

Greater Hansville Area Advisory Council (GHAAC)
March 11, 2008
Minutes

MEETING SUMMARY

The Greater Hansville Area Advisory Council (GHAAC) met for its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at the Greater Hansville Community Center.

25 members attended (of 42 members, representing 31 groups), as well as 2 proxies, 1 County liaison person, 28 guests, and 7 persons who did not sign in.

John Armstrong, Bob Hunter, and Mike Flaherty from Kitsap County P.U.D. #1 made a presentation on the history and current status of County water systems. Updates were received from the Road Safety Advisory Committee, Energy Committee, the Greater Hansville Sign project, the Greater Hansville Planning Committee, Eyer Nuisance property, and the Kitsap County Solid Waste Advisory Committee. A draft of 2007 GHAAC 2007 achievements was discussed. Invitations were extended for member volunteers to join a Nominating Committee for GHAAC leadership. Several members of the public shared comments and asked questions regarding speed tables, the Olympic Property Group's "String of Pearls" project and other matters.

The next GHAAC meeting will be held Tuesday, April 8th at 7 pm at the Greater Hansville Community Center; the featured speaker will be Phyllis Mann, Director of Kitsap County's Department of Emergency Management, focusing on emergency preparation and disaster preparedness.

GHA Advisory Council meeting Minutes of can be found at www.hansville.org following their approval.

– Gerry Porter, Secretary

MINUTES

The Greater Hansville Area Advisory Council (GHAAC) met for its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at the Hansville Community Center. Judy Foritano, Council Chair, presided, calling the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Attending were 25 members (of 42 members, representing 31 groups), 2 proxy members, 1 Kitsap County liaison person, 28 guests and 7 persons who did not sign in.

Welcome and Introductions

Judy Foritano welcomed all GHAAC members and guests. Judy read the GHAAC Mission Statement and objectives:

Mission:

To communicate with and represent the interests of the Greater Hansville Area (GHA) with Kitsap County and other government entities, as well as other individuals and organizations to prioritize, organize and facilitate enactment of GHA mandated goals in accordance with the GHA community's values.

Objectives:

*To be a forum for community discussion on interests and issues of concern.
To encourage communication between residents of the communities and organizations within the GHA.
To undertake or coordinate actions which accomplish GHA values and goals.*

Judy stated that GHAAC seeks to practice principles of civil discourse; threats and intimidating actions are unacceptable behaviors. She observed that a few individuals residing in the area are not respecting the values we share for living in this rural area, and that it is time for us to regain our community from those who apparently seek to destroy it. She marked tonight as a “new beginning” to return to “civil society” behavior.

Presentation: Kitsap County Public Utility District (P.U.D.) #1

John Armstrong, North Kitsap P.U.D. #1 Commissioner, outlined the three businesses of the P.U.D.:

1. Water research & planning
2. Water management services
3. Fiber optic services

The Kitsap County P.U.D. is comprised of 56 individual water systems, and has a 38-person staff. There is a three-member Board of P.U.D. Commissioners. GHA water is piped in a loop from two directions from Kingston, through Cliffside and via Hansville Road.

The P.U.D. began fiber optics service (wholesale only) in 2003, stretching from Shelton to Kingston. The Kitsap P.U.D. is one of seven Washington State P.U.D.'s providing fiber optic services from Spokane-Vancouver (WA)/Canadian border. The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe is licensed to provide retail fiber optic services in this area.

John introduced Bob Hunter and Mike Flaherty of the P.U.D. staff. Bob, a staff member since 1986, provided an overview of the P.U.D. #1's growth from 3,000 customers to over 14,000 customers; the north area is the largest with 5,000 customers. In addition to the water systems owned by the P.U.D., the P.U.D. also manages over 100 water systems, some quite small serving as few as four customers. The P.U.D. also provides a public education and conservation program. There are three types of monitoring conducted: (1) rain flow, (2) stream flow), and (3) aquifer levels.

All Kitsap County water comes from the ground within County boundaries; the principal water source is rain. Gentle, steady rainfall is needed to penetrate the ground and

aquifers. There is more than enough water for the projected County population growth as long as sufficient rainfall is received. Water will ultimately be a population growth limiter in all areas of the country.

