

## North Highline Unincorporated Area Council

### Minutes 8-5-2010

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

**Council Members Present:** Pat Price, Jessica Stoneback, Ron Johnson, Christine Waldman, Rebecca Lopes, Barbara Dobkin, Richard Miller.

**Absent:** Heidi Johnson, Patrick Mosley, Stephen Porter, Doug Harrell.

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda accepted as presented

**Approval of Minutes:** May minutes approved with correction of last line under **Approval of Agenda**, should read “Agenda”, not “minutes” amended, etc. April still needs minor corrections, Jessie will call Ron to get the details.

**Public Announcements:** On Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for the family whose home burned, by the Girl Scouts at Greenbridge Boys & Girls Club; Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> 11 am – approx. 6 pm Open House at White Center Eagles with Potluck all day, games & activities for kids and adults; on Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> White Center Library Guild hosts Ice Cream Social for reward at end of the Summer Reading Program; Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> is the Community Safety Coalition Meeting at DSHS Building in White Center, Gill Loring encourages attendance at this meeting.

**Public Comment:** Gill Loring thanks the Sheriff’s & Fire Depts. for coming around to the neighborhood Block Parties

**Report from Mike Martin, Burien City Manager:** They have been busy with the Shoreline Master Plan. Bids are in for the Asphalt work and came in at less than 15% of the engineer’s estimates, about \$ 9 million worth, to begin in September and continue in the spring dependent on weather conditions. North Burien has a lot of road projects included in the work. They are actively working on their Budget process, looking for extras they can do in the parks in North Burien in the Spring and next summer. They are doing just fine, will be no layoffs, no furloughs, no new taxes. Within 60 days will know about possible grants for playground equipment, and ADA improvements for Puget Sound Park equal to approx. \$150,000. Starting work on their legislative agenda, and not sure yet where we are going with that. Burien is not Unionized, and are very happy with that, employees like the city, we have very low attrition. In the next 2 to 4 years, it is likely that Mike will want to create our city’s own Police Dept. This is a long term vision, something to approach very slowly and cautiously. One of the biggest issue is the current cost because Burien has no input in the contract with King County Sheriff’s Dept. for Police services. There is some interesting things with Code Enforcement – have added a Part Time Paralegal to assist the Code Enforcement Officer. Jim is freed up from doing the paperwork, so he can be in the field more. They took over 85 active cases from the county for the North Burien area, and Jim is methodically working thru them. Someone came into the North Burien City Hall and reported a problem with a dumping issue and we are trying to get right on that. Mike and

four city Council members met with Dow Constantine today, as Dow is meeting with representatives of 39 cities in the county. It was at Burien City Hall today and the Farmers Market was going on, and kids were playing in the Fountain/Wading Pool outside. They spoke about lessons learned from Annexation. Mike told Dow that King County is just too expensive and frankly Burien is starting to move away from services supplied by the County. He provided examples to Dow of money that Burien is saving on the Asphalt projects, and Animal Control being handled “in house” for half of the amount of King County’s cost. The first priority is humane care of animals, was able to cut the animal license fees in half and supplied free during the first month, almost 1,000 have been issued already. Licensing process has been taken to events like Concerts in the Park. A lot of elderly residents are getting their animals licensed for the first time, because they can now afford it. Rebecca asks what is done with stray animals, they are taken to Companion Pet Care, a new facility, but they have an adoption program being worked on. Barbara asked about the information – it is on the city’s website. Gill asked about Tukwila annexing the “sliver by the river” area, and they are interested now after not being so in many years. It includes Delta Marine and South King Industrial. Burien has its PAA in place, and this does not affect it.

