

## Neighborhood Association Council of Clark County

### Meeting Notes

Monday, September 13, 2010

In the absence of chair Doug Ballou, meeting was called to order by vice chair Art Stubbs.

Those in attendance were: Art Stubbs, Vice Chair; Mike McCabe, CCSO; Garry Lucas, Sheriff; Jonnie Hyde, Clark County Public Health; Andrew Ness, Port of Vancouver; Dick Clairmont, Railroad Advisory Board member; Laura Peterson, General Services; Gary Albrecht, Clark County Community Planning; Laurie Lebowsky, Clark County Community Planning; Mitch Canton, Live! Local Networks; George Vartanian, Fairgrounds; Avaril Massey, North Salmon Creek; Michelle Girts and Stephan Abramson, Pleasant Highlands; Jeff Mize, Clark County Public Works; Milada Allen, Felida; Bud Van Cleve, NE Hazel Dell; Ila Stanek, West Hazel Dell; Sandra Bennett, East Fork Frontier; Jim & Marelyn Curtis, Truman; Robyn Kim, Greater Brush Prairie

Announcements: Candidates Forum sponsored by NAs in Clark County and City

Date: Tuesday, October 12, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Location: Clark Public Utilities Community Room,  
1200 Fort Vancouver Way

Bikeway Project to go in front of Three Creeks Advisory Council

Date: Thursday, October 14, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Wm. F. Lothspeich Bldg., Clark Regional Wastewater District  
Meeting room, 8000 NE 52<sup>nd</sup> Court

Sheriff Garry Lucas and Sgt. Mike McCabe presented a neighborhood patrol project – “Neighbors on Watch” or “NOW” to the group. This program costs CCSO \$200 per citizen to participation in the program (for training and equipment). This would be a joint program between the City of Vancouver (COV) and Clark County. Thus far COV has trained 42 citizens; they want to have 200 trained in the citizens’ neighborhood patrol setup. This is a volunteer patrol where residents patrol their own neighborhoods and report nuisances-type crimes, graffiti, auto crime, vandalism. COV uses them for special events like the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration, etc.

CCSO can envision using NOW citizen patrols during the Christmas shopping season at the mall, at the Clark County fair, would with parks safety, for instance. COV purchases equipment and does an eight-week academy, then the citizens are required to contribute four hours per month as part of the NOW program. They use their own vehicles and stay in local neighborhood areas. They go out in teams of two. The teams would have radios to communicate with CCSO deputies to report anything suspicious. NOW volunteers are also provided with magnetic signs for their cars for use when on patrol. There is no cost to the volunteers, just time, interest and commitment of a small amount of time.

NACCC members are asked to provide this information to their neighborhoods and solicit any interest and get back to Sheriff Lucas and Sgt. McCabe as soon as possible.

Laurie Lebowsky and Gary Albrecht presented the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan draft for review.

Comments on the plan are due by September 17. There is a hearing on October 21. This is a Clark County program: Community Planning and Public Works. C-Tran provides bike lockers (Courthouse, Public Service Bldg, etc.). Sidewalk inventory is complete for the County, Salmon Creek and Highway 99. There is an 88<sup>th</sup> Street project; next year’s inventory will be focused on the Orchards area.

[A breakdown of the costs involved in the various project levels was provided.] Costs are for acquiring right-of-way and/or stripping or stenciled signage. Safe routes for school are included. No new trail connections added to Parks Department projects. There's also a TAC (technical advisory committee) for this plan.

They were questioned about sidewalks being forced into established neighborhoods where they might not be desirable to residents. Laurie said sidewalks would not be installed where they don't connect neighborhoods to school, businesses or new developments. Trails for both pedestrians and bikes are planned.

Funding: There is support for developing a transportation benefit district as long as it includes a fund for non-motorized projects. Therefore, the County should pursue grant funding opportunities. A Transportation Benefit District (TBD) would be a separate taxing district.

The question was asked: Does funding include private-public funding? Laurie said they could explore Clark Region Wastewater District (CRWWD) partnerships for right-of-way access. These could include the use of rain gardens.

COV and Clark County are exploring a TBD, voluntary funds for stand-alone bike/ped improvements. She reported there has been opposition voiced to the idea of bicycle licensing imposing bike license fees. (Bike license fees could pay for education only, but not pay for stripping roads.) The group mentioned that the money paid for bike licenses provides a sense of ownership and responsibility. They could check with healthcare facilities for education. A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant has been obtained.

Follow-up information is available online at [www.clrk.wa./planning/bikeandped/index.html](http://www.clrk.wa./planning/bikeandped/index.html).

