

MINUTES
North Mason Community Voice Business Meeting
August 15, 2005

NMCV ad hoc steering committee chair Randy Neatherlin called the meeting to order at 7:05 at the Theler Community Center. All board members present.

Board of Directors: Marco Brown, Jim Christen, Jim Clark, Mike Greene, Bob Harris, Bruce Jackson, Max Loya, Randy Neatherlin, Judy Scott, Lee Swoboda, Bev Wendell

About 38 audience members. A resident from South Kitsap attended this meeting to observe (members of South Kitsap are considering creating a similar organization – see http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/op_letters/article/0,2403,BSUN_19096_3982620,00.html)

RECOGNITION OF AD HOC STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Randy introduced the ad hoc steering committee members.

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded for the ad hoc steering committee to accept the July 18 meeting minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

AD HOC COMMITTEE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mary Swoboda reported that the printing fund has \$107 and the food fund has \$101, for a total of \$208. Also, a corporate book is prepared and ready to turn over to the new NMCV secretary.

INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS WITH BRIEF BIO OF EACH

The new board members introduced themselves and provided a brief overview about themselves.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations for the officer positions were made by board members and audience members. A vote was taken and the results are as follows:

CHAIR: Lee Swoboda

Other candidates: Marco Brown, Jim Christen, Bob Harris

VICE CHAIR: Marco Brown

Other candidates: Bob Harris, Bev Wendell

SECRETARY: Bruce Jackson volunteered and was elected by voice vote.

TREASURER: Bev Wendell volunteered and was elected by voice vote.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER: Bob Harris

Other candidate: Judy Scott

PASSING OF THE GAVEL TO THE ELECTED CHAIR

Randy passed the gavel to Lee Swoboda at 7:57 p.m.

Lee: I hereby convene the first meeting of the North Mason Community Voice. This is a bottom-up organization. Our bylaws state the board will conduct its business at regular business meetings. There are ten action items that must occur right now before we can open up the meeting to general discussion.

Motion by the board to adopt Articles of Incorporation

MOTION: Randy moved to adopt the Articles of Incorporation provided by the steering committee. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by the board to adopt Bylaws approved by the members at the July 30 meeting

MOTION: Bev moved to adopt the Bylaws approved by the members at the July 30 meeting with the addition of allowing for a recording secretary, who does not have to be a member of the board, to assist the secretary. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Bob Harris clarified that there is a provision within the Bylaws that allows them to be amended at any regular meeting (Article IX). Lee said the Bylaws are posted at <http://www.northmason.com/nmcommunityvoice/uploads/NM%20Community%20Voice%20bylaws.pdf>.

Motion by the board to apply to the State as nonprofit corporation and to the IRS for 501(c)(3) exemption

MOTION: Bob moved to apply to the State as a nonprofit, and to the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3). The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by the board to accept corporate book from the ad hoc steering committee

MOTION: Judy moved to accept the corporate book from the ad hoc steering committee. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by the board to accept funds from the ad hoc steering committee

MOTION: Judy moved to accept the funds from the steering committee, including money in a jar in Bob's car, to be put in the NMCV general fund. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by the board to accept members

MOTION: Randy moved to accept members from the July 30 meeting and tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Lee asked the board members to stay after the meeting to sign the Articles of Incorporation.

ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

MOTION: Randy moved to adjourn the board meeting and begin the general business meeting of the membership. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING BEGAN AT 8:07 p.m.

Lee read the Code of Conduct (see Appendix B of the Bylaws).

There are sufficient funds to authorize application for nonprofit status with the IRS and the state. Filing fees will cost around \$180.

MOTION: NMCV member Carol Aiken moved to authorize funds to pay for IRS and corporate filings. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Randy moved that the treasurer start a bank account for NMCV. NMCV member John Campbell added an amendment that the bank be Peninsula Credit Union, a local Mason County bank. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Incorporation committee members: Lee Swoboda (chair), Jim Clark, Randy Neatherlin, Bob Harris.

HEALTH CARE FORUM

Mike: As a group, our goal is to facilitate community forums on important issues where people can exchange information and get different viewpoints. I spoke with the dean of the University of Washington medical school, who sent me to the man in charge of conducting rural healthcare forums. We need someone knowledgeable to talk about trends in healthcare, underserved areas, levels of care and affordability. There is a huge amount of information. Having a community health care forum was an exciting prospect to this man and he wants to be a part of it. Local health care providers would be invited and the public would be able to ask questions. They would be able to tell us what this area could support. It would be information gathering and then creating an action plan. When the fire department is called, the health system has failed. We need to take preventive action.

