

NORTH HIGHLINE UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCIL

1243 Southwest 112th Street

Minutes of November 18

Present – Judy Duff, President; Steve Davis, Vice-President; Michael Griffith; Kent Horton; Ron Johnson; Ruth-Ann Matthias; Marliza Melzer; Gerald Robison; Stephanie Rodgers; Mark Warren

Absent – Marlil Lovell; Scott LaVielle; Tim Daly - all excused

OPENING CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

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

- • Councilmember Matthias made a correction to the November 4 minutes on Page 3, fourth bullet, changing it to read "first section of the project will be completed in 2004."
 - Councilmember Rodgers made a correction to the November 4 minutes Page 5, 5th bullet, to read "progress is being made in relation to resolving the meth house at 12225 5th Avenue South."
 - Councilmember Griffith made the motion to approve the minutes. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion.
- The motion passed unanimously.
- Councilmember Duff proposed to amend the agenda to postpone Councilmember Lovell's presentation regarding insurance for the NHUAC due to her excused absence.
- Councilmember Johnson made the motion to approve the agenda to reflect the suggested amendment. Councilmember Griffith seconded the motion.

Approval of the agenda passed unanimously.

• **COMMUNICATIONS**

Corresponding Secretary's Report –

- • Councilmember Duff reported for Councilmember LaVielle, Corresponding Secretary. A letter was received from Priscilla Kaufmann, Senior Planner, DDES, regarding the King County Disaster Ordinance. The deadline for public comment is November 5.

Public Announcements

- • Councilmember Robison reported that volunteers are still being accepted for the 2000 White Center Jubilee Days.
- Councilmember Davis announced that November 20, 8:00 a.m., a budget hearing will be held in the King County Council Chambers on the 10th floor of the King County Courthouse. The public may testify at the meeting or email their testimony to metrokc.gov.

- Councilmember Duff stated that the deadline for nominating candidates to serve on the Building Code Advisory and Appeals Board is January 1. Councilmember Duff stated that applications are due to the NHUAC by November 29 and the council will vote on their nominee at the December 2 meeting.

-Councilmember Duff recognized Nancy Weaver, Legislative Analyst, King County Council, and Marco Lowe, Legislative Aide to King County Councilmember Greg Nickels.

- Tom Jahns announced that he attended the November 4 Part 150 Airport Study. He talked to the District 5 representative who expressed interest in addressing the NHUAC regarding his perspective on the study. A public input meeting is scheduled for December 2, 4:00-8:00 p.m., at Tyee High School

- Michael Prime reported that he attended a meeting regarding the light rail commuter train that is proposed to run along Highway 99 and bypass Southcenter. He felt that public sentiment opposed the proposed route. He expressed concern that the King County Council did not truly listen to the public's input before voting on the routes.

- Otto Schoetzow stated that a meeting was held to notify the community of 21 sex offenders who registered in the community. He expressed concern as to why there is such a concentration in the area.

-Councilmember Duff responded that legally they have the right to live where they choose. However, they are obligated to register with the Sheriff's Department and, in order to be responsive to community concerns, the Sheriff's Department holds public meetings to notify the community.

-Councilmember Davis reported that there are very specific restrictions on what information may be released other than what is provided at the community meetings. Information is also available at the Sheriff's website which can be accessed through the King County website.

-Councilmember Robison commented that there are also different levels of sex offenders, and the Level 3 designation is the category deemed most likely to be dangerous and offend again. As for the other classifications, they have been broadened to such an extent that, in his opinion, people who formerly would not have been considered offenders are now required to register. As for the concentration in the area, often when offenders are convicted, they lose their entire structure and have difficulty in rebuilding their lives. Due to a lack of financial resources, they often must live in the most affordable areas and where there are the most social services available.

-Councilmember Duff reiterated that as a long-term solution it would help if social services were distributed more evenly throughout King County.

- Councilmember Duff reminded the community of the Christmas Outreach Program which the Fire Department is helping to coordinate. The deadline to donate toys and food is December 18. If there are any questions, Councilmember LaVielle can provide further information.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- • Tom Jahns commented on the disparity of human services in the area. Although he was unable to attend the October 21 NHUAC meeting, he heard that the NHUAC voted on priorities for the North Highline Area which were presented to King County Executive Ron Sims. He was unclear as to the details, but was informed that the NHUAC decided public safety was the first concern and Third Runway mitigation was the second. He felt that funding for the proposed sub-area plan was more important than mitigation of the Third Runway. He voiced the opinion that there would be plenty of funding for mitigation anyway.