#### ROUNDTABLE:

NEHDNA – Bud Van Cleve brought up the issue of the lack of process for the installation of a DSHS staffed residential care house in West Hazel Dell. There was discussion of the project at 7515 NW 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue which at this point has received or applied for any permits from Clark County. Art suggested that Doug should write a letter to DSHS and New Visions (the contractor running the house) encouraging them to initiate a public process similar to what has been put in place for the methadone clinic and using a criteria in all NAs where a similar DSHS house would be set up. Milada Allen agreed that there should be a proactive approach which would save time, trouble and money down the road. Such a procedure could make it a better process in the end.

FELIDA – Milada handed out Senior Messenger subscription forms so members could be kept informed of NA issues. Felida NA has been working with the V.A. and the Elks Lodge on veterans' issues. She went into detail on the situation with Cougar Creek Park. The County needs to inform the public and NAs in advance of any action that threatens the status of open spaces. NACCC and NAs need to be kept in the loop on any and all modifications to parks land. (When park land is acquired in Clark County, zoning is currently not being changed as it is in COV.) She said there needs to be public policy established and involved on such actions. All such plans should go to NACCC before any action takes place. Milada said, "We are serious about our community resources." She was asked to draft a letter for submission to the BOCC. It will include a request that there be a NACCC rep at the Blue Ribbon (Parks Commission) meetings.

PORT OF VANCOUVER – Andrew Ness (360) 992-1137 reminded the group that the Port commissioners' meetings are shown on Channel 21. There are two tours of the Port scheduled: September 16 at 5:30 p.m. and October 21 at 12:00 noon. Call for reservations; remember to bring photo ID to any Port tours.

TRUMAN – Marilyn Curtis asked that there be a CCSO deputy assigned to her NA meetings. Crime watch is their current issue and concern. First Evangelical Church on St. James is where they meet. Marilyn's number is (360) 695-5535.

BRUSH PRAIRIE – Robyn Kim reported on the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit Parade and handed out applications if anyone wanted to participate. Churches are doing the post-parade lunch. Anderson Plastics, through proactive involvement, has made a positive contribution to the community and will provide porta-potties for parade. She shared a positive story about Las Vegas community actions.

Dick Clairmont said that Anderson Plastics should be in operation by October. They are hiring. Plastics recycling companies are looking at locating on rail lines. He reported that Clark County has received \$2.4 million in grants and can do 14 miles of improvements and with current economy can improve even more rail lines than assumed.

COMMUNITY PLANNING – Jeff Mize reported on the 219<sup>th</sup> Overpass groundbreaking ceremony. If you'd like copies of the 219<sup>th</sup> handout, please call Jeff at the County. He spoke of the green (rain) gardens on 99<sup>th</sup>, north of Orchards. They will plan in October and should have a beautiful landscape show in the spring. Rain gardens treat stormwater in an environmentally sound manner. They are also to be used at the Hazel Dell sports field on NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street.

EAST FORK-FRONTIER – It was reported that Glen Hunting had passed away. LaCenter Days Twilight Parade is scheduled. The NA's annual meeting will be held in November.

WHDNA – Ila Stanek expanded on the DSHS house issue and reported on the action taken thus far. The reluctance of the State agency to fulfill the usual County permitting requirements seemed unusual to her and the WHDNA board. There are a group of neighbors who have joined together to provide information to the media and continue to bring the issue in front of the BOCC. The next WHDNA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15 at Clearwater Spring Assisted Living, 201 NW 78<sup>th</sup> Street; Sgt. McCabe will address the attendees on the DSHS house issue and what residents should be watching for.

CCSO – Sgt. McCabe reminded the group of the Safety Complex open house scheduled for Saturday, September 18 from noon to 4 p.m. at the 179<sup>th</sup> Street complex at the Delfel Road entrance. The open house includes demonstrations and exhibits from a multitude of organizations and is hosted by the CCSO, Clark County Fire District #6, Clark County Fire Marshal and Clark Fire & Rescue. It is a great family event; free fund and fun – there is something for everyone!

PLEASANT HIGHLANDS – The ongoing struggle to block the BPA's proposed 1500 KV lines (with 15 story high towers) through the middle of this lovely neighborhood continues. They have had garage sales, meetings and great resident support in fighting the giant. It is very clear that BPA is starting to bow to pressure. The NA is seeking NACCC's support in their position. The potential towers will have a seriously negative effect on property values in the area and already have seen real estate sales cancelled because of the possible installation of the BPA towers. CATS is the organization put in place. They have an open house to earn money for attorney fees. George Vartanian (Fairgrounds NA) said that "NACCC had discussed the issue in the past" and it was decided that while individuals NAs could support the CATS cause, NACCC as an association could not do so. It was suggested that BPA should always consult with NAs when siting such installations. PHNA will draft a letter of support for NAs desiring to make a statement about the BPA towers.

CLARK COUNTY LIVE! – Mitch Canton introduced himself to the NACCC reps and gave them the websites he is currently hosting: HazelDellLive!, SalmonCreekLive!, and ClarkCountyLive!.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Meeting notes provided by conscripted recorder, Ila Stanek