

North Highline Unincorporated Area Council

Minutes 3-3-2011

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Council Members Present: Pat Price, Ron Johnson, Christine Waldman, Barbara Dobkin, Richard Miller, Jessica Stoneback, Rebecca Lopes, Doug Harrell, Liz Giba and Patrick Mosley
Absent: Stephen Porter, Heidi Johnson

Approval of Agenda: Agenda accepted

Approval of Minutes: approved the Minutes of February 3, 2011

Public Announcements: per Pat, the N.H. Fire Commissioners, meet here at 6 pm on Tuesday, March 15th. Liz announced that the Seattle City Council will meet on March 28th to vote on whether to place the issue of Annexation of North Highline on the ballot in November.

Public Comment: Bill Tracy spoke representing SW Suburban Sewer District – they have selected Susan Genzale as the new commissioner. They have purchased the former Seatac YMCA property for a Maintenance Facility. On the Library Topic, he said the White Center Library works with the Evergreen High School Key Club students. Rachel Levine, WC Library Guild President showed the new Guild Brochure, and mentioned the concern regarding accessibility of libraries in this community .

Mike Martin, City of Burien: recently returned from a trip to Washington, D.C. regarding the Block Grants for 2011. Martin says that he's never, in 15 years of such trips to D.C., seen the state of confusion regarding the status of Block Grants, which he says have been put into "an 11th hour" jeopardy. These funds may impact work on Puget Sound Park. Will update the Council as the outcomes of those grant funds becomes known. Mentioned that Burien is currently in the midst of a Police Status study to evaluate whether the city will continue to contract with outside law enforcement agencies or begin a process to develop the city's own police department. The study also includes data collection on the feasibility of a new police station.

King County Sheriff's Office, Capt. Joseph Hodgson: There were no solid or significant trends to observe over the past few months; however, auto thefts have gone down from 29 to 11 after a particularly active period a few months ago. There also was a bit of good news regarding the staffing numbers for deputies in King County. The recent annexation in the Kirkland/Juanita area may allow for reallocation for some officers to the North Highline area, though such a determination is neither confirmed nor finalized.

KING COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

The King County Library System (KCLS) Director, **Bill Ptacek**, and **Jennifer Wiseman**, Project Manager/Public Services, addressed the gathering with the most extensive presentation and

discussion of the evening. In 2004, King County voters approved a bond to fund library improvements throughout the entire county service area, as well as build new libraries. While Burien's library was completed in 2009, funds were also allocated for a new White Center library from the same bond. A North Highline Library Needs Assessment Study is currently being conducted via phone; an online questionnaire went live on March 1 at www.kcls.org/survey. The survey is open to the entire public, does not require a King County Library user number and can be responded to in English or Spanish. The deadline for responses is March 30. The KCLS Board will be considering the results of the survey at its April meeting, when they determine whether to improve the existing libraries or build a new facility. Mr. Ptacek talked about the fact that they could change the plans for the libraries, if there was a change in circumstance – such as possible Seattle annexation.

Treasurer: Ron reported that the artist of our Steve Cox Memorial has been paid his final \$5,000 installment. No other expenses this past month.

Correspondence: The Burien Strawberry Festival will be June 18 & 19. It was voted to table discussion regarding this until the next meeting.

Committee Reports: Steve Cox Memorial – The artist will be back at the end of March. It will be necessary to keep the fence around the Memorial site for one more month, until mid-April. We voted to pay the \$54 for fence rental.

Public Outreach – Jessie shared that Margo at Mt View Presbyterian Church has volunteers to help with any projects we may need them for; example would be distributing fliers.

Unfinished Business: Bong stated that we can remain a Council forever if we choose to do so. He shared that the positions of Bong and Marissa have been extended until September. The UAC of Vashon has formed an Ad Hoc Committee that is studying the King County Contract to decide if they will sign it. Bong said a tentative meeting for all UAC's may be held on March 29th at West Hill.

Election – we should go ahead and have our annual Election in May. Christine will send out an email asking for a Chairman, and committee.

Seattle City Council – Voted unanimously to write them a letter using prior information to state our position on Annexation to the full council.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:17 pm Pat Price, Secretary