

April 13, 2009
NACCC meeting notes

In attendance: Bud Van Cleve, NE Hazel Dell; Sue Lintz, East Minnehaha; John Allen, CC Railroad Advisory Board; Andrew Ness, Port of Vancouver; Sandra Bennett, E. Fork Frontier; Barbara Anderson, N. Salmon Creek; Melissa Crocker, 211 Info; Holly Gaya, Clark County PIO; Tom Mielke, Clark County Commissioner; Doug Ballou, NACCC Chair; Melissa Ray, Compass USA; Neil Chambers, Andresen/ St. Johns; Bridget Schwarz, Neighborhoods USA; Michael Cummins, Proebstel; Maureen Jondahl, Fairgrounds; Art Stubbs, Green Meadows

Doug Ballou welcomed everyone, reviewed the evening's agenda, the newly adopted NACCC Meeting Conduct Guidelines.

Sue Lintz was asked to report on the last week's first Conflict Resolution Committee meeting. The Committee members are: Sue Lintz, Barbara Anderson, James Olson and Neil Chambers. Sue will not provide minutes of future meetings due to the nature of their mission. . The committee will make every attempt to resolve issues and all complaints/information is confidential. If the committee cannot resolve a conflict, NACCC will be advised. The committee intends to do business as outlined in NACCC Meeting Conduct Guidelines. The committee will not meet unless there is a need. Subsequently, no future meetings are scheduled.

Bud Van Cleve distributed the latest neighborhood association population report. The report was provided by Brian Salsig with the Clark County Sheriff's Office. It lists all city and county neighborhood associations.

Melissa Ray with Compass USA provided information about the Compass USA – HOMESTAY Program. Melissa is seeking families who would like to host an international exchange student from France. The students will be visiting July 14 through August 3, 2009. If you wish to become a host family, please contact Melissa Ray, (360) 433-2598
mraycompass@comcast.net.

Commissioner Tom Mielke

Commissioner Mielke began by telling us a little about him and why he chose to run for Clark County Commissioner. His first issue after election was the proposed Cowlitz Casino near La Center.

The Commissioner addressed the update to the Clean Water Ordinance and the challenges associated with funding an enhanced program.

He is also looking at a new way to pay for roads. He believes traffic impact fees could be paid by county property owners while reducing their yearly property tax. This will provide a solid source of income for the road fund, as well as incentives for people and businesses to move to Clark County.

Commissioner Mielke identified economic development as a priority and feels it is important to streamline the permitting process. One way to achieve this would be to consolidate areas of required permitting, review permitting requirements and permitting fees will not increase.

The county has eliminated 169 positions and 140 people. The Commissioner knows we must keep a skeleton crew to provide necessary services. However, the county is still in the red and may be faced with additional reductions in staff and services. To eliminate redundancy, Commissioner Mielke will be looking at consolidating some county departments and services.

There was discussion about the wisdom of retaining employees who aren't necessarily funded in order to provide services and reduce costs down the road. It was also mentioned that often times, services are reduced and/or eliminated that are vital and visible to the public when, those are the very positions that should be kept. The commissioner was encouraged to determine if a department is an expense to control or a resource to leverage. The message was community outreach, public participation and the service of neighborhood volunteers have unlimited potential. Neighborhood leaders solve problems that the county never has to deal with and they work to improve the livability of this community.

Commissioner Mielke said fees will not be raised. And, recently the Board of County Commissioners denied a request for a boom truck, three requests to use consultants and reduced the amount of fertilizer available for county parks. This saves money and jobs.

Commissioner Mielke stated that he does not support, nor will he allow, the annexation of the Hazel Dell/Three Creeks area without a vote of the people. Vancouver has failed to put infrastructure in place. Annexation of Hazel Dell and points north won't occur without a vote.

The Board of County Commissioners has written to Washington DC and requested additional funding for Camp Bonneville cleanup.

Commissioner Mielke is available by phone if you would like to talk with him or schedule a meeting. His phone number is (360) 397-2232.

We appreciate his visit and look forward to working with him.

Melissa Crocker presented the services available from **2-1-1 Info**. By simply dialing 2-1-1 you can easily find local: food resources, health care, public agencies, legal services, employment resources, counseling/support groups, housing/emergency shelter, and much more.

2-1-1- Info can also assist with finding an affordable place to rent.