-Councilmember Duff stated that the purpose of the meeting was to create better communication between the Unincorporated Area Councils and the King County Executive's Office and his directors. He suggested each UAC bring two top priorities, but they were not intended as formal requests.

- Jim Droege commented as an employee at Highline High School. There has been a lot of discussion regarding the Third Runway, but he inquired as to whether there is any discussion regarding the possible Fourth Runway. He expressed the sentiment that it may be too late to stop the Third Runway, but if action was taken early enough, perhaps a Fourth Runway could be avoided.

-Councilmember Horton responded that the Highline School District is still trying to mitigate the Second Runway. He is unaware of what formal efforts are underway to study the Fourth Runway.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilmember Horton reported for the Third Runway Committee. He attended a public hearing along with other councilmembers at Foster High School. The Army Corps of Engineers hosted the meeting which dealt with the Port of Seattle's wetland permit application to fill in and move over 50 wetland sites to prepare for the construction of the Third Runway. At the November 4 NHUAC meeting, the NHUAC unanimously voted to address a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers requesting their careful consideration of this application. Councilmember Horton wrote and submitted the letter on November 11 and urged them to deny it based on the following concerns.

- 1. The impacts it would have on surface water management. There is concern that the Port's proposal is totally inadequate in how the impacts would be mitigated.
- 2. The wetland exchange proposes off-site mitigation, but the proposed site is far outside the original area. It does not seem to retain any regard for the retention purpose of wetlands in the area.
- 3. The proposed retaining wall does not seem adequate to withstand a disaster such as an earthquake. It does not seem that it would be capable to hold back tons of fill dirt. Additionally, the wall will alter the microclimate of the surrounding area.
- 4. The surrounding communities have experience with the Port of Seattle as a neighbor. They have not been forthright in their actions and the NHUAC urged the Army Corps of Engineers to carefully review the application and not submit to pressure for a speedy approval. They have an obligation to the citizens to at least wait for the findings of the Washington State Legislature before making a final decision.

- Councilmember Johnson reported that the NHUAC website is now registered and operational. It can be located at www.northhighlineuac.org.

-Councilmember Johnson reported for the Roads Committee that the construction project has commenced on 16th Avenue South from South 100th to 107th. The wheelchair ramps are almost completed and at South 106th the contractors have begun working on the curbs and textured crosswalks. Textured crosswalks will also be placed at Southwest 100th, Southwest 102nd, Southwest 104th, Southwest 106th and Southwest 107th. Elevated flashing crosswalk lights will also be installed at Southwest 104th. The projects will be completed by Christmas at the earliest or the first of the year at the latest.

- Councilmember Robison reported for the Land Use Committee. The Tropicana Club applied for a liquor license. Currently the club is an all-ages club, but the owner is looking to make it more of a

standard, adult lounge. The owner and chief of security presented their plan to the White Center Chamber of Commerce. Part of the motivation for the change is due to the gang activity, fights and other illegal activity which the all-ages club has been attracting. There is no public comment for this application. The King County Executive can indicate if he approves the application or not. Comments would have to be directed to him before November 30.

- Councilmember Warren reported for the King County Comprehensive Plan Committee. The committee has begun reviewing the draft and will continue the process at the fire station November 22, 7:00 p.m.

- Councilmember Rodgers reported for the Neighborhood Anti-Drug Committee. The landlord of the former meth house on 5th Avenue South found a contractor to clean the property. However, the company refused to work with the landlord because they said he was too difficult. The landlord did bolt the garage and board it, but that has since been taken down. Sheriff deputies have investigated it, but will not enter the building because it could be a toxic hazard. Neither the Health Department nor the Sheriff's deputies have the authority to secure the house, and the landlord will probably be asked to secure the house once again.

-Arrests were made at the meth house at 12225-5th Avenue South. Code enforcement indicated that there are intentions to commence the abatement process after Thanksgiving.

- Councilmember Matthias attended a public hearing in Carnation regarding the King County Comprehensive Plan. The citizens of Carnation were opposed to various aspects and were told that all comments or questions were welcome.