In response to questions, it was noted that the P.U.D. is an active participant in the County's Emergency Management Plan, and that back-up generators are on hand to power pumping stations. The two major sources of potential contamination are salt-water intrusion and pharmaceutical disposal. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires water testing for 135 elements. Most wells are over 600' deep; one well off of Hansville Road is over 1,200' deep.

Further information may be obtained at the P.U.D.'s website: www.kpud.org

Minutes

Minutes of the February 12, 2008 GHAAC meeting were **approved** as distributed in advance of the meeting.

Committee Reports

1. Road Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC)

Gary Paulson, RSAC member, reported on behalf of Patricia Pinkham, RSAC Co-chair. Some 50+ GHA residents attended the March 10th Board of Commissioners meeting in Port Orchard to demonstrate support for the speed table installations.

Gary then read a letter of resignation from Kathy Bourassa as RSAC co-chair to the Kitsap County Commissioners. [See copy of letter attached.] Kathy cited two reasons for her resignation as co-chair: (1) "After hours, weeks, and months of hard work on the research and implementation of our proposal for these devices, the County's scrutiny and public process and votes, we are now asked to spend countless hours more to go back over everything again and again." (2) "The level of vilification and harassment by a limited number of individuals seeking to discredit and bully us for our participation in this project." Kathy concluded by stating:

"...the residents living where the speed tables are installed are not responsible for their installation, the speeders are. Our committee could find no other solution that would fit our roads, would be effective and be within a reasonable budget. Had there been no speed-related safety problems, the tables wouldn't be there. And they are working."

2. Energy

Fred Nelson reported that the PSE Hansville Road substation has now been completed.

3. Greater Hansville Sign

Jerry Ulsund reported that the new sign will be installed in April.

4. Planning Committee

Linda Redling noted that it was a County requirement that all attendees sign the attendance register for these official GHAAC meetings.

The next Greater Hansville/Hansville Planning Committee will be held Tuesday, March 18th, at 7 pm at the Greater Hansville Community Center.

Fred Nelson read a letter to the Editor of the North Kitsap Herald from Ben Sabine. [See copy of letter attached.] Fred expressed agreement with the letter's sentiment.

It was noted that population growth is inevitable. The Planning Committee is seeking to plan for growth in a controlled way, and welcomes volunteers desiring to join in this effort.

GHAAC 2007 Accomplishments

Jim Bolger stated that a report to the County is required outlining GHAAC accomplishments during the past year; this is a requirement of all County advisory groups. He distributed a draft report listing 2007 accomplishments and proposal goals/objectives for 2008, inviting comment and response.

Jerry Ulsund offered a list of GHAAC accomplishments he had compiled as follows:

1. The Road Safety Advisory Committee's completion of their extensive work on acknowledged speeding problems in the Greater Hansville area and it's call for volunteers for two new committees to review and discuss the speed tables.
2. The Greater Hansville Planning Committee formed with volunteers from across the GHA (not all GHAAC members), to develop a "community plan" for the GHA.
3. Reports from a GHAAC member on the Kitsap County Solid Waste Advisory Committee agenda discussing a permanent burn ban in Kitsap County that could impact all GHA residents with lot-clearing needs while providing no disposal facilities.
4. Olympic Property Group's String of Pearls proposal to allow them to build more homes on smaller plots at the tree farm just above upper Vista Key in the Driftwood Key area.
5. Announcement about the Hood Canal Action Area meeting on March 5th to discuss the future of Hood Canal based on drainage issues up and down the Canal as well as the Puget Sound Action Area meeting to discuss the future of Puget Sound.