[Http://www.HousingConnections.org](http://www.HousingConnections.org) is a free local website for renters, landlords and agencies. Housing searches include detailed descriptions with photos and floor plans, maps of nearby parks, grocery stores, schools, transportation and more. Housing Connections includes both subsidized and private market housing throughout the Portland region. If you can't access the website, please call 2-1-1 Info or (503) 802-8562.

2-1-1 info is subsidized by the United Way, Clark County, the city of Portland and private donations. Please let your neighbors know about 2-1-1 Info services and include information in your newsletters.

Announcements

- The Clark County Youth Suicide Prevention Coalition invites you to attend a free community forum on Thursday, April 23, 2009, 8 AM to 12 PM at the Center for Educational Leadership, 2901 Falk Road, Vancouver, WA. Contact Mary Jadwisiak, YSPF Field Coordinator mary@yspp.org or (360) 687-7954.
- Doug provided copies of his March 31 letter to Neighborhoods USA requesting NACCC's continued status of NUSA affiliate.
- Washington State University Vancouver students are creating a quality of life website for Southwest Washington as a senior project. The finished website will be geared toward professionals from all over the country that are considering relocating to our region, and providing a better understanding of what it is like to live here. A *Living in Southwest Washington Neighborhood Questionnaire* was distributed. If you would like more information, please e-mail: emilyj@wsu.edu.
- "The Club" auto anti-theft device is available for law enforcement and community groups for \$10. For more information contact: Nick Gligor, Law Enforcement Affairs, Winner International/The Club, 32 West State St., Sharon PA 16146. (800)-527-3345 ext.3470 nickg@winner-intl.com.

Neighborhood Roundtable

Barbara Anderson, N. Salmon Creek

- Barbara proudly announced the birth of her two beautiful grandchildren. Aidan Lucas and Brynlee Eirwen arrived April 2, 2009. Everyone is doing well (but Grandma could use a nap). Congratulations to Barbara and her family.
- Barbara asked Holly to ask Printing Services if they need more time to turn around the newsletters. Response: Printing Services still believes they can print and mail neighborhood newsletters in seven days or sooner.
- The N. Salmon Creek Neighborhood Association received their 501(c)3 non-profit corporation tax-exempt status. And, the neighborhood association with support from Billygan's is sponsoring a logo contest for a new association logo. The new logo will be selected soon. Congratulations N. Salmon Creek. We know it was a long and difficult journey.
- Barbara also asked for letters supporting the funding of the 139th St. interchange. The area has been in moratorium twice and needs relief. Barbara is asking neighborhoods to write legislators and ask them to fund the project.
- N Salmon Creek Neighborhood Association and Felida Neighborhood Association adjusted their boundaries to include a small area north of Salmon Creek in the North Salmon Creek Association. The area has been served by Felida Neighborhood

Association for several years. However, since N Salmon Creek is active, adjusting the boundaries makes sense to the neighbors and the neighborhood associations.

Doug Ballou, Neighborhood Associations Council of Clark County

- Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) requires affiliate members to apply annually. Doug has sent a letter to NUSA describing NACCC's support for NUSA and also addressing his disappointment about the rejection of the Clark County Juvenile Restorative Justice's application to present a workshop at the 2009 conference. The workshops at this conference could be more diverse. And, it appears it the workshops are somewhat redundant and weighted with presenters from Spokane. By allowing and supporting more workshops from outside the host city, NUSA can provide a broader scope of information to NUSA members as well as increasing conference attendance.

In May, three people from Vancouver neighborhoods will be attending the conference along with Bud Van Cleve, Bridget Schwarz and Doug Ballou who will represent Clark County neighborhood associations.

- Sgt. Mike McCabe asked Bud and Doug to announce the CCSO May 2 Graffiti Cleanup events. Graffiti cleanup is scheduled in the Orchards and Hazel Dell areas from 10 AM to 2 PM. For more information contact Kasey Frazier 397-6079 Kasey.Frazier@clark.wa.gov or Sgt. Mike McCabe, 397-6079 Mike.McCabe@clark.wa.gov.

John Allen, Clark County Railroad Advisory Board

- John announced the Board of County Commissioners hearing scheduled for Mary 12, at 10 AM to address the proposed Railroad Industrial Code and design standards that would encourage new businesses in the zone to provide access to railroad service. There were two prior meetings with the Planning Commission on March 5 and March 19, 2009.
- John suggested NACCC send a representative at the Railroad Advisory Board meetings. The board meets the second Monday of the month at the Public Service Center in the training room on the 6th floor from 4 – 5:30 PM. Sue Lintz said she will attend the meetings as often as she can.