- Councilmember Duff reported that she was present with Councilmembers Davis, Horton, Johnson, Rodgers, and Warren at a public hearing held in Kent regarding the King County Comprehensive Plan.

-Councilmember Duff also attended a CPI meeting and learned more specifics about the proposed budget. Cuts resulting from the passage of I-695 will affect roads' projects either through cancellation or postponement. However, so far the projects within the North Highline area appear not to have been affected.

-The Health Department budget will be impacted 17% due to the passage of I-695 which will result in millions of cuts to management and services. However, the White Center Clinic has not yet been named as slated for cuts.

-Code Enforcement has adopted a new 1-800 telephone number which is accessible after hours. The phone number has not yet been announced.

-Councilmember Duff said that the NHUAC is lobbying the King County Council throughout the budget process to ensure the UAC is represented.

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$5,594.95 - reported by Councilmember Duff.

COUNCIL PRESENTATION - CENSUS 2000 AND THE IMPACTS ON THE NORTH HIGHLINE UNINCORPORATED AREA – NIKOLAY KVASNYUK, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

- • Nikolay Kvasnyuk, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau, presented information regarding the 2000 Census. The census has taken place every 10 years since it began in 1790. The census has

important results for areas such as North Highline. The amount of federal dollars allocated to an area are determined based on census data. Approximately \$160-180 is allocated per person each year. The more accurate the census count for an area, the more accurately federal dollars can be determined. Also, the number of legislative representatives from an area or state can be affected.

-There will be a short and long form. The short form contains seven questions answering basic information such as name, age and so forth. The long form will be mailed to every sixth household and chosen based on a lottery system and contains 53 questions.

-In March of 2000, letters will be mailed to each household explaining the census and a week later they will receive the questionnaire. The deadline will be April 12, 1999. The questionnaires will then be processed at one of four processing centers and scanned by computers. If someone does not return their survey, in mid-April it will be necessary to go to door-to-door. By law, an enumerator must knock up to six times and if there is no cooperation, the representative must then go to neighbors in the effort to establish contact.

-The Census Bureau is trying to contact local community groups and governments in order to help promote the 2000 Census. It is crucial to educate potential participants that their privacy is protected. The Census Bureau is the only federal agency which legally cannot share personal information with anyone else. The information is kept confidential for 72 years before it is made public. Everyone needs to be counted including the homeless and undocumented aliens so that the funding reflects the community. A special operation is even planned to count the homeless by having enumerators take polls on the streets from 12:00 a.m.- 4:00 a.m. one night in March or April. The local communities also can help by providing information as to local places where large groups of people may be contacted and opportunities for the Census Bureau to present information.

-Jobs are also available on a short-term basis while the census is being conducted. The census day is April 1, 2000, and the report, by law, must be submitted to the President of the United States within nine months which will be December 31, 2000.

-More information may be obtained through the following contact information.

Nikolay Kvasnyk, Partnership Specialist

Tukwila Local Census Office

16300 Christensen Rd #300

Tukwila, WA 98188

Tele (206) 433-8697

Fax: (206) 433-8883

Email: kvasnyk@cs.com

-The NHUAC formed a committee regarding the 2000 Census and Councilmember Griffith volunteered to chair the committee. Councilmember will work with him.

COUNCIL ACTION - ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BY-LAWS OF THE NORTH HIGHLINE UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCIL, FIRST READING