**Burien Police Sgt. Henry McLauchlan, CERT and Citizen’s Police Academy:** he reported that Night Out went well at the North Burien City Hall, and they felt it was a good introduction to the community. Both the Citizen’s Police Academy and CERT programs are very educational programs. The CERT program was originally designed around FEMA, and is now coming into its own. After the Mexico City Earthquake, the US realized the need for training to teach people to take care of themselves, and their immediate family in case of natural disasters. The “death holes” found after that Earthquake were full of people who tried to rescue others, but were not trained in how to do so properly. The program is now part of Homeland Security. There is an upcoming event “Sound Shake 2010” that will use the premise “24 hours after a 6.5 quake” to look at all the things that are affected by that size of a quake this large. Predictions are for a city the size of Burien are: minimum 40 dead, 600 to 800 injured, at least 3 major fires. We all have to face that the “big one” is going to happen one of these days. In a very big disaster, it will be more than three days before help can come. CERT was started in this area by former Burien and SeaTac Police Chief Bill Dickinson, and was recently extended to North Highline residents. It is labor intensive, and expensive, so there is a fee of \$35 for equipment, but you end up with a backpack full of useful stuff.

The Citizen’s Police Academy is the “show & tell piece” because you sit and soak it all in. The CERT piece is the “show, tell & do plan”. All the various departments of the Sheriff’s Dept. put on a presentation over the 11 week process. This has been offered on Wednesday nights, but may be moved to mix it up a bit, so citizens who are always busy on Wednesday nights can have a chance to participate. The purpose is to follow up on one of the missions of the Sheriff’s Office: to reach out to the community we serve and have you meet the detectives and officers. Also, to show the realistic work they do, and not what is shown on television. Both of these classes are eye-opening. Most participants, at the end of class, want more than what was given.

Questions: when is the CERT class schedule? Thursday Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, for 7 weeks, with the final session on a Saturday. Age limit? At least 12 to 15 yrs of age, depending on the young person, especially for the CERT program, as they are expected to perform some of the activities. For the Citizen’s Academy, teens can participate with a parent. President Christine encourages everyone to participate, as she has taken both programs. Sgt. McLauchlan explains that now, due to budget

restraints, each program is only offered once per year: CERT in the Fall, and Citizen's Academy in the Spring.

**Rick Jump, Executive Director of the WC Food Bank:** Their mission is to minimize hunger, while nourishing community, nurturing self-reliance and embracing our rich cultural diversity. The Food Bank has served this community for over 35 years, started in the early 1970's in response to major layoffs by Boeing. It was actually started by members at St. James Lutheran Church and Highland Park United Methodist Church. For over 25 years, the Food Bank was housed in free space supplied by the King County Housing Authority in Park Lake Homes. With that transition to Greenbridge Homes, there was no longer a location for the Food Bank there, so fundraising came up with approximately one million dollars to build the current location. This is a "no questions asked" facility – people do NOT have to prove they are poor to receive help. Participants do have to prove their residency of the area served, which is quite large: S. 140<sup>th</sup> in Burien on the South, to S. Myrtle in Seattle on the North, from Hwy. 509 on the East, to Puget Sound on the West. The past two years have been extremely challenging, here as everywhere, and numbers of people served has increased from prior 1,000 families per month to at least 1500 families, and sometimes as many as 2,000. This means approx. 6,000 individuals. Rick went on to provide the hours, etc of when the Food Bank is open, and more information about the new facility. Everything done in the planning stages of this new building considered the dignity of the patrons, such as the Indoor Waiting Room that can accommodate 60 to 80 people, out of the weather. There is a large Demonstration Kitchen, and work with Nutritionists to show the people what they can do with some of the products they offer. Also, the diversity of the people is always a consideration, to offer foods they use in their cultures. To have their own building has brought along expenses of operations that were not part of the program when they had space in King County Housing. They operate with only two Full Time Staff Members: Rick, and Audrey, the volunteer coordinator. There are Part Time Spanish and Vietnamese intake staff. They have around 200 volunteers every month, and can always use more. Last year volunteers put in over 14,000 hours. Families are allowed up to two visits per month, where they are given 50 to 75 lbs of food, and this is not meant to be their only source of food supplies. There are provisions for emergency help, if they just run out before the end of the month. There are new programs which provide a \$5 gift certificate to be used for produce at Samway in WC, or Lee's Produce on Seattle side of Roxbury. It is difficult to keep produce on hand at the Food Bank because it is so perishable, and a small Farmer's Market area has been set up and works with a token system. They have just successfully completed a \$60,000 fund raising campaign to purchase a refrigerated truck for a Mobile Food Bank to go to the parking lot of Senior Housing Facilities to serve the disabled community who cannot get to the Food Bank. Rick plugged their annual Fund Raiser Dinner on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at South Seattle Community College, which usually raises \$50-60,000 for their programs. Tickets are \$60 each. People who provide certification of their disability can receive mobile delivery on three afternoons per week. A Baby Pantry serves approx. 600 kids per month. The recent Feeding Event at Greenbridge Plaza will be repeated every year, thanks to a farm donor of loads of potatoes who called Rick. They ended up with approx. 1200 people.