Michael Cummins, Proebstel Neighborhood Association

- All is well with the Proebstel Neighborhood Association. They have a great core group who turn out for meetings and they hope the meeting attendance will grow. Michael thanked Art Stubbs and Sue Lintz who attended their March 13, 2009 meeting and talked about Clark County Neighborhood Associations. Their next meeting on April 21 will focus on wetlands and clean water.

Andrew Ness, Port of Vancouver

- The new crane is assembled and passed inspection. Andrew snapped many photos.
- The Port's Open House was scheduled at the same time as the BOCC first night hearing which caused a conflict on some calendars.
- The Port's rail project is proceeding and the project is expected to provide 1,900 jobs.
- At this point, wind energy has provided business for the Port.
- The Port has acquired the Alcoa/Evergreen property and plans to put wind energy on the property, now known as Terminal 5 (T5).

Maureen Jondahl, Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association

- The Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association has scheduled visits from the Clark County Commissioners at their upcoming meetings. Commissioner Stuart will attend the April 9 meeting and Commissioner Mielke will attend the May 14 meeting.

Sandra Bennett, East Fork Frontier Neighborhood Association

- Sandra continues to publish informative newsletters. All is quite in the East Fork Frontier Neighborhood Association.

Sue Lintz, East Minnehaha Neighborhood Association

- Milada Allen with the Felida Neighborhood Association could not attend tonight's NACCC meeting and asked Sue to remind everyone about the upcoming Community Leader Event on May 30, 2009 from 1-4:30 PM at the Clark County Board of Commissioners Hearing Room, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver. Roger Wendlick is a nationally recognized Lewis & Clark historian. His portrayal and 'you are there' re-enactment of George Drouillard, an important member of the Corps of Discovery, is both informative and entertaining. The suggested donation is \$25 per neighborhood. Please contact Milada Allen to RSVP or if you have questions. gaudeamus@earthlink.net 573-4030.
- The IRS will provide 501(c)3 (non-profit corporation tax exempt) training for neighborhood associations the end of May. Before a date is set, Milada needs to determine if there is enough interest by the associations. Please contact Milada if you would like to sign up for the training. gaudeamus@earthlink.net 573-4030.
- Sue asked if there is a plan to hold a process to rename the Kline Line Bridge. NACCC members at the table unanimously expressed their desire to simply leave it alone and not pursue renaming the bridge.

Bud Van Cleve, NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association

- Bud told the group about the 78th St./WSU Property public workshop held on April 9 to solicit community input regarding the future use of the property. At least 150 people attended and Bud believes it was a great success. For those who could not attend and/or would like to know more, please go to the website: <http://www.clark.wa.gov/78wsu/>. The site provides information and ways to get involved.
- NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association would like to change the name of the annual Kids Christmas Party in order to acknowledge the many groups who contribute. The event is only successful because of the community support and it has become too much for one group to handle. The first planning meeting for this year's party will be in September. Please contact Bud if you wish to be included. 695-1466 BSVANC@aol.com
- Today the last vacant house on NE 13th Street was removed. There is one remaining house facing 78th Street and Bud will encourage the developer who owns the property to remove the structure quickly. Bud continues to remind property owners that the rubble from the razed houses needs to be cleaned up.
- The Hazel Dell Sports Fields plan will be presented to the public at the NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association meeting on April 21, 7 PM at the Clark County Public Works Operations Center Conference Center, 4700 NE 78th Street, Vancouver. You are invited to the meeting if you would like to learn more about the project.
- Clark County Fire Dist. 6 will interview applicants to fill Leah Lothspeich's position. Bud will sit on the panel that will interview 15 candidates on Wednesday. Leah's smile and abilities are greatly missed.

Art Stubbs, Green Meadows Neighborhood Association

- Art asked for comments regarding Commissioner Mielke's idea for funding county roads and eliminating traffic impact fees. Some people did not completely understand the Commissioner's plan.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next Neighborhood Associations Council of Clark County (NACCC) meeting will be on May 11, 7 PM at 4700 NE 78th Street, Vancouver at the Clark County Public Works Operations Center Conference Center.

Reviewed and Approved on 5/6/09
Doug Ballou, Chairman