

June 2009 Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Review and Approve Agenda
Approval of minutes

7:05 PM

Public Comments - no public comments

7:15 PM

Dick Bonewits provided a handout on the Citizen Councilor Round 3 of the Countywide Community Forum. He has spoken to our group in the past, and wanted to remind us of the importance of giving our input. The next forum will be on the Values and Performance of King County Government. Dick wants us to act as a Community Forum and take these actions up at the GMVAC. Dick provided a DVD that outlined the forum procedures, and the audience had a chance to view it. The community forum is next week at the sheriff's office. Steve added that the roles of the area council and the community forum are similar, and it might be possible for us to host one of the meetings. The meeting would have to occur before June 23.

7:40 PM

Sheriff's Precinct-Level Community Involvement Program

Major Dave Germani

There have been no complaints by citizens, and Major Germani asked for input from us. Patrick said that there are some young people lighting up their wheels in his neighborhood, and asked if he gets a picture, will this work in terms of enforcement? Major Germani said there are certain things that have to be witnessed in person and this is one of them. He said that only if the spinning of the wheels could result in reckless driving can they respond without witnessing the act. Sometimes they will go out and speak with the parents. Major Germani provided a copy of the 2007 sheriff's report so we could look at the format, and then gave us the 2008 annual report with the areas that are important to us. We can also find the entire report on the King County website under Sheriff. Page 12 lists statistics on Precinct Three Part I and Part II crimes. All Part I crimes were down except for Residential Burglary, which is up 6.8%. All precincts have experienced an increase in burglary. The question was asked if they know why crime has gone down. Major Germani thinks that citizen involvement has helped a lot and community watches have also helped. Major Germani said that gang activity is up 40%. When times are tough and there isn't a watchdog, then we see an increase in crime. There are 740 square miles in his precinct.

8:15 PM

Clean Air Agency

Rick Hess, Supervising Inspector

Their agency is responsible for ensuring that we comply with the clean air act. People with respiratory problems are the most at risk from outdoor burning. Every three years, they have to determine if reasonable alternatives to outdoor burning exist. Alternatives must be within 16 minutes and 30 miles. What is currently being proposed is to have setbacks to material burning and reducing the nuisance aspect of burning. Fire departments can use their rules for permitting or they can establish their own. They also have a network of monitoring stations throughout all four counties. There is one in Kent and site locations can be found on their website. The size of a burn can be no more than a 10 ft. by 10 ft. pile. They look at long-term health care and how particulates affect the health of people. Most of the air pollution is from automobiles, 3% is from commercial, and less than 8% is from fire (www.pscleanair.org). If you permit, then you will abate the nuisance. They are anticipating an increase in the length of the burn bans, but they will not be calling more. They do modeling with the air and plug in the forecast and accurately predict when the inversion will move through. The question was asked, "Why are burn bans called here when the problem is elsewhere?" Burn bans are typically called county-wide. They hire outside consultants and are implementing recommendations. They are also involved in bio-filtering.

He then gave us an update on Cedar Grove Composting, which has purchased many capital improvements that have allowed them to avoid penalties. They have also installed equipment that helps with odor preventing release. The air scrubber is in place and it is helping. To date, they have complied with all the terms and conditions. One of the issues they have is receiving large volumes of waste that are in an advanced stage of decomposition. One of the alternatives to outdoor burning is Cedar Grove. There will be a public comment period and then a meeting next fall. Cedar Grove has a person who drives around the area to assess the air quality and take measurements. If PSCAA gets a complaint on odor, they investigate the complaint. They have an advisory council and the members come from a variety of groups that are important to the area. The

question was asked if there is anyone who is impacted on the advisory committee. Eric volunteered to be on the committee.

9:00 PM

Issaquah-Hobart Rd. Corridor Study

KCDOT/David Mark and Jim Shimmer

Last year, they were asked by Council member Dunn to do a study on Issaquah Hobart Rd. As part of the study area, they looked at I-90 to Black Diamond. They had to look at the existing conditions as well as the future conditions. They looked to the year 2030, using "what if" scenarios and establishing a technical advisory committee to help finalize recommendations. Current conditions include frequent accidents, safety and parking issues near the hang-glider area, slow moving commute traffic, intersection delay, and substandard bridge replacement. They are looking at increasing the size of the parking area; however, this is a Parks issue. Funding is the real issue. They looked at three years of accident data and generally they have more rear-end accidents in the north. Down south, most of the accidents are speed-related, where cars drive off the road. Most of the accidents occurred when the pavement was dry and the weather was pretty nice. May Valley is also seeing an increase in traffic. The Issaquah bypass was voted down again. If this would occur, then this would benefit the area. In the rural area, they will be looking at safety improvements and not widening the road. They looked at this situation as if there were an overall benefit for the City of Issaquah and the city felt that there wasn't. They have county-wide models and now they are looking at more specific areas and how changing an intersection or corner will impact the traffic flow. They would like to include four sub-areas in future planning. They look at land use growth and convert it into trips, trying to simulate where the traffic patterns might be. The question was asked how they factor in non-traditional trips. They give their information to the regional council and there is a factor put in that affects commuting to include the cost of gas. The project recommendations in the short-term are to install traffic cameras, install digital message signs, interconnect signals to allow intersections to be controlled at the traffic center, and add signage at high accident locations. Long-term recommendations include completing SR-18 widening, replacing substandard bridge, expanding hang-glider parking, constructing roundabouts, improving channelization from May Valley Rd. to Issaquah city limits, and installing fiber optics, flood sensors, and weather station in the corridor. Their next steps will be to include project recommendations in the six-year capital improvement program and work with local jurisdictions and UACs to address other SE King County traffic needs. Their recommendations to the capital improvement project will be completed in July. As more cities annex, their revenue source decreases.

9:50 PM

Council Business Committee Assignments

Ravensdale Park - Gordon met last week with the planning group, and they are now taking input from the area. Only one soccer field will be improved with artificial turf, and there will be some minor improvements to the park area. They currently have budget concerns.

Fire District - They are trying to determine if they will go with a one-year or a six-year levee or none at all. In 2011, they will be looking at layoffs.

10:00 PM

Adjourn