**International Assoc. of Firefighters Union 2595, Mike Hansen:** Mike is a retired Paramedic, worked for 30 years as a Medic and was one of the original 14 trained in the first group for King County, when it started in 1977. At that time, they only had two stations: Highline( 150<sup>th</sup> & the Hwy.) and Valley (stationed at the Hospital). Now there are eight Medic Units, as they wanted a

program to be only 10 minutes away from anyone in need. They do not have territories, and can go anywhere. Medics is the medical portion of the 911 call-in service provider. They carry fluids and medications on board and can get patients to the nearest hospitals. The Medics have trained all firefighters of this area, but King County is very different from the Seattle system, with different supervisors and doctors. There are now approximately 70 Medics in South King County. It would be difficult for the King County Firefighters to integrate into the Seattle system, and would mean a lot of training. King County hires its Medics from all over, where Seattle only brings them up from the ranks of the firefighters. They do a number of procedures not done anywhere else in the country; such as the process of Cooling the Body Temperature to slow damage. A woman they treated, out in the rural area of the county, had her blood clot dissolved in the field. The medics of Seattle and King County are allowed to carry medications – this is not done in other places. We have the best system in the world, with 97% correct diagnosis in the field. Our Medics have been given 2,000 hours of training. Our area of the country is big on studies, and is in the forefront of many new procedures. Mike provided numerous examples of things done here in King County, not done other places.

Questions: Barbara - Are Seattle area, and King County the same as consideration in the “Best Place in the Country to have an Heart Attack” ? Yes, the statistics should combine the two areas in that statement. Gill asked to have the various Medic I, Medic 4, etc. designations explained, and which one serves our area ? Our area, and including Burien, is served by Medic 4 unit located at 150<sup>th</sup> and Hwy. 99. Medic I is the name for all of paramedic units within Seattle. Other examples are: Medic 6 serves Auburn, Medic 13 serves Des Moines.

**Dick Thurnau, Friends of Hicks lake BBQ:** here to invite everyone to the Free Community BBQ will be Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 11 am to 2 pm. Guests will be asked to sign in, and fill out a questionnaire with six questions about the lake. Then, they will receive a ticket for the raffle of some door prizes. The information from the questionnaire will be compiled to bring to the attention of King County. Question: Pat – who is responsible for what - money, workload, etc.? Bong explained that our Council is a co-sponsor of the event with the WCCDA (White Center Community Development Association), along with Friends of Hicks Lake and TAF (Technical Access Foundation). Much discussion followed on how to accomplish the financial end of this – Bong stated that Dick can receive up to \$500 from the WCCDA for the expenses. Dick estimates expenses to be \$800 total, but has to purchase the perishable food when event gets closer. Ron moved that NHUAC co-sponsor the event with up to \$500 reimbursement to Dick for expenses. Jessie Seconded & motion passed. We will be able to process Dick’s letter, with receipt copies, as the bill for us to reimburse him, after the event. Also, had discussion of the Shelter location, next to the restroom & Sam Whitman of KC Parks will have it all cleaned up, and bring in extra picnic tables. Dick has canopies and some tables of his own available. He reminded us that the main purpose of this function is to draw attention to the condition of the lake. Pat volunteered to be our NHUAC representative on this committee to meet and discuss last minute plans and strategy prior to the BBQ, and will invite the Firemen to attend. Dick will email the updated flier with all of us, so word can be gotten out. Bong added that a lot of folks don’t know of this lake at all, and this is a good opportunity to bring the community together.

