

Four Creeks Unincorporated Area Council
Meeting Minutes

Date: August 18, 1999
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: 12819 160th Ave S.E., Renton, WA 98059
Members present: Marilyn Carlson, Norm Green, Marlene Griffin,
Mary Ellen Hamblin, Dan Leonard, David Prochazka,
Bob Rhoades, Stewart Whittaker
Members absent: Stephanie Proulx, Stan Rabe, Gray Rand,
Everett Wilcock
Minutes recorded by: April Neal

David Prochazka called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were not recorded at the previous meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The current balance is \$151.82.

KING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Burglaries

There was a home intrusion robbery in the Southeast Briar Road area. The victim was a business owner and the circumstances indicate that he was targeted. Another robbery occurred in the Maple Hills area. It is believed that this incident also involved a targeted victim. There does not seem to be a pattern.

Mail Theft

Officer Mel Miller reported that mail theft is a common crime that citizens should be aware of. He strongly advised against placing outgoing mail in personal mailboxes. He also recommended that certain items be picked up rather than delivered to a mailbox (such as checks). One solution may be to arrange for general delivery or a post office box for vital mail.

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If a check or an access device (i.e., debit card, credit card) is stolen, it should be reported immediately to the authorities of the jurisdiction in which it occurred. It is highly recommended to obtain a case number upon filing a report. This ensures that the report becomes a master index case and provides a reference number for follow up action.

Mail theft is a wide-spread problem with a wide variety of suspects; however, certain areas seem to be targeted more than others such as Hi-Valley which has had significantly more cases of this crime.

The current penalties for mail theft are too minimal. Contrary to popular belief, mail theft is *not* a federal offense.

Officer Miller reminded citizens that mailboxes are not government property. Citizens have the right to choose a mailbox that fits their needs and comfort level.

Car Prowls

Car prowls are still occurring although the rate has seemingly dropped. It may be that these crimes are not being reported as much due to the summer season.

A local citizen was recently released from custody for charges relating to car prowls. The individual was a juvenile at the time the charges were filed; therefore, they will not be considered in the event the individual is arrested for another crime.

General

Citizens can expect to be mildly inconvenienced due to some structure changes that will be taking place to the QFC grocery store.

Citizens attending the meeting offered praise and gratitude to Officer Miller for his article in Issue 6 of the Four Creeks UAC News.

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER ISSUES

Transportation Needs Report (TNR)

Norman Green reviewed the letter from King County Dept. of Transportation (KCDOT) and stated that they did not seem to agree with many of the Council's comments regarding the TNR. Marilyn Carlson formulated a letter to Derdowski and read it aloud for comments. It was agreed to send the letter as a board. It was stated that the letter should specifically reference the City of Newcastle agreement and should only address the issues that were in the response letter from KCDOT. The motion was made, seconded, and approved for Marilyn to draft a letter to send as a board.

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Growth Management Policy

Citizen John Dunkel expressed his concern regarding the 2000 Comprehensive Plan Update for the Growth Management Policy. He stated that affordable housing will be greatly impacted and the lower income class will suffer from this the most.

Elliot Bridge

The timeline for the EIS review/comment period is now scheduled for September. King County representative Marissa Alegria will try to obtain an update for the next meeting.

SR-900 and 148th

WADOT has not yet responded to the Council concerning this matter. Public hearings will be scheduled once the permit process begins.

Application for Morrison Properties

Bob Rhoades read a draft letter expressing his concern with the sensitive land that cannot handle heavy rains. Marilyn read the letter and it was agreed to send it from the Council. The motion was made, seconded, and approved to have Everett Wilcock review and edit the letter with Bob prior to sending.

Wetlands

Mary Ellen Hamblin and Marilyn Carlson drafted a letter to the Mayor of Newcastle regarding the developer who is seemingly disregarding his obligations concerning the water run-off. Pending Everett's final approval, the letter was approved to be sent to the Mayor. A copy will also be sent to the individual at the City of Newcastle who has not responded to Marilyn and Mary Ellen's numerous requests for a response.

ELECTIONS/VACANCIES

Secretary

David Prochazka stated the need for a new secretary to record minutes for the monthly meetings.

Three applicants were expected to attend the meeting. The only applicant in attendance was April Neal who introduced herself with a brief summary of her qualifications and experience.

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David Prochazka made the motion to hire Ms. Neal which was seconded and approved unanimously.

Primary Elections and Board Positions

Odd-numbered districts are open this year. A citizen commented that the boundaries on the map of districts are not clearly defined. It was suggested to simply list precincts as opposed to using a map.

The recruitment process for candidates was discussed. Advertising vacancies in local newspapers was suggested. A reminder was made that petitions must be in by mid-September. A petition is simply a document with the signatures of five supporters.

Citizen Ray Griffin suggested a “candidates’ night” to allow citizens to meet and question candidates before casting votes. This meeting would be for primary election candidates as well as candidates for board positions.

This idea was well received and it was suggested to schedule the event the week of August 30. A request was made to not schedule it on a Tuesday. Mary Ellen Hamblin will contact the primary election candidates to schedule an agreeable date. She will also obtain written materials on how to conduct a candidates’ meeting. It was agreed to advertise this event in local newspapers inviting citizens to meet the candidates.

Citizen Kate Kaluzny asked about the voting process – specifically whether or not a secret ballot would be used. David Prochazka stated that secret ballots would not be used, but that the ballots are mailed directly to the King County Department of Elections. Ms. Kaluzny stated that a non-secret ballot violates the state constitution and requested that her objection be recorded.

David Prochazka questioned the other council members about an existing election committee to address Ms. Kaluzny’s objection. This matter will be researched.

David Prochazka adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.