

**Minutes**  
**North Mason Community Voice Business Meeting**  
**September 19, 2005**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

NMCV chair Lee Swoboda called the meeting to order at 7:05 at the Theler Community Center. All board members were 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

**Attendees:** 39 people signed the attendance sheet.

Lee asked if people liked the seating arrangement. Tables had been put in a rectangle with chairs all around. Extra chairs were set up to one side. Half the people liked the arrangement; half preferred having a "peanut gallery."

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ACTIONS**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 15 MEETING—Bruce Jackson**

Bruce read the minutes from the August 15 meeting.

*MOTION: Randy Neatherlin moved to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded; the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.*

**TREASURER'S REPORT—Bev Wendall**

Bev counted all the money—NMCV has a total \$328.65 waiting to be deposited into a bank account. Bev tried to open an account at Peninsula Credit Union. They require a minimum of \$400 to open an account and that minimum amount must be maintained to use the account. He checked at Kitsap Bank. They require the nonprofit status information before opening an account.

*MOTION: Bob Harris moved to leave the choice of banks to the treasurer. The motion was seconded; the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.*

**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER'S REPORT—Bob Harris**

Bob passed around a map from the Mason County Planning Advisory Committee. They are currently updating the Mason County comprehensive plan [[http://www.co.mason.wa.us/com\\_p\\_plan\\_update/index.php](http://www.co.mason.wa.us/com_p_plan_update/index.php)]. The current Allyn Urban Growth Area will be expanding. Bob also advised attendees of upcoming meetings.

Next Monday, September 26, at 6:30 pm is a Lynch Cove/North Shore sewer study meeting at Sand Hill Elementary School. Mason County officials will host a public meeting to present the findings of the Lynch Cove and North Shore Sewer Service Area Delineation Study [[http://www.commonsemason.com/readTextFile.asp?Filename=050927\\_lynch\\_Cove-north\\_Shore\\_Sewer\\_Study.txt](http://www.commonsemason.com/readTextFile.asp?Filename=050927_lynch_Cove-north_Shore_Sewer_Study.txt)] The delineation study can be viewed and obtained at [www.co.mason.wa.us/forms/utw/default.shtml](http://www.co.mason.wa.us/forms/utw/default.shtml).

*MOTION: Randy moved to adjourn the board meeting and open the regular meeting of membership. The motion was seconded; the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.*

## REGULAR MEETING OF MEMBERSHIP

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE—Jim Christen, Chair**

Jim wants to hold up the process until after the November election and have a candidates' forum instead. Mike Greene is running for a public office and he is an integral part of the planning for the health care forum. Jim would like to put the health care forum on hold until after the November election so Mike would be able to take over as chair of the committee. Randy agreed. Health care is a very important issue to the people in the community and Mike is the most knowledgeable person.

Mike suggested having a candidates' forum for the October meeting, a regular business meeting in November, and a health care forum in December. He'd like to have various agencies come speak about what they think would be best for our area.

*MOTION: Randy moved that the health care forum be delayed until December, and discuss the possibility of having a candidates' forum as the first town meeting. The motion was seconded; the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.*

Audience Member: If we have the health care candidates come but we haven't developed a set of questions, the candidates could talk as they please and we miss the mark by not asking the right questions. Wouldn't it be wise for a committee to get together and come up with five questions?

Audience Member: That's a good question. And it would be a good idea to have a moderator.

Herb: When the health care forum comes up, Group Health should be invited.

Jim Christen said he would contact the people who signed up to be on the health care committee and have a meeting sometime next week.

#### **CANDIDATES' FORUM ISSUES COMMITTEE**

*MOTION: Mike moved to create a Candidates' Forum Issues Committee to organize the format and develop questions and issues for next month's meeting. The motion was seconded; the vote was called. The motion passed by majority vote with one nay.*

Bob Harris: It's good to have set questions, but the audience should also be allowed to submit written questions at the meeting. We also need to set time limits so we can move along.

Valerie McLeod: It would be good to give candidates time to introduce themselves and state their platform, then answer questions. There should be more time allotted for answering questions than for making a statement.

DeAnna Gossett: It is our responsibility as individuals to ask questions and don't leave it up to a committee to ask the questions for us.

Herb Gerhardt: The yahoo groups email list [<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nmcommunityvoice/>] is a valuable tool for exchanging information. Sixteen people have signed up so far. I encourage others to sign up.