6. GHAAC program providing information on the ongoing ferry problems that need action by large numbers of users to support changes affecting GHA commuters and GHA casual riders to the East Side of Puget Sound.
7. County invitation to the GHAAC for a member from the GHA to be on the Kitsap County Transportation Planning Advisory Committee where the GHAAC could have a say on the needs for improved transportation for GHA residents.
8. Ongoing GHAAC insistence to insure completion of the cleanup of the Eyer junkyard property on Little Boston Road.
9. Ongoing work of the Salt Water Parks Committee with Norwegian Point Park, Point No Point Resort boat launch with the Department of Fish and Game, and the Point No Point Lighthouse procurement from the Coast Guard as well as the relocation of the National Lighthouse Society and Museum to Point No Point Lighthouse from San Francisco.
10. Adding a GHA-wide voice to the ongoing work of the Greenway Committee to secure additional land and easements for the extensive trail system in the GHA.
11. Information regarding the tree farm on the GHA spine using bio-solids for fertilizer and the ability to determine it's safety to GHA residents.
12. Attention of the County storm-water manager to GHA when recent storms flooded some areas and the information provided for FEMA relief to qualified residents.
13. A permanent County staff representative at GHAAC meetings to answer questions from the GHAAC and citizens regarding GHA issues and concerns.
14. A direct line of communication with the County Commissioner about local GHA issues.
15. An attempt to support the need for elder housing and care facilities in the GHA area.
16. GHAAC as a source of information regarding environmental issues such as the North Kitsap Climate Change Strategy.

Ray Rohay reminded the Council that elder housing needs and support services have yet to be addressed by the Council. Lynn Hix replied that this topic is a priority for consideration by the new Planning Committee.

Thanks were expressed to Judy Foritano, GHAAC chair, for her leadership.

North Kitsap County Commissioner District Quarterly Report

Jim Bolger distributed the 1st Quarter 2008 Kitsap County North Commissioner District Report to the GHAAC membership for review.

New Issues/Updates

1. GHAAC Member Registration

Linda Redling announced that each GHAAC member organization would soon be receiving a letter asking for registration of official representatives to GHAAC for the coming year.

2. Hansville Ladies Aid & Cemetery Representative

Judy Foritano announced that Emma Jean Hemingway has resigned as the Hansville Ladies Aid & Cemetery GHAAC representative. She welcomed Chris McClellan as the new representative from this group.

3. GHAAC Neighborhood Boundaries

Jerry Ulsund asked about the process of potentially changing representative boundaries. He noted that his geographical area includes all of Driftwood Key and some additional territory; he is interested in the possibility of dividing this area. Judy Foritano suggested that the Executive Committee review this suggestion and it be deferred until the next meeting.

4. Nominating Committee

Linda Redling and Judy Foritano invited volunteers to serve on a Nominating Committee for GHAAC trustees and officers. Gary Paulson volunteered. Linda asked that volunteers inform her by this Friday, March 14th, of her/his willingness to serve.

Eyer Nuisance Property

Jim Bolger reported that the County Prosecutor's office has received "interrogatives" requested of Robert Eyer and his attorney. However, the County's request for access to the Eyer property on Little Boston Road has been denied by Mr. Eyer and his attorney. The next step is for the County Prosecutor to file a petition with the Court to gain access.

It was noted that recent delivery of additional vehicles to the property has been observed. Jim will follow-up, including the possibility of the County filing of a "stop work" order.

Kitsap County Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

Kinley Deller reported that SWAC is currently reviewing the 1999 Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan as part of the effort to develop an updated version. There will be a furniture "amnesty" day on Sunday, April 27th at the Olympic View Transfer Facility.

Kingston Open House

Doug Quade, CEO of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe announced that the Tribe would be participating in the Kingston Open House to be held Thursday, March 20th from 7 – 9 pm at the Kingston Middle School.

Fred Nelson reported that GHAAC would also have a table at the Kingston Open House. He has produced a GHAAC brochure for distribution; copies were made available to GHAAC meeting attendees.

Appreciation to Kathy Bourassa

Upon suggestion by Tom Ritley, it was **moved, seconded, and voted** unanimously that letters of appreciation be sent to Kathy Bourassa and Patricia Pinkham for their RSAC leadership. Gerry Porter, secretary, will prepare the letters.

