

Neighborhood Associations Council of Clark County

Oct. 12, 2015

Meeting notes

Welcome and introductions: Doug Ballou, Chair

In attendance: Doug Ballou, NE Hazel Dell & NACCC; Holly Gaya, CCPIO; Neil Chambers, Andresen-St John's; Barb Cabe, Truman; Stephan Abramson, Pleasant Valley; Christie Brown-Silva, Sifton and Heritage; Dick Clairmont, Railroad Advisory Board & NE Hazel Dell; Roger Entrekin, Meadow Glade; Greg Noelck, Vancouver Neighborhood Alliance; Judy and Dan Enright, Sunnyside & Neighbors On Watch; Julie Rawls, Port of Vancouver; Sue Lintz & Bob Butler, East Minnehaha; Alex Schoening, Clark County Sheriff's Office; Mitch Canton, Clark County Live, N. Salmon Creek & Neighborly; Sandra Bennett, East Fork Frontier; Bridget Schwarz, Fairgrounds

Announcements:

- **The candidates' forum hosted by NACCC and the Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association** on Oct. 8 was a big success and Doug specifically wanted to thank Bridget for her work organizing the event. She did the majority of the heavy lifting and Doug simply wanted people to know amount and quality of the work she put into making it a hit. Thank you Bridget. Barb Cabe said she appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the candidates as the Truman Neighborhood is now in the new Councilor District 2. Bridget estimated about 50 people attended.
- **East Minnehaha is hosting a candidates' forum Oct. 15**, from 7 – 9 p.m. at Walnut Grove Church, 6004 NE 72nd Ave., Vancouver. All elected candidates will be present and write-in candidate Liz Pike is sending a two-minute video.
- **Volunteers will gather Saturday, Oct. 25, for the fourth annual The Butt Stops Here cleanup to remove cigarette butts and other litter from parks.**

Volunteer programs for Clark County Public Works and the city of Vancouver are coordinating the cleanup, which will be held on Make a Difference Day.

The event begins with a brief orientation and refreshments at 10 a.m. in the Bud Van Cleve Community Room at Luke Jensen Sports Park, 4000 N.E. 78th St. Volunteers will break into groups and fan out to public areas in Vancouver and unincorporated Clark County.

Organizers will have a list of parks, but they urge volunteers to come with a specific park in mind. At 12:30 p.m., volunteers will return to the sports park to weigh bags of litter and enjoy lunch.

Volunteers must provide their own transportation.

Since the first such cleanup in October of 2011, volunteers have removed nearly 50 pounds of cigarette butts from our parks and open spaces. Cigarette butts are the most commonly found litter in the world and account for an estimated 32 percent of litter in parks and recreation areas.

“Each year, millions of volunteers across the nation come together to celebrate this important day of

service,” said Karen Llewellyn, volunteer program coordinator for Public Works. “Locally, volunteers can make a difference by ensuring our parks and open spaces are beautiful, healthy places. We look forward to another great turnout this year.”

Remember to dress for the weather and wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes. Please bring gloves, but organizers will have extra gloves as well as garbage bags.

Volunteers should sign up at parkhero.org.

- **Officer Elections for 2016:** Doug Ballou agreed to continue to serve as NACCC Chair for 2016. Art Stubbs retains position as Vice-Chair and the NACCC Secretary position remains open until someone expresses an interest.
- **The Vancouver Neighborhood Alliance meets the second Wednesday of each month** at 7 p.m. The meetings are held at Vancouver Police West Precinct on Stapleton Road between SR-500 and Fourth Plain Blvd. For more information and/or to request being added to the email roster, contact Greg Noelck at: lighthouse1967@gmail.com.

Our guest speaker Greg Noelck explained Community Mediation process and training opportunities.