Randy will chair the Candidates' Forum Issues Committee. Bob Harris and John Campbell have volunteered to be on the committee. Anyone who would like to be a part of the committee can email Randy at [mneatherli@aol.com](mailto:mneatherli@aol.com) or call 360-731-3849.

*MOTION: Randy moved that the October 17 NMCV meeting be the candidates' forum. The motion was seconded; the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Contested races affecting North Mason:** Mason County Hospital District, Position 2; North Mason School District, Director District 1; Fire Protection District #2, Position 3; Belfair Water District, Position 3; Fire Protection District #5, Position 1; Fire Protection District #8, Position 3; Trails End Water District, Position 3.

#### **NASCAR COMMITTEE—Marco Brown**

At the last meeting we were told to find information. A lot of times information we get is what we want to hear. My goal is to get fair and balanced information. The proposed plan is to have two major national races and one regional race per year. At other times the stadium will be used for various regional and community activities. Racetrack employees get involved with the communities they live in. I contacted 35<sup>th</sup> District Representative Kathy Haigh. She's not convinced about the project but doesn't want to get in the way of private enterprise. She said the needs of her constituency come first. Most politicians are not making a stand until they get more information.

There was a lively discussion about the proposed racetrack: How did Snohomish County "boot it?" The sound from the race track would affect people who live here in negative ways. The seasonal races bring a lot of money into the local economy. Infrastructure follows when something gets built. A public forum should be held as soon as possible .

An audience member suggested that NMCV should solicit input from the community through an advisory vote or straw poll. How can NMCV represent the community if they don't know how the community feels?

Marco: We are just starting this process. Anyone who would like to be on this committee, please see me after the meeting.

#### **INCORPORATION COMMITTEE—Lee Swoboda**

The corporate papers have been signed and are ready to go. I'll apply for the business license tomorrow and Bev will have all he needs to get a bank account set up. I'll get the Form 1023 to request nonprofit status from the IRS.

#### **RULES OF THE ROAD—Lee Swoboda**

We try to give everybody a chance to speak and we ask that everyone listen when someone is speaking and not talk over people. Please review the Bylaws [<http://www.northmason.com/nmcommunityvoice/uploads/NM%20Community%20Voice%20bylaws.pdf> ], particularly paragraph 4.9 (Conduct of Officers) and paragraph 6.7 (Political Activities by Members). People cannot speak for NMCV without getting membership's approval because not all people may agree with one person's opinion.

A discussion ensued regarding how to tell if someone is a voting member of NMCV.

Jacquelyn Mastel asked if all members are to vote on motions made during the board meeting portion of the business meeting. Only the board should be voting, so Jacquelyn suggested that the Chair say whether the motion is to be a board-only vote or a membership vote.

Margie Benson said the Bylaws acknowledge voting members and nonvoting associates and honorary members (paragraph 6.1) and we need to know who the voting members are. Lee said members are listed on the <http://www.northmason.com/nmcommunityvoice/> web site. Randy suggested having members stand up before every meeting starts. Mike Greene warned us all that we must respect each other. We are here to have a civil discussion and not degenerate into an "us" and "them" mentality. People should say their name when they stand up to speak.

## REPORTS ON COMMUNITY MEETINGS ATTENDED BY NMCV MEMBERS AND NONMEMBERS

Lee: We can't go to all meetings, so we'll use this portion of the meeting to report on any meetings some of us may have attended.

**NMSD Facilities Committee—Randy.** I am not the spokesman for the committee. The chair has a lot more information than I do. We are running out of room at the high school. Members of the Facilities Committee took a field trip last Friday to look at other schools. The school district hired an architect to help the committee formalize a plan. There is nothing written in stone at this point. The school district is considering putting the bond and Maintenance & Operation levy on the February ballot. The levy is for school functions; the bond is for building. I would like this group to invite the chair of the Facilities Committee to come and speak.

**NMSD Finance Committee—Lee.** I am the chair of this committee. The school district will be running a new Maintenance & Operation levy in February, whether the bond is on the ballot with it or not. The amounts of the levy and bond have not been determined yet.