Announcements

1. Fred Nelson announced that agreement has been reached with the WA State Recreation & Conservation Office for a Deed of Right to use Hansville Greenway for conservation purposes. This includes a grant of \$582,099.
2. Kinley Deller announced several climate change strategic updates:
 - NW SEED may talk at a public meeting about identifying community-based alternative energy sources.
 - Climate change strategies support County-wide emergency preparedness planning.
 - Will be working with Tim Crosby of Woodinville's Food Cafeteria program to encourage local food for use in schools.
 - Recommendation of iCarpool.com as a carpooling resource.
 - Exploring a partnership with Feet First to provide neighborhood walking audits in Kingston and Hansville.
 - Work with the Stillwaters Environmental Center for the Hansville village project.
 - Climate Change Lobby training meeting to be held April 6th, from 3-6 pm at the Bainbridge Island Library; Jay Inslee is expected to attend.
 - Stillwaters Environmental Center EcoFest Earth Day Festival is Saturday, April 19th, from 11 am – 4 pm at Stillwaters in Kingston.

Open Public Comment/Questions

1. Ben Sabine stated that he is attending on a positive note and that he personally does not advocate protest honking. He is interested and concerned about the planning process for the North End's future. He was invited to participate in the work of the Planning Committee.

2. Hugh Tucker, a fire department retiree from the Los Angeles area, would like to volunteer for traffic safety issues. He doesn't approve "honking", and was embarrassed by the behavior exhibited at the December 4th RSAC meeting.
3. Laurie Wiegenstein stated that she does not advocate protest "honking." She sees the speed table opposition petition organizers as examples of volunteerism.
4. Barb Fox objected to the GHAAC "3 minute" rule for making comments, suggesting that this does not foster good communication. She also inquired if GHAAC is planning to respond to the Driftwood Key Club's letter to the County Commissioners; Judy Foritano replied that the letter had been sent to the Commissioners and that it would be up to them to respond. Barb stated that Driftwood Key does not recognize GHAAC, and that Jerry Ulsund does not represent Driftwood Key.
5. Laurie Wiegenstein asked if the petitions opposing the speed tables were going to be discussed by the GHAAC. Judy Foritano replied that the petitions had been sent to the Commissioners and that it would be up to them to respond.
6. Brad Luton asked for clarification about the earlier statement questioning the validity of the petitions opposing the speed tables. Judy Foritano replied that the earlier statement was that of Kathy Bourassa as an individual.

Further Announcements, Open Public Comment, & Questions

1. Lynn Hix announced that the next Greater Hansville Community Center Book Sale will be held Friday, April 11th, from 6 – 8 pm and on Saturday, April 12th from 11 am – 3 pm.

Rummage Sale Drop-off days will be held:

Saturday, March 15 th	10 am – 2 pm
Saturday, April 19 th ,	10 am – 2 pm
Saturday, May 17 th	10 am – 2 pm
Saturday, June 21 st	10 am – 2 pm
2. Lynn Hix announced that the Hansville Art Guild Studio Tour will be held April 25th & 26th from 10 am – 4 pm.
3. Cindy McDermott asked Jim Bolger for clarification regarding zoning for OPG's "String of Pearls" project. Jim responded that the Board of Commissioners approved the Rural Woodlands Clustering proposal on February 13, 2008; this essentially paves the way for the "String of Pearls" project to go forward. Jim suggested visiting the Kitsap County website for further details.
4. Lynn Hix announced the Greater Hansville Community Center's annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held Saturday, March 22nd.

5. Red Denson, longtime Hansville resident, stated that he has no problem with the speed tables and that he commends GHAAC for all of the fine work accomplished. His advice, “Hang in there!”
6. Patrick Leuner asked Jim Bolger for clarification regarding OPG’s “String of Pearls” project.
7. Frank Fox asked Jim Bolger for further clarification re OPG’s forestry management plans.
8. Al Aicher asked Jim Bolger for recent information pertaining to the proposed Port Gamble ferry dock.
9. Kinley Diller reported that an Eglon resident had inquired about a rumor that Eglon’s ZIP code was to be changed to that of Hansville. Judy Foritano replied that there had been no such initiative taken to anyone’s knowledge.
10. Nancy Rummel inquired of Jim Bolger if there is any way that GHAAC might be able to influence the County to prohibit the clear-cutting of residential lots.