NMCV member Margie Benson: We've never been to Mason General [in Shelton]. We need more of a walk-in clinic here in North Mason.

NMCV member Dave Overton: We need to conduct the forum with a tone of partnership, to look at what is most affordable here. Try to figure out what we can afford. A lot of people can't afford a beautiful clinic, but need good health care.

NMCV member John Campbell asked if Mike was talking about one session or a number of sessions. There is an educational component, then a dialog component. At some point there is a deliberation/action element from the community. Then we make a decision about what is the most intelligent way to go. These are complex issues. We need to raise community consciousness and get us working as a group.

Mike: The people who conduct these forums are used to talking to government bodies. They would modify their approach for us. This is exactly what their challenge is. People want information; they have needs. The pilot meeting would set the tone. The first community meeting would be where we could ask questions. Then we'd decide where we want to go. I'm guessing the initial meeting would be about 4 hours.

NMCV member Henry Dulemba asked what the cost would be.

Mike: What attracted the man I talked to was that this would be a community forum. That may be the "hook" to get them over here, and I'd try to get them to conduct the forum for free, or at least as close to free as possible.

MOTION: Mike moved to proceed with planning a health care forum as our first community forum. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike said he was running for hospital board and wanted to make sure there is no bias, no conflict of interest. He doesn't want to contaminate the process, so asked if someone else would chair this committee. Jim Christen said he would chair the committee. No one felt there would be a conflict of interest with Mike serving on the committee.

Health care committee members: Jim Christen (chair), Mike Greene, John Campbell, Valerie McLeod, Jacquelyn Mastel.

A member asked if Mike had looked at using some of the resources we have right here in North Mason first. There are a lot of retired health care people living here. They could be invited to be on the committee too.

Mike said that, although he started at the University of Washington, he knows there is a lot of local talent here.

Bev: These committees would be open to anyone to serve on, just like the Voice meetings.

NASCAR

Jim Clark asked if a group would be willing to work on NASCAR. We need to be having a dialog with the county. Infrastructure is a big concern and we need to be alert to what is happening. Bruce said the county is bringing NASCAR officials to answer questions on August 30 at the North Mason High School gym from 6-8 p.m. Valerie McLeod suggested we make a list of questions to bring to the meeting.

MOTION: NMCV member Naomi McClarrinon moved that we form an exploratory NASCAR committee and come up with questions for the August 30 meeting. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Exploratory NASCAR committee members: Marco Brown (chair), Jim Clark, Laurie Richards, Dale Smith, Naomi McClarrinon, Mike Aiken, Gordon McKay.

OPEN FORUM FOR COMMENTS ON OTHER SUBJECTS OF INTEREST

John Campbell suggested another topic for a forum might be the environment and the state of Hood Canal. Lee said it is already one of the topics on a list developed at previous community meetings. See <http://www.northmason.com/nmcommunityvoice/issues.htm>

Jacquelyn Mastel said a lot of four-wheel drive and motorized bike trails are closing around the Puget Sound, forcing more people to come out here to the Tahuya Forest. She'd heard there was to be a town meeting, but didn't know anything about it. Bev Wendell said the Tahuya/Green Mountain Focus Group meets once a month here in Belfair. [The Department of Natural Resources contact is Jesse Sims, Public Use & Stewardship Forester, SPS Region, office: 360-275-0189; cell: 360-801-5097, e-mail: jesse.sims@wadnr.gov.]

Judy Scott said recreational vehicles provide 14% of the revenue for North Mason.

Bob: We need to be thinking about a candidate's night forum to allow candidates to explain their point of view. It is important that people are willing to run for these elected offices.

Tori Delumba said the North Mason Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a meeting with the Washington State Department of Transportation on August 23 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Chamber office regarding upgrades to the intersection at SR 3 and SR 106. They are here to listen and gather feedback.

Mike encouraged all to sign up for electronic communication. People can log on to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nmcommunityvoice/>. Members may post messages but anyone can read all messages without having to join. This is an excellent process; we encourage you to use it.

[People who do not wish to join the discussion group but want to contact NMCV with questions and comments can email nmcommunityvoice@yahoo.com or call Bob Harris at 360-275-1277. The comments will be passed on to the discussion group.]

Lee: If anyone has details on upcoming community meetings, email nmcommunityvoice@yahoo.com or call Bob Harris at 360-275-1277 so the information can be posted on the community calendar at <http://www.northmason.com/calendar/calendar.php>.

Randy said we should add announcements to our future agendas.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next NMCV business meeting will be Monday, September 19, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Theler Community Center.

MOTION: Randy moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously at 9:01 p.m.

Submitted by Bruce Jackson, Secretary. Approved by NMCV board September 19, 2005.