**Estuary-to-Estuary, Hood Canal to Sinclair Inlet briefing—Lee.** The primary attendees were government organizations, elected officials and consultants involved in transportation, water quality and recreation. Mary Swoboda attended this meeting and her notes can be read at <http://www.commonsemason.com/readTextFile.asp?Filename=050916> - hood\_Canal\_To\_Sinclair\_Inlet\_Mtg\_Notes.txt

**Kitsap County Public Hearing on NASCAR—Lee.** Mary Swoboda attended this meeting. Her notes can be read at <http://www.commonsemason.com/readTextFile.asp?Filename=050906> - kc\_Commissioners\_Special\_Nascar\_Mtg\_Notes.txt .

**Race track meeting in Allyn—Jim Clark.** The site will be about 700 feet from the Mason County line. The project will amount to \$139.5 million annually, state-wide. ISC representative Grant Lynch said there would be no new taxes to fund the project. Road improvements and other off-site improvements are budgeted at \$12.5 million. Their economic report is available now [<http://www.race2wa.com/plan/BerkReport.jsp>] and they want to give the Legislature a little time to digest it before coming out with financial information. People asked how much of the race track sounds will be heard in LakeLand Village and were told they might hear muffled sounds. The folks who attended were very polite and nice.

## DISCUSS LESSONS OF HURRICANE KATRINA AS A WAKE UP CALL FOR MASON COUNTY EMERGENCY PLANNING—Mike Greene

The New Orleans Fire Department and other fire departments did the best job in the aftermath of Katrina because they were prepared. Fire fighters took families to the airport. One fire station did 500 rescues. Starting on the first Saturday in October and running every Saturday in the month of October, FD2 will conduct Emergency Preparedness Classes from 9-11 am at the Fire Station.

The Port of Dewatto, Theler Community Center and Sand Hill Elementary School are disaster centers. The trunk line for 911 runs up Trails End Road. We need to realize the importance of self-sufficiency. The county is getting all communications within the county under one roof so all public safety organizations can coordinate with everyone else. We're working with PUD, Mason County Public Works, other fire departments and the Sheriff's office. We all need to realize we need to be self-sufficient and be on our own for a minimum of 3 days.

Here, our primary hazard is weather-related problems such as ice storms and wind storms. FD2 has a database of people with special needs. For the first 72 hours, you need to be self-sufficient and have a plan of where you will go if you have to leave your home. Find an out-of-area contact who will keep the rest of your family updated on what's going on. Make sure you have enough cash. Prepare for the possibility of being without power for at least 3 days. Don't have a false sense of security that you can call 911.

The first class will be Saturday, October 1, beginning at 9 am. The class is open to the public and there is no pre-registering or fee for the class. The class will be repeated on October 10, October 17 and October 24.

Margie: We in the Tahuya River Valley have only one access road. No one could get to us for 4 days after a severe winter storm took out the bridge. We had to take care of ourselves. We need another exit to get out of our community.

An audience member who is heading to New Orleans for the Red Cross offered to work with Mike to create an informational packet.

## OPEN FORUM

Randy: There are growing pains in every organization when it starts up. The sign out in front of the building says we're having a town meeting. But this is an NMCV business meeting. It's not a town meeting and that's why Lee had to stop the argument tonight. The reason for our existence is to be a voice for everyone. And as one member so astutely put it, we need to remember to have fun.

Herb Gerhardt: Mason County has emergency management support through the Department of Emergency Management [[http://so.co.mason.wa.us/emer\\_man.htm](http://so.co.mason.wa.us/emer_man.htm)]. They also do search and rescue.

An audience member asked what the county is doing on Grapeview Loop Road. They are widening it, but starting halfway up. Lee suggested calling the Public Works Department at 360 -275-4467, ext. 450 [[http://www.co.mason.wa.us/public\\_works/default.shtml](http://www.co.mason.wa.us/public_works/default.shtml)].

Mel Armstrong said he has a friend in Jefferson County who told him private property owners are being pressured into buying and installing meters on their private wells in order to be taxed for the use of their own well water. If the Department of Ecology can force this upon the folks in little Jefferson County, it will set a precedent to tax everyone in the state who owns a well.

If you drive a car I'll tax the street  
If you try to sit I'll tax your seat  
If you get too cold I'll tax the heat  
If you take a walk I'll tax your feet  
Cuz' I'm the tax man  
Yea I'm the tax man  
**BEATLES —Tax Man**

## SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be a candidates' forum on Monday, October 17, starting at 7 pm.

*MOTION: At 8:45 pm, Mike Greene moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded; the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Submitted by Bruce Jackson, Secretary. Approved by NMCV board November 21, 2005.*