Next GHAAC Meeting

The next regularly scheduled GHAAC meeting will take place Tuesday, April 8th, at 7 pm at the Greater Hansville Community Center. As usual, the public is invited to attend. The program presentation will be Phyllis Mann, Director of Kitsap County’s Department of Emergency Management, focusing on disaster planning.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Porter, Secretary

Attachments: (2)

To: Kitsap County Commissioners
Greater Hansville Advisory Council
Road Safety Advisory Committee

Statement of resignation from Co-Chair of the Hansville area Road Safety Advisory Committee

I believe this committee was and is just what it's name indicates - Road Safety Advisory. Our role is advisory and our primary goal was always Road Safety. We are a group of volunteer residents concerned about the safety of our roads, and our committee was originally formed as a result of overwhelming community response to the severe speeding problems on our roads. Initially, during, and up to the proposals for the speed tables, our membership consisted of about 15-16 steady participants, only 5 of whom resided in the immediate areas where the tables have been installed. The focus was, and always has been, the public safety problems created by excessive speeding through high-density neighborhood areas. County traffic data confirmed resident's perceptions of these safety problems.

Our processes were always open and public, and sought to involve as many residents as possible. We worked with county personnel throughout as well as publishing numerous articles and notices - please see our handouts documenting the process and publications. The county also did it's best to notify and involve the public before sending the speed table proposal to the County Council for it's vote. All the processes were proper, and now the county needs to deem it a finished project. If, after project completion, the county opens its processes to criticism by those who ignored notices and missed their opportunities for input, it will never have time to do anything else.

The recent petitions from some residents in the area should be deemed invalid because people signed them based on misinformation and false statements. Not only does it assert that there were never any speeding problems in the area but that the tables are ineffective (both not true according to the county's own surveys). Many of the other statements in the petition are false, inaccurate or misleading. This should be sufficient to discount them.

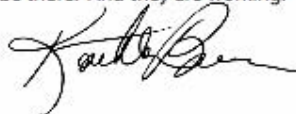
I am resigning in protest for two separate reasons:

1. After hours, weeks, and months of hard work on the research and implementation of our proposal for these devices, and the county's scrutiny and public process and votes, we are now asked to spend countless hours more to go back over everything again and again.

2. My second protest is about the level of vilification and harassment by a limited number of individuals seeking to discredit and bully us for our participation in this project. It has gone on for a long time now and has escalated. It is time for the police to step up and do their job, ticketing those who break the law. Bullying works, which is why there will always be those who choose to shout us down, disrupt proceedings and target anyone they hope is vulnerable. And the sad side affects of these behaviors are at least twofold. 1. Those who are within range but had nothing to do with any of this suffer, such as my elderly neighbor who recently died at home surrounded by family from all over the country while listening in his last days to blaring horns at all hours of the day and night. 2. Those courteous, reasonable and civilized citizens volunteering their precious time to try to make a positive difference in their neighborhoods and then are subjected to this kind of harassment and vilification are driven out of the public process. Then who is left to speak up for the good of everyone in our communities?

In closing, I would like to point out that the residents living where the speed tables are installed are not responsible for their installation, the speeders are. Our committee could find no other solution that would fit our roads, that would be effective and be within a reasonable budget. Had there been no speed-related safety problems, the tables wouldn't be there. And they are working.

Kathy Bourassa



Letter to the Editor of the North Kitsap Herald
Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Hansville

Calming devices create backlash

I believe the recent chain of events involving traffic “calming” devices around Hansville and the obvious backlash of opposition by the affected public majority has highlighted a bigger underlying theme.

While I applaud the efforts of citizens to organize into groups and committees with similar interests, I think they should stick to planning family friendly events and centers and not meddle in policy making.

Most of the populous that chooses to live in rural communities, does so not purely for economic reasons, but because they are independent do-it-yourselfers.

We live in the country because we don’t appreciate being told how high our fence will be, what color our house should be, how often our lawn should be mowed, or even that things we choose to have in our yards are considered a nuisance or eyesore to others. We don’t live in planned neighborhoods for a reason!

I love North Kitsap, and specifically Hansville. Our property has been enjoyed by four generations, and has definitely paid our fair share in taxes (approaching \$1,000 per month).

I’m concerned that there are those that would have our community turned into a “village” or “planned” community.

If you choose to move to the country, please leave your “city” mentality and related regulations behind.

There is nothing about Hansville that needs to be “fixed.” We welcome individuality and diversity. Please allow that to remain our theme.

Ben Sabin,
Hansville