

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS COUNCIL OF CLARK COUNTY
MAY 10, 2010 MEETING NOTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Doug Ballou at 7 p.m. Those in attendance were: Kevin Gray, Clark County; Pete Mayer, Van-Clark Parks; Art Stubbs, Green Meadows; Milada Allen, Felida; Holly Gaya, Clark Co. PIO; Doug Ballou, Fred Abraham, Clark County; Michael Wilson, Andersen Dairy; Jack Dunn, Andersen Dairy; Bud Van Cleve, NE Hazel Dell; Andrew Ness, Port of Vancouver; Marelyn & Jim Curtis, Truman; Sue Lintz, E. Minnehaha; George Vartanian, Fairgrounds; John Allen, Clark Co. RAB; Susan Gilbert, Enterprise/Paradise Point; Avril Massey, N. Salmon Creek; Paul Scarpelli, North Salmon Creek; Tony Morrell, Greater Brush Prairie.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

During introductions John Allen announced that he is transferring to east of Roseburg to help with the Soda Springs fish passage project. He will be gone for about 2 years.

Doug announced that the NUSA meeting will be in Little Rock, Arkansas May 26-29. NUSA is a national meeting of neighborhoods that holds workshops and information sharing on issues such as neighborhood revitalization, youth, building stronger communities, and other issues impacting community livability. Doug also said that those who attend participate in one of several Neighborhood Pride tours offered to get a feel for the community and challenges they face.

ANDREW NESS, Port of Vancouver – Andrew gave an update of Port activities to date and passed around a qualitative survey for the group to submit so that questions can be brought up at a forum in the future. The survey is also available on line. Andrew also passed out a Facilities Guide that describes the layout of the Port terminals. Port of Vancouver is the third largest port in Washington and was formed in 1912 originally to protect the waterfront from railroads.

Andrew covered with the group the funding sources for the Port which includes revenues from tenant fees, wharfage charges, equipment leases, general obligation bond loans, Federal and State appropriations and property taxes. Property taxes are used for capital improvements and environmental cleanups (pay off general obligation bonds). Most everything coming out of the port goes by rail. 85% of what the Port handles is export (mostly commodities such as wheat.) They expect to come in close to budget this year and he said that the Port lives within its means from current property tax levy. The planned port expansion will cost approximately \$137 million and will take 8-10 years to complete. \$100 million has been spent on upgrades to the Port to keep it competitive. For more information, go to the Port of Vancouver website: www.portvanusa.com

KEVIN GRAY, Director of Clark County Environmental Services – Kevin came to speak with neighborhood leaders to familiarize them with the new Environmental Services Department, which he leads, and is a consolidation of the various environmental services departments in the county. Their mission is to protect and enhance the natural environment and they were formed in January 2010. Solid waste division, wastewater, vegetative management, environmental permitting, and environmental review are some of the areas under their management. Kevin asked for concerns and several in the group mentioned noxious weeds, clean water, storm water, and failing septic tanks. It was also suggested that his department become more visible to the community.

FRED ABRAHAM, Clark County Railroad – Fred introduced two representatives from Andersen Plastics. The company is in the process of locating a new facility on an existing site in Brush Prairie which is along the county railroad, which they would use to bring in plastic raw materials. Jack Dunn, President of Andersen Plastics gave some background about the company. It was formed in 1967 as Andersen Dairy and the trucking part began in 1988 delivering plastics and dairy bottles. They expect 21-30 new employees. Greater Brush Prairie NA is concerned about increased traffic when Lakeside and Andersen are both up and running. There will be a public meeting hosted by the NA on May 22 at 7 p.m. at the Hockinson Fire Station on 159th.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

Art Stubbs, Green Meadows; - Art reported that the Clean Water Program is not backing off and will maintain the program with no new fees.

Doug Ballou, Chairman – Doug asked the group if they wanted NACCC to continue to be an affiliate of NUSA. He said that paperwork would have to be filled out each year to be an affiliate. The group decided not to sign on as an affiliate but NACCC will continue to be a strong supporter of NUSA.

Bud Van Cleve, NE Hazel Dell – Bud said that Chipper Day was not as successful as late year with only 17 loads collected instead of the usual 60-90 loads. There was lots of good help available, however. The NA made a connection with the landscaping company and the chipper people and they will be a regular resource for future use.

Doug and Bud said that there is a group working on forming the Hazel Dell Foundation. The newly formed group is meeting with other local foundations with whom they would interface.

Marelyn Curtis, Truman – Marelyn stated that they now have five “council” members and plan to get their block watch people together at their next meeting. They continue to concentrate on crime prevention.

Avril Massey, N. Salmon Creek – Avril introduced the new President of their NA, Paul Scarpelli.

Sue Lintz, E. Minnehaha – Sue said that their NA will have the emergency services earthquake specialist at their meeting tomorrow night.

Milada Allen, Felida – Milada said that she will be going to a recycling workshop. She urged service agencies to secure booths at their 4th of July celebration. They have new board members who have environmental and stewardship experience and they plan to educate kids on stewardship practices.

Tony Morrell, Greater Brush Prairie – They are looking for new leadership since the Kims have expressed an interest in no longer leading the neighborhood association.

George Vartanian, Fairgrounds – Their meeting will be Thursday, May 13 and Commissioner Tom Mielke will be the guest speaker.

John Allen – Everyone wished John well in his new endeavors.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Gilbert, Secretary

Meeting notes reviewed by Doug Ballou, Chairman, NACCC on 5/24/2010.