

Four Creeks Unincorporated Area Council

Regular Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2003

Submitted by Gwendolyn High

Attending:

David Rockabrand

Gwendolyn High

Tom Fisher

Cynthia Green

Bette Filley

Marshall Brendan

Brian Thomas

Denise Jones

John Gillingham

Edie Jorgensen

Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 2 Special Meeting:

Date Motion Description	Member	Motion Made By	2nd	Aye	Nay	Abstain
2003.07.16 Adopt the Minutes for the July 2 Special Meeting with amendments to correct spelling of Rick Spence's name	David Rockabrand					
	Gwendolyn High			X		
	Tom Fisher			X		
	Cynthia Green					
	Bette Filley			X		
	Marshall Brendan			X		
	Brian Thomas	X		X		
	Denise Jones			X		
	Kelly Faoro					
	John Gillingham			X		
	Matthew Hebb					

	Michele Fisher					
	Paul Zucati					
	Edie Jorgensen		X	X		
Result: PASSED				8	0	0

Treasurer's Report:

- No Treasurer's Report this meeting.

Deputy's Reports:

- No Deputy's Report this meeting.

Correspondence:

- David R. - Presented bill for the general liability insurance for \$1374.21. Bette F. and Brian T. question the cost and request new quotes. Marshall B. asks that we get confirmation of exactly which kind of insurance King County requires the UAC to carry.

- David R. -
From: Cedar Hills Landfill
Description: Public Notice - Proposed Expansion. New parcels have been purchased and additional parcels have been proposed to be purchased.
Passed to Marshall B. to investigate and report.

From: DDES

Description: Notice of Application - Nichols Place Plat and ReZone

Propose rezone of 4 acres from R-4 to R-6 and subdivision for 23 houses. If the Rezone is denied, proposes to use Density Transfer Credits to achieve the 23 lots.

SE Issaquah ByPass Presentation

Barbara ??? of the Issaquah Environmental Council gave a presentation on the proposed SE Issaquah Bypass. Presentation materials are available [here](#).

A few of the main concerns outlined are:

- air and water pollution
- loss of aquifer recharge
- more flooding due to inadequate mitigation
- potential to puncture perched aquifers
- drainage impacts into Issaquah Creek
- habitat loss
- overloading Issaquah-Hobart Road

Brian T. asked what alternative the group would propose. Barbara relied that the completion of the full I-18 would be preferred.

Denise J. stated that the need for some kind of drastic project now was caused by the major growth and the prerequisite rezoning of the Issaquah Plateau. Several people present agreed that the development that has been allowed has not brought adequate transportation infrastructure improvements to meet the increased need.

Barbara agreed with this assertion. She said that her group's concern centered on the cumulative

effect on the areas aquifer and watershed. Further, they calculate that the backup will simple be moved further out into the rural area since the ByPass will only be constructed inside the city limits of Issaquah and will feed greater volumes of traffic onto the existing Issaquah-Hobart Road and into May Valley. Another indication that the construction of any of the currently proposed alternatives will yield no real improvement is that the traffic lights that will be installed will be synchronized for free flow of traffic at 25 miles per hour. Even the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Study says that traffic improvements are expected to last only 3 to 5 years.

David Irons said that the King County Comprehensive Plan prohibits any capacity improvements on the Issaquah-Hobart Road because it is outside the Urban Growth Boundary.

Gwendolyn H. asked for more information on the watershed impacts listed on one of the handouts.

Barbara showed portions of the plans an area with no buffer on a Class I wetland. This is the highest classification of wetland and the most carefully protected under King County Critical Areas Ordinance. Gwendolyn H. commented that this is the same classification of wetland as the one in the May Valley which is the main impediment to dredging May Creek.

Barbara reported that a recent attempt by a communications company to install fiber optic line punctured an undocumented perched aquifer and completely drained it before it could be sealed off. There are other such aquifers in the area, but the existing data is not complete, and no additional studies have been conducted to fully map all other such watershed features.

Barbara also pointed out the location of 5 springs that were the previous source of drinking water for Issaquah, but which have been capped. They are located directly under the currently proposed project. In the same area there are currently 3 stormwater detention ponds. The water table is so low that 2 of them never drain and are a flood hazard during the rainy season.

Bette F. expressed concern with increased traffic of semis. She reports that speeding trucks are a persistent problem on SR 900 and Issaquah-Hobart Road already, and said she would expect that the situation would be exaggerated by the increased traffic funneled onto Issaquah-Hobart Road by the ByPass. She raised the issue again that this whole region needs more North-South connections than anything else.

Dave Dahlin reported that options for an elevated Bypass were proposed as early as 1976. He remembers that there was strong resistance to such a plan from the residents opposed to growth in the rural area. He said that it seems that such strong resistance to change is ineffective because the growth is inevitable, and once the problems get to a certain point, something has to be done to accommodate what happened without adequate planning.