A brief history of the program:

- In the beginning:
- **1992** City of Vancouver, Washington launches the Neighborhood Mediation program to help city residents resolve neighborhood disputes.
- **1995** Clark County opens the Dispute Resolution Center, a mediation program for county residents.
- **1997** The two programs merge and Community Mediation Services (CMS) is born.
- **1997–2010** CMS develops partnerships with the Vancouver Police Department, Clark County Juvenile Court and Small Claims Court and Vancouver Schools. CMS expands training and establishes victim offender mediation, peer mediation, landlord/tenant and workplace programs.
- **2010** Due to budget cuts within the City of Vancouver, the CMS program is eliminated. Community volunteers help restructure CMS as a non-profit organization. On October 4, 2010, the new non-profit, Community Mediation Services was incorporated.
- **Today:**
- We’re more committed than ever to finding new and unique ways of serving our community.
- We’ve started a pilot project for family and recently received a grant to support our foreclosure practice.

What is mediation?

It never feels good to be stuck in an ongoing argument with anyone, whether it’s a neighbor, colleague, coworker or family member. Community Mediation Services is a 501(c) non-profit organization that offers [a variety of mediation services](#) to help you resolve conflict including a safe, informal and private way to improve communication and get to the heart of your disagreements.

Community Mediation believes that communities, where people resolve their differences constructively, are healthier, happier and more productive. Better communication helps us all thrive.

Community Mediation's mission is to be an essential dispute resolution and educational resource for all members of our Southwest Washington community. It works with organizations that share their vision and strive to build connections, healthy relationships and understanding.

We mediate all types of conflicts including:

- Business/consumer
- Workplace
- Neighbor-to-neighbor
- Landlord/tenant
- Small claims issues
- Foreclosures
- Family parenting plans

For more information about training and scholarships that are occasionally available for neighborhood associations, please refer to the Community Mediation Services Web site:

<http://www.mediationclarkcounty.org/>

Greg encouraged those interested in learning more about mediation to take advantage of the training opportunities offered by CMS. You can attend an introductory training or continue all the way to becoming a certified mediator. This is a skill neighborhood leaders use all the time.

- **Guest speaker Julie Rawls presented the Port of Vancouver's proposed plans for the waterfront.**

The Port of Vancouver USA is redeveloping a 10-acre site on the Columbia River. The port's historic Terminal 1 site is the birthplace of the port and currently home to the Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay, The Quay Restaurant, 300 sq. ft. of high docks and piers, a public amphitheater, a low dock for short-term pleasure craft moorage and the Columbia Shores Business Center. The port and its consultant, NBBJ, have developed four concepts for the site after receiving input from the port's Board of Commissioners, the public, stakeholders, and port and city staff. Currently the focus of a master planning process, the site could host such amenities as a hotel, retail and commercial space, and public areas able to support nonprofit and recreational activities.

CONCEPT 1: "BASELINE" – Retains the current street grid and block configuration, restores the Terminal 1 building to its original length, replaces the public amphitheater with a terraced lawn and creates new open spaces along the high piers.

CONCEPT 3: "DANIELS WAY" – Extends Daniels Way to the site through a pedestrian underpass and relocates the Terminal 1 building. Removes the current amphitheater, replacing it with a terraced shoreline, and adds a wooden pier for river views.

CONCEPT 2: "GRID SHIFT" – Slightly modifies the street grid and block configuration and creates "woonerf" plaza spaces designed to accommodate pedestrians and vehicles. Removes the current amphitheater, replacing it with a new cove, and returns Terminal 1 to its original size.

CONCEPT 4: "DOCK RESTORATION" – Stabilizes and restores the existing dock and pilings. Disassembles and reconstructs Terminal 1 at the current amphitheater location. A new hotel complements the Terminal 1 building marketplace.

Public comments are being accepted. For more information contact: Katy Brooks, Director of Economic 360.992.1128 kbrooks@portvanusa.com or Julie Rawls, Community Relations Specialist, 360.992.1137 jrawls@portvanusa.com or: <http://www.portvanusa.com/assets/POV-Waterfront-Project-Flyer.pdf>. Survey/comment forms are here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/waterfront-survey>. Subscribe to the electronic Waterfront Newsletter here: [http://portvanusa.us6.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=e335c449cca74e65ea0014b14&id=d89d9c3db0&group\[6489\]\[32\]=1](http://portvanusa.us6.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=e335c449cca74e65ea0014b14&id=d89d9c3db0&group[6489][32]=1)

Additionally, Doug and others said the Port of Vancouver Tours are a 'must do.' Katy said the tours will resume in the spring/summer but they fill up quickly.