**Treasurer:** Balance is now \$8840.17, per Ron Johnson. Expenses were read from Election, and Jubilee Days event for Booth rent, printing of newsletters, candy, copies of Agenda, etc. and Ron can turn in bills to Bong next week.

**Correspondence:** Ron read that some of our mail was for the Recycling event that had already passed in July. No other mail received.

**Committee Reports:** Christine reminded council members that all need to sign up for the committees they would like to serve on, and should do so by email. Ron asked that we all email the entire council, and use the North Highline email addresses we have.

**Public Safety** – Ron reported on his talk with Jim Chang, Fire Marshal of DDES, at the recent UAC Forum. Mr. Chang has coded Ron in on the email traffic with updates on the status of inspections vs violations at Club Evo in downtown White Center. He verified that the Club has not had a valid Business License since 2005, and DDES is researching whose responsibility it is to follow up on those renewals, or lack of them. Ron’s most recent email of today (August 5<sup>th</sup>) provides update about the inspection of the building that took place sometime since last week’s UAC Forum. Owner Alfredo Lopez has obtained the Permit needed to hook up the new sprinkler system to Seattle City Water. The email goes on to say that L & I inspectors were there and checked out all the electrical of both floors of the building, including the apts. That are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. DDES promises a comprehensive list of violations will be assembled, with a timeline to get the updating accomplished. Both Pat & Gill pointed out that this email information varies from what our local Fire Dept. quoted to them recently, but it appears that Battalion Chief Anderson was included in the same email chain that Ron has received. So, there should be updates coming during the rest of this month. Barbara brings up the hostile atmosphere in the area on Friday and Saturday nights, and asks about police presence. Pat reported what Fire Dept personnel said at Jubilee Days about them, and Sheriff’s Dept. having funding to be out in the area more on weekends and that we have had 3 quiet weekends in a row. Ron pointed out that this is probably due to some of the Burn Grant funds that we heard about a few months ago from the Sheriff’s Dept. and that funds were being “saved” for use this summer.

**Parks** – Rebecca states that she will follow up with Kevin Brown of King County Parks about the Flag Pole for Steve Cox Memorial Park.

**Housing:** Barbara asked about Patrick, and if President Christine had heard anything from him about King County Housing. Barbara will go ahead and check with him before she contacts them. Pat reported what she heard from Deputy Jerry Meyer, about the problem apartment buildings in Boulevard Park. He has sent at least 5 bad guys to jail, and feels that has quieted the area greatly. Also, the manager of the property works well with the Sheriff’s Dept and Deputy Meyer reports the bad guys, if they had Section 8 Housing Assistance, to King County, to prevent them from being allowed to return to that property when they get out of jail. Deputy Meyer also wanted us to know that he wishes he could be more help to us in White Center, but he has his plate full with covering from South Park’s unincorporated portion all the way up the hill to take care of the new North Burien area, including the remaining unincorporated part of Boulevard Park.

**Unfinished Business, UAC Forum** – Christine reported that she told about our Pool success; our problems at Hicks Lake and the awful water quality; concerns with King County Sheriff’s Office and losing our Storefront Deputy; nuisance businesses with Club Evo as an example; our concerns with the King County Library System and its delaying upgrades to our area libraries;

and about our economically diverse community. Ron pointed out what a good job Christine did at the Forum and she was the only UAC President or Chairman to stay within the allotted 5 minutes to speak.

No other Unfinished or New Business

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:08 pm.**

**Pat Price, Secretary**