

## **HIDDEN SPRINGS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MINUTES MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2010 – Final as Amended April 20, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER.** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Bolton Room of West Linn City Hall by President, Lynn C. Fox. Other officers in attendance: Harvey Schultz, Vice President, Donna Baker, Treasurer, Charles Lytle, Secretary.

**QUORUM.** There was no quorum for this meeting as it was the first of the 2010 calendar year. Per the sign in sheet, there were 24 HSNA members present.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** The HSNA account balance stands at \$2,288.31.

### **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES.**

**1) December 15, 2009 Meeting.** Corrections and additions to the minutes to the December 15, 2009 meeting were submitted in writing by the West Linn-Wilsonville School District and members Jim Brown and Alex Kachirisky. The following motion was made by Jim Brown and seconded by Scott Howard: *"Resolved that the minutes to the HSNA meeting of December 15, 2009 meeting are approved contingent upon the submitted corrections and additions be made."*  
The motion carried 21 – 0 – 0.

**2) November 9, 2009 Special Meetings.** President Fox stated that only members present at the two emergency meetings on November 19th could vote on the minutes. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 19, 2009 HSNA Emergency meeting. The minutes were approved 4 – 0 – 0

There were no corrections or addition to the November 19, 2009 HSNA Special meeting. The minutes were approved 4 - 0 – 0.

**PRESENTATION.** Ken Worcester, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of West Linn, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the current project to write a Trails Master Plan. Briefly, the development process involves four phases. Phase One is on track to finish by the end of the month and involves collecting data on current conditions. Phase Two will be data analysis and will include three public input meetings in February. The City has been divided into North, Central, and South planning areas. Hidden Springs is within the Central area. The public meeting focused on this area will be held Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Bolton School on Highway 43. Citizens may also submit comments on the Trails Master Plan page on the City website. Issues for Phase Two include: (1) designating existing or potential trails as primary or secondary; (2) collecting information on current and future use (walking, bicycles, paved vs. unpaved, local vs. regional, levels of difficulty); (3) assessing potential needs such as marked street crossings, and signage; (4) input from "trail residents" (citizens whose property is contiguous to a trail), including safety concerns, trespassing, etc. Phase Three will involve development of the actual plan and will include further outreach/public input opportunities followed by dissemination of a draft plan and comment period. Phase Four will involve plan refinement and final adoption as part of the Parks Master Plan and thus the City Comprehensive Plan. Input will be sought from the City Parks Board and from citizens via a town meeting (open house). The Trails Master Plan will then be finalized and presented to the Planning Commission for approval and then the City Council for adoption. The following information was proved by Mr. Worcester in response to questions. (1) There is no specific METRO mandate for this effort, although the Willamette River and Rosemont Road trails would be considered part of METRO's regional trail system. (2) Trail residents are not being singled out for special treatment. However, because of safety and trespassing issues, their opinions and concerns are being solicited. Mr. Worcester noted that a West Linn High School class conducted an opinion/attitude survey of trail residents, and this information will be considered in the process. (3) The Palomino Loop trail will not be paved. (4) Design and maintenance standards will be developed and incorporated into the Plan. Most the existing trails, including the Palomino Loop Trail, are on city Park lands, and the City will likely adopt hold harmless agreements with citizens owning land and/or homes adjacent to trails. (6) The proposed "solar highway trail" is still in the conceptual phase with nothing certain at this time.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Note: because of being on the Planning Commission, the Secretary recused himself during the next two agenda item discussions. The minutes are provided by President Fox.

**1) Suncrest Development.** President Fox stated that the Planning Commission approval of the 19650

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Suncrest development was appealed to the City Council by Hidden Springs Neighborhood Association. The appeal was heard by the City Council on January 4, 2010. The Final Decision was signed by Mayor Galle on January 11, 2010. This decision can be appealed to LUBA (Land Use Board of Appeals). Information regarding the decision and the appeal process can be obtained from the West Linn Planning Department.

**2) Erickson Property.** President Fox stated she had contacted the West Linn-Wilsonville School District about creating a joint District/HSNA committee to enhance communication and cooperation. The School District's response will be forwarded when it is received.