Roundtable

Judy Bumbarger-Enright asked if it is necessary for her to file annual paperwork with the IRS now that she has received an EIN number for the neighborhood association. She was shocked to learn it cost \$185. The response from the group is that no annual filing with the IRS is required unless you are a 501c3.

The Sunnyside neighbors adopted and clean Orchards Highland Park once and month and recently found an inhabited homeless camp. They phoned 3-1-1 to report the camp.

Mitch Canton with the North Salmon Creek Neighborhood and Clark County Live is also the developer of our new *Neighborly* site. He has offered to prepare neighborhood specific electronic inserts that can be used in your newsletter. And Mitch can assist with preparing your newsletters if need assistance. Mitch distributed information about the Neighborly and was available to answer questions and suggestions. If you would like more information, contact Mitch: Mitch@clarkcountylive.com.

Alex Schoening, CCSO Outreach Sergeant, thanked Barb Cabe and her husband for the hot dogs and hamburgers she provided for the **Sheriff's Explorers**.

- Alex also added that unfortunately he has started a waiting list for young people to join the Explorers. There are currently 45 kids participating and a few on the waiting list.
- Each year Explorers attend two academies in Yakima and recently a parent-owned 15-passenger van used to transport the Explorers was involved in a collision while travelling between Clark County and Yakima. Subsequently, Alex asked everyone to keep their ears open for a 15-passenger van in good running condition that could potentially be donated to PAL (Police Activities League) which is a 501c3. Alex can be contacted at Alex.Schoening@clark.wa.gov or (360) 397-6079.
- Alex reported an **uptick in graffiti** in the Hazel Dell and Truman area. Alex said he is attempting to revive the relationship with Miller Paint and organize a clean-up day. If you are interested in participating in a clean-up, call Alex. Additionally, Barb Cabe suggested that we form a graffiti rapid response team. If each neighborhood association would identify one person to volunteer for the team which probably wouldn't require a huge commitment of time, we could have a callout roster for volunteers to quickly attack and remove graffiti. Contact Barb at bjcabe@comcast.net or Alex if you're available to volunteer or know of a volunteer in your neighborhood association. It was also mentioned that Mater is out of jail and is tagging again. (Mater is a well-known tagger in the Portland/Vancouver area.) Dick Clairmont asked how to determine ownership of public property. Some is easily identifiable and some is not. Metal light poles are typically the responsibility of Clark

Public Utilities, phone boxes should be cleaned and painted as necessary by graffiti cleanup volunteers, Clark County road signs and other county property that has been tagged should be reported to Clark County Public Works at (360) 397-2446.

- By now, the **Run-Hide-Fight** active shooter video created by the City of Houston, Texas and the Department of Homeland Security has had nearly three million YouTube views. This suggests a lot of folks have taken the time to watch the six-minute program that now serves as the national protocol on what to do when an armed perpetrator enters a public or private business with the intent to kill. Alex said that Hockinson School will be practicing and using the Run-Hide-Fight model of active shooter response. To see the video go here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcnA_Cq_Csk

Sue Lintz distributed the E. Minnehaha newsletter announcing their candidates' forum on Oct. 15, from 7 – 9 p.m. at Walnut Grove Church, 6004 NE 72nd Ave., Vancouver. Everyone is invited.

Stephan Abramson said Pleasant Highlands will also be hosting a candidates' forum in two weeks. He was impressed that every candidate answered their phone when he called. Additionally, Stephan said Heathen Brewing, located at 5612 NE 199th St., Vancouver, WA is one of the few businesses in his neighborhood. He has visited their establishment several times and highly recommends it. Right now they are having a buy one get one free. It's worth a visit.

Neil Chambers said they have a storm-water grate in his neighborhood that is always on the verge of overflowing. He will contact Clark County Public Works at 397-2446.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting scheduled for Nov. 9, 2015