Duff, Horton, Johnson, Matthias, Robison, Rodgers, Warren*

6. Disparity of Human Services

*For: None*

**Final Results of the Top Two Priorities:** Maintain funding for public safety and truly mitigate the impacts of the Third Runway.

- Councilmember LaVielle made the motion to accept the priorities of maintaining funding for public safety and to truly mitigate the impacts of the Third Runway. Councilmember Davis seconded the motion.

**The motion was accepted.**

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

**Opposed: None**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Councilmember Duff inquired as to whether there was a motion for the NHUAC to write a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Ecology requesting them to deny the Port of Seattle's application for a wetland permit regarding the construction of the Third Runway.

-Councilmember Robison made the motion to write the above-mentioned letter to the Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Ecology. Councilmember Davis seconded the motion.

**The motion was accepted.**

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

**Opposed: None**

- Councilmember Robison made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember LaVielle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

-The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna N. Duff

CC: Greg Nickels

Dwight Pelz

Brian Derdowski

Bong St. Domingo

Nancy Weaver