**3) HS Neighborhood Plan.** Member Scott Howard asked that someone who was on the Neighborhood Leadership Planning Team (NLPT) explain why the HS Neighborhood Plan was never presented to the Planning Commission. Secretary Lytle offered the following synopsis. Four neighborhood association plans were begun at the same time under the guidance of Cogen Owens Cogen, a consulting company hired by the City. The planning process was lengthy and involved numerous meetings of the Neighborhood Leadership Planning Team and of HS residents at regular HSNA meetings, all culminating in an open house at City Hall. All during the process, which took place over many months, Mayor King and the City Council repeatedly emphasized that the neighborhood plans were aspirational, only. The HSNA Neighborhood Leadership Planning Team and HSNA members understood this to mean that the plan could contain items that were not currently in the City code. Such items could then be considered for future code revisions. An example of one such item was a statement against the creation and development of flag lots. This item ranked as one of the highest concerns at the HSNA open house at City Hall and was also included in the other NA plans that were being developed at the same time. However, as the other plans worked their way through the process, the then-Planning Director Brian Brown insisted on removing this item and several others that citizens felt strongly enough about to include in their particular plans. The Hidden Springs Neighborhood Leadership Planning Team attended the Planning Commission and City Council meetings where this took place, and one by one the plans were approved only after these items were removed and sections of the plans rewritten by the Planning Director after the plans had been approved in their original form by the various NAs. The HSNA Leadership Planning Team and HSNA membership took strong exception to this and told the City consultant and the Planning Director that they would not vote to approve any draft plan edited in such a manner. In addition, the consultant kept putting items in the plan that had been considered and firmly rejected by the HSNA Neighborhood Leadership Planning Team AND the HSNA membership. Two such items were a statement supporting the building of an aquatic center and a statement emphasizing that the HSNA desires to become more of a social organization rather than a political organization designed to provide citizen input into the City planning process as required by Goal One of the State of Oregon and ORS 197. Both of these items had been added by the consultant to the list for consideration at the town hall meeting. However, these two items in particular ranked all the way at the bottom and next to the bottom of all items considered by those in attendance. All of this was explained to Arnold Cogan and Brian Brown at the HSNA meeting at which the edited plan was presented to the membership. When both refused to remove the undesired text inserted by the consultant and refused to put back in text removed by the Planning Director, the membership unanimously rejected the plan and refused to send it forward to the Planning Commission. Secretary Lytle noted that the new Planning Director, John Sonnen, is very interested in the neighborhood plan process as providing valuable input for the State mandated five year review. He also noted that he has worked with the new Planning Director as a member of the City Planning Commission and felt that the HSNA plan, if revived by the membership, would now most likely NOT be subject to such editing. President Fox stated that completion of the plan might provide an opportunity to create a codified traffic overlay zone to mitigate traffic impacts to Hidden Springs NA by the development of the Stafford Basin and changes to Rosemont Road. President Fox stated she will see if the new Planning Director can attend the next HSNA and called for volunteers to email her if they were interested in working on the plan.

**4) Neighborhood Association Presidents Meeting With City Council.** President Fox stated that City staff have not yet provided an agenda for the upcoming meeting with Council. In addition, the City is asking the NA presidents to attend a mediation meeting prior to the meeting with the Council. No agenda has been provided for this meeting, either.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**1) Scheduling HSNA Meetings.** Member Scott Howard stated that President Fox's email to the membership that stated that he had usurped his authority and tried to schedule HSNA meetings on a different night than the third Tuesday of the month was in error. He had only offered it as a possibility to City staff if scheduling conflicts with City Council meetings made it impossible to meet on a Tuesday because of a Monday City holiday (such as MLK Day in January).

**2) Proposed Annexation For Police Station.** President Fox stated that the property off Parker Road known as the "Lacrosse Field" just east of the Montessori School below the Safeway back parking lot is being considered for annexation by the City to be used as the site for a new police station. The property is currently owned by the West Linn-Wilsonville School District and is zoned R-5. President Fox stated that there would be substantial cost in acquiring the land and constructing the new facility and grounds and wondered if a consolidation of services with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office would save the taxpayers money on capital and ongoing costs, much as when the City decided to contact fire fighting services with Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue. She had asked a representative from the Sheriff's Office to attend tonight's meeting, but they were unable to attend. Ken Worcester stated that this idea was brought up a number of years ago, and both the Sheriff's Office and the City Council were opposed to the idea.

**3) Email To City Council and Staff.** Please see the meeting video on the City website for the specific content of this portion of the meeting at <http://westlinnoregon.gov/resident/2010-01-19-hsna-video> .

**Respectfully submitted, Charles R. Lytle, Secretary**

**As amended,  
Susan Van de Water, Secretary/Treasurer April 20, 2010**