- Councilmember Robison drafted a proposed copy of the NHUAC Articles of Incorporation and By-laws. The Articles of Incorporation and By-laws are legal documents filed with the Washington State Secretary of State to establish a non-profit corporation.
- Aspects include the concept of duration which means that even if the corporation does not continue in the form of the NHUAC, the corporation does not die unless it is officially disbanded.
- The corporation is not allowed to endorse public candidates or initiatives and cannot engage in election hearings or propaganda intended to influence an election. If the purpose is educational, it is still allowed, however.
- Indemnification was a new section added provided that the NHUAC agrees to buy insurance. It stipulates that if any member of the NHUAC is sued for actions taken as a councilmember, the council will indemnify them and pay the legal costs according to the amount of insurance of the NHUAC.
- A list of directors was required. The incorporator was named as Councilmember Duff and Councilmember Robison was named as the registered agent. The registered agent provides the location where legal documents will be served regarding the corporation or any correspondence from Washington State.
- In order to make all documents compliant, some changes were necessary to the by-laws. On Page 1, Article 2, it was underlined to specify that it is nonprofit.
- On Page 4, parts were underlined to cover the fact that electioneering is prohibited.
- On Page 9, Sections 13 and 14 were added. Section 13 relates to the tax-exempt status and provides that the NHUAC will operate in such a way that won't affect that status. Article 14 addresses the indemnification of the councilmembers. Councilmember Robison pointed out that the section addressing insurance is phrased that the NHUAC "*shall* purchase and maintain insurance." That section depends on the decisions of the NHUAC on how to address the issue of insurance.
- Councilmember Horton corrected his listed address to read 11245-29th SW, and Councilmember Griffith corrected his address to read 835 Southwest 108th.
- Councilmember Duff posed the question of whether on the second to last page, Section 4, addressing who is covered under the insurance should be widened to include those acting as representatives of the NHUAC.
- Councilmember Robison responded that it was a valid point to include agents of the NHUAC and should be looked into further.

NEW BUSINESS

- Councilmember Robison proposed to invite representatives from the Tropicana Club to present information on their proposed changes. In order to have time to do this, it would be necessary to request a 20-day extension postponing King County Executive Ron Sims' decision. It was proposed that Councilmember LaVielle would be asked to write a letter of request.
- Councilmember Duff inquired as to whether anyone proposed to cancel the December 16 NHUAC meeting. Councilmember Johnson made the motion to cancel the December 16 meeting. Councilmember Griffith seconded the motion.

-Councilmember Robison inquired whether it would be possible to have a holiday party instead of a formal meeting.

-Councilmember Johnson withdrew his motion and Councilmember Griffith withdrew his second in favor of exploring the possibility of hosting a holiday party open to the public.

- Councilmember Rodgers made the motion to write a letter requesting additional help regarding the local meth houses. Councilmember Horton seconded the motion.

-Councilmember Duff proposed a friendly amendment that two letters be written. One specifically addressing the concerns related to the meth house on 5th Avenue South and one addressing the general concern of the extent of drug houses in the area. It was determined that the two letters would be addressed to the Health Department, Sheriff's Office, Code Enforcement, and the Prosecutor's Office.

-Councilmember Rodgers accepted the friendly amendment.

The motion was accepted.

For: Davis, Duff, Griffith, Horton, Johnson, Matthias, Melzer, Rodgers, Robison, Warren

Opposed: None

- Councilmember Duff requested whether there was a motion to write a letter regarding cuts to the Sheriff's Department which would impact the North Highline Area. The Community Service Officer (CSO) for the White Center storefront was scheduled to be cut.

-Councilmember Davis commented that cuts are made not by position, but strictly by seniority.

-Councilmember Robison proposed that the NHUAC then advocate to have no CSO positions eliminated.

-Councilmember Duff proposed that the NHUAC take a vote to advocate for no cuts to CSO positions as well as deputies. Also, that the NHUAC advocate for the preservation of the #133 bus which is proposed to be eliminated. The bus serves the North Highline area and is specifically aimed at students attending the University of Washington. She expressed concern that this bus route is necessary in order to encourage education and provides transportation that students might not have otherwise.

-Councilmember Robison made the motion for the NHUAC to support the above- mentioned requests. Councilmember Davis seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Melzer suggested that the NHUAC also advocate for the Sound Transit. She indicated concern over whether the routes would be running above ground or not and how the services would reflect the tax contributions of individual communities.

-Councilmember Robison indicated that he felt this was out of the scope of the motion and called the question.

The call for the question was accepted.

For: Davis, Duff, Griffith, Horton, Rodgers, Robison, Warren

Opposed: None

The motion was accepted.

For: Davis, Duff, Griffith, Horton, Johnson, Matthias, Melzer, Rodgers, Robison, Warren

Opposed: None

- • Councilmembers could send their comments by fax at (206) 296-0198 or by email to the King County councilmembers. The councilmembers emails are in the form of their firstname.lastname@metrokc.gov.
- Councilmember Robison made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Horton seconded the motion. The motion for adjournment passed unanimously.

-Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna N. Duff

CC: Greg Nickels

Dwight Pelz

Brian Derdowski

Bong St. Domingo

Nancy Weaver

