

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS COUNCIL OF CLARK COUNTY

FEBRUARY 8, 2010

MEETING NOTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Doug Ballou at 7 p.m. Those in attendance were: Bud Van Cleve, NE Hazel Dell; Holly Gaya, CCPIO; Les and Erna Sarsohn, Citizens Against the Towers; Jane Kleiner, Parks; Jeff Mize, CC Public Works PIO Manager; Doug Ballou, NACCC Chairman; Ariel Rivers, Public Health; John Allen, Railroad Advisory Board; Neil Chambers, Andresen/St. John's; Pete Mayer, Parks; Bridget Schwarz, Fairgrounds; David Stoller, Highlands; Elena Cronin, CC Clean Water; Sandra Bennett, East Fork Frontier; Art Stubbs, Green Meadows; Milada Allen, Felida; Fred Abraham, Clark County Railroad; Michele Black, Highlands; George Vartanian, Fairgrounds; Dave Socolofsky, Green Meadows; Susan Gilbert, Enterprise/Paradise Point.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Doug announced that the county print shop needs help from NA in photocopying and collating neighborhood newsletters. Volunteers will be trained by print shop employees on how to use the equipment. Each NA needs to provide volunteers to help with this task when their newsletter is brought in for mailing. Expect it to take 2-3 hours.

A nice thank-you note was received from Mary Keltz for our designating her as one of two Clark County "employees of the year" recipients bestowed by NACCC. The other Clark County employee chosen was County Administrator, Bill Barron.

JEFF MIZE, PUBLIC WORKS PIO MANAGER

Jeff came to introduce himself and to give a little background about his work experience. He was previously a reporter for the Columbian and said he looks forward to working with citizens as the Public Works PIO contact.

ELENA CRONIN, CLEAN WATER CANINES PROGRAM

The county is launching a program called "Neighbors for Clean Water" to educate citizens about picking up after their pets. The program will put resources into the hands of neighbors. The program will provide such resources as educational materials, give presentations, flyers and handouts, lawn signs and stickers for garbage cans. The program is just being developed and has no website as yet. For more information contact Elena at elena.corbin@clark.wa.gov Phone number is 397-6118 X 4110

FRED ABRAHAM, CLARK COUNTY RAILROAD

Fred expects the railroad to generate 300 new cars in 2010. Due to the downturn in the economy, they lost 30% of car movement last year but projections for this year are strong. He expects it will take two years to make it to the county coffers. Fred shared the goals for the railroad which included pursuing grants, continuing

community outreach as well as business and real estate outreach, strengthening public partnerships, and trying to get jurisdictional partners on the same page.

They are striving to get the business community solidly behind them. They are laying new heavier steel to replace the 66# track and also laying down new rock. These improvements are necessary to attract business/shippers to the area.

BRIDGET SCHWARZ – COMMUNITY GARDENS

Bridget introduced the “Growing Groceries Mentor Program” which will train volunteers to mentor community groups and individuals on how to start, maintain, and sustain community food gardens. Volunteers will receive 16 hours of education in all forms of gardening. For further information, contact Ariel Rivers, at ariel.rivers@clark.wa.gov Phone 397-8000 X 7188.

JANE KLEINER – VANCOUVER-CLARK PARKS & REC

Jane indicated that parks has 7,000 acres of land and want to see how part of that acreage can be dedicated to gardens. There are presently 5 community garden locations: Marshall, Fruit Valley, Haagen, Campus and Ellsworth parks. They will also have accessibility gardens for physically challenged individuals. They have lots of volunteers who want to mentor. For further information contact Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation, 360-619-1111 and check out their website at www.vanclarkparks-rec.org and check “Facilities”/Community Gardens.

CITIZENS AGAINST THE TOWERS

A short presentation was given by a group of neighbors who will be impacted by one of the possible choices of the BPA I-5 corridor transmission reinforcement project. Doug explained that NACCC could not take a stand on the project but neighborhood associations can share information about the project and let people know how to contact representative from the “Citizens Against the Towers” organization if they would like to help. Neighborhood associations do not have lists of representatives from homeowners associations’ and they were advised to contact them directly. They are planning an upcoming meeting. For up-to-date information, contact Erna Sarasohn at 360-574-5924 or e-mail leserna1@yahoo.com

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

Milada Allen – Felida – They are gearing up for their July 4th celebration. Any service groups, etc. who benefit community health and safety are encouraged to contact the association if they would like a presence at the celebration. Their NA is holding another 501(c)3 workshop as well as a conflict resolution workshop. They are looking also for nominations for outstanding youth volunteers.

Art Stubbs – Green Meadows – Their last meeting was regarding the proposed BPA transmission line and clean water.

Bridget Schwarz – NUSA & Fairgrounds– NUSA has received a grant. Walmart has not come up with a stormwater plan that passes muster.

Bud Van Cleve – NE Hazel Dell – The 78th St. complex will house 74 community garden sites (20x20) at \$40 per site. There will also be handicap sites with raised beds. The Food Bank of Clark County is looking for groups to sponsor sites. They need mentors and want to expand to other sites. They will offer educational classes on freezing, canning and other food preparation.

Association is sponsoring creating a community foundation which was presenting at the January meeting. An article on the foundation was in the Columbian and they have received e-mails from interested people. The foundation will concentrate on raising funds for community-based projects.

George Vartanian – Fairgrounds – George announced a Planning Commission meeting to be held on February 18 will focus upon the 78th Street old WSUV property.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Gilbert, Secretary