Gwendolyn H. agreed. She said that she sees this as situation like most that the UAC has addressed. Instead of fully planning for the needs of the area, or the impacts to projects and development during the permitting stages, we are constantly playing catch up to fix the impacts. This leaves no option for best possible solutions - only haphazard attempts at damage control.

Edie J. asked for contact information and recommendations for source so that we can keep up to date on the progress of the proposed project.

Barbara gave their website:
www.issaquahaction.org

Brian T. expressed the need for the UAC to hear the view points of all sides involved and impacted by this project in order for the UAC to develop a valid and fair understand of the project.

Vote to fill the seat vacated by Oscar Bandelin's resignation

Date Motion Description	Member	Motion Made By	2nd	Aye	Nay	Abstain
2003.07.16 Motion to appoint Dave Dahlin to fill the seat vacated by Oscar Bandelin which expires in 2003	David Rockabrand					
	Gwendolyn High			X		
	Tom Fisher			X		
	Cynthia Green					
	Bette Filley	X		X		
	Marshall Brendan		X	X		
	Brian Thomas			X		
	Denise Jones				X	
	Kelly Faoro					
	John Gillingham			X		
	Matthew Hebb					
	Michele Fisher					
	Paul Zucati					
	Edie Jorgensen			X		
Result: PASSED				7	1	0

Bette Filley Resigns

- Bette Filley, elected in 2003 to represent District 6 announced her resignation effective at the adjournment of this meeting. She will be working on new books and projects and will not be able to devote the time to the UAC. David R. thanked her for her contributions and invited her back anytime.

The Bette's District 6 Position is now open. Candidates are invited to submitted a bio at any UAC meeting. The candidate appointed may serve until the next regular election.

Committee Reports

- Administration (chair Edie J.)

Volunteers for the Election/Nominating Committee are needed immediately. Brian T., Denise J. and Rod McFarland (consulting role only) volunteered. First notice is required by August 6, 2003.

Marissa will be contacted to assist in answering the outstanding insurance questions detailed above.

The layout and text for the sandwich boards was presented and met with approval. The Admin committee will continue to pursue construction and display of the signs.

The next Administration Committee meeting will be at 6pm on August 20.

- Land Use (chair Marshall B.)

Marshall reported that he had spoken with Stephanie Warden (head of DDES) and asked how we could receive notice of pending actions sooner to allow us time to review and comment. She said she would look into getting the notices to us sooner and offered to hold any specific pending item that we wanted to submit comments on.

The Critical Area Ordinance is still being revised. The next draft is due in September. 3 Open Houses will be scheduled. DDES expects that the recommended changes will be transmitted to the King County Council in January 2004. Brian T. reiterated that the earlier our concerns and comments are submitted in the process the more effective we will be.

A major overhaul of the DDES fee structure and permit process was recently unanimously adopted by King County Council. Marshall expressed significant surprise because the UAC had received no notice that such sweeping changes were under consideration. The general hourly rate for DDES services was raised to \$138 an hour. David Irons said that the goal of the changes was to provide a streamlined process greater degree of predictability in fees and timelines. Gwendolyn H. reported that the committee that drafted the changes was called the Master Builders' Commission composed of representatives of 8 development companies and a lobbyist - not a single citizen representative even though the changes will apply to every application submitted to DDES. David Irons agreed that the process lacked openness. He reported that County Councilmembers and staff were not allowed to attend and that the only way you could know what was being discussed was to personally know commission members.

- King County Governance (chair Brian T.)

Brian T. reported that good representatives have been appointed to the commission, but recommended that we wait until their recommendations are published before we comment.

May Creek Basin Plan Letter

Date Motion Description	Member	Motion Made By	2nd	Aye	Nay	Abstain
2003.07.16 A revised letter was present by David R. Brian T. proposed extensive edits. A motion to approve and transmit the letter as amended was made.	David Rockabrand					
	Gwendolyn High	X		X		
	Tom Fisher			X		
	Cynthia Green					
	Bette Filley			X		
	Marshall Brendan			X		
	Brian Thomas			X		
	Denise Jones		X	X		

	Kelly Faoro					
	John Gillingham			X		
	Matthew Hebb					
	Michele Fisher					
	Paul Zucati					
	Edie Jorgensen			X		
	<u>Dave Dahlin</u>			<u>X</u>		
Result: PASSED				8	0	0

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Initially submitted via email to all UAC members, and posted on the website on July 27, 2003. gh

Revisions: ~~Strikethrough~~ denotes deleted text. Underline indicates added text. Resubmitted via email to all UAC members, and posted on the website on August 17, 2003. gh

Approved at the August 20, 2003 Regular Meeting.