

August 2013 Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM: Call to Order

Roll Call Dawson absent, all others in attendance

Review and Approve Agenda-so done

Approval of Minutes-so done

7:10 PM: New member Carl Buchholz, representing the Ravensdale Community Area, was sworn in as the Area Council's sixteenth Councilperson completing all open positions

Action items-no report

7:20 PM: Council Business

Executive Committee by Chair Steve Hiester --

A committee meeting was held on August 2 with the following decisions made: Update Focal Points to reflect current Committees eliminating duplication. Eliminate "Environmental Services" Focal Point and fold CRC and WRIA #8 duties into Flood Control/Surface Water Management Committee and Solid Waste into Natural Resources/Parks Committee. Eliminate "Parks & Recreation" Focal Point and fold duties into Natural Resources/Parks Committee. Explicitly state under "Public Safety" Focal Point duties to monitor Police and Fire. Expand "Social Services" Focal Point duties to better define scope. Add Public Outreach duties (to including Newsletter, publicity, new web site content, etc.--Corresponding Secretary still remains Web Site Focal duties) to "Election & Survey Committee" renaming it "Outreach, Survey, & Election Committee." Transfer the four existing "Ad Hoc Committees" to "Standing Committees." Have By Laws updated to require a minimum of 4 Area Council members on each Standing Committee. An Action Item table will be developed by the Corresponding Secretary, submitted to the Recording Secretary for review and distribution within 2 days of monthly meetings. Executive sessions open only to Area Council members will be scheduled at the end of monthly meetings on an as-needed basis. All intra-Area Council e-mails will have subject lines starting with "AREA COUNCIL--" to make it easier for members to find Area Council-related e-mails.

Growth Management by Committee by Chair Peter Rimbo -- The City of Covington recently released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Hawk Subarea property (located just outside our SW border) on the north side of the city, west of Cedar Creek park, and SE of SR-18. From a preliminary assessment there will be obvious impacts to our communities, primarily through increased traffic, and potential impacts to the Tahoma School District, already plagued by overcrowding (the Kent School District might take the load--the DRAFT EIS shows two different scenarios when it comes to the schools). The 1,500 homes will put ~2,600 more vehicles on our roads (less than the Black Diamond Master-Planned Developments, whose 6,000 homes will add ~10,000 more vehicles, but cumulatively a major problem). There also is 850,000 sq ft of commercial space planned (also a little less than the 1.1 M sq ft of the BD MPDs). Plus, up to 60-ft tall buildings. Clearly, there will be major impacts to SR-516, SR-18, SR-169, and many local roads in between, as evidenced by the near-failing and failing Intersection Level of Service (LOS) numbers in the DRAFT EIS's traffic assessment. The Area Council voted to pursue a detailed review of the DEIS and prepare and submit substantive comments by the August 26 deadline. Four major Standing Committees--Flood Control/Surface Water Management, Growth Management, Natural Resources/Parks, and Transportation Committees--will each work in their respective areas. The Area Council's Final comments will be approved via e-mail by the full Area Council.

Transportation Committee by Chair Susan Harvey -- The committee met on July 30 to initiate a project to review King County roads funding and usage to develop a better model to ensure unincorporated area road infrastructure is sustainable in the long run. This effort includes working with representatives both the Four Creeks and Upper Bear Creek Unincorporated Area Councils. The committee also discussed safety issues on Issaquah-Hobart Rd.

Natural Resources/Parks Committee by Susan Harvey for absent Chair Les Dawson -- The committee attended the King County Parks Open House on the Danville-Georgetown Trails proposal and decided not to recommend the Area Council submit formal comments, because all user communities are contributing to options being considered.

Focal Point Changes

School District Affairs -- Monitors activities (may attend meetings) of school board and others. Sue Neuner volunteered to be the new Focal Point for the Area Council.

Human Services -- Monitors activities (may attend meetings) of King County human and social services departments and private organizations. Todd Mitchell volunteered to be the new Focal Point for the Area Council.

Committee Changes

With the addition of several new members the area Council decided to review its committee rosters. The following includes changes made:

Outreach/Survey/Election -- Prepare and execute bi-annual Area Council Elections and Citizens' Advisory Survey. Public outreach was added to the Committee's responsibilities and its name was changed to Outreach/Survey/Election Committee. Lorraine Blacklock and Anne Meis joined the committee.

By-Laws -- Reviews current by-laws and in conjunction with the entire Area Council, identify any item/issue needing update, or change, and drafting proposed language. Reviews and revises voting precincts that define Council Districts every four years. Susan Harvey left to attend other committee duties and Rhys Sterling joined the committee.

Train Show -- Defines Council support requirements and recruits and implements activities necessary to conduct train show. Craig Duckering and Susan Harvey joined the committee.

Flood Control/Surface Water Management -- Study King County flood control and surface water management issues, assess current status of policies and fees. Tara Larson left to attend other committee duties and Todd Mitchell and Sue Neuner joined the committee.

Growth Management -- Monitor County land-use decisions, zoning, and we and enacted ordinances. Susan Harvey left to attend other committee duties and Lorraine Blacklock, Craig Duckering, and Rhys Sterling joined the committee.

Natural Resources/Parks -- Study regional parks, historic landmarks, natural habitats, water quality, wastewater, and solid waste. Tara Larson and Bev Tonda left to attend other committee duties and Carl Buchholz, Chuck Meis, and Rhys Sterling joined the committee. Transportation -- Investigate the area's transportation problems and offer potential path towards mitigation. Rob Morris left to attend other committee duties and Carl Buchholz and Lorraine Blacklock joined the committee.