

Helena Citizen's Council

Regular Meeting

November 16, 2005

Members Present: Thom Warsinski, Allen Tompkins, Bill Roberts, Teresa Klotz, Justin Trafton, George Hoff, Jim Christnacht, Jerry Hutch, Jerry McGee, Bob Habeck and Laura Erikson

Members Absent: Robert Clarkson, Keith Jones, Joe Ruby, Wayne Lewis and Delma Sommers.

New Members Present: Patty Rambo (2), Ellen Bell (4), Lynne Boone (2), Amy Glasscock (1), Rebecca Ridenour (2), Marshall Gingery (5), Bea Steen (7), Larry Mitchell (2), and Ken Saunders (1).

Visitors Present: George McCaully.

Approval of November's Minutes: The minutes were approved with a correction on date of meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Christnacht: \$1542 available.

Helena Police Dept: Officer Brian Dellwo gave the police report. The last overseas officer has returned. Construction at the airport is going well, there will be a weight room for police use. The DUI seat belt law will be strictly enforced this holiday season. Some officers attended a CIT, Crisis Intervention Training which is a pilot program to help officers handle mentally disturbed individuals.

OLD BUSINESS:

Handling Complaints

There are a wide variety of complaints or issues that the HCC hears about from the citizens and it would be helpful to have a system or place to tell people to go to that will help answer their questions. For example, which ordinance does junk vehicles fall under and who does one call to report a junk vehicle? Bill Roberts said he thinks we could use the website for handling complaints. The question was asked: should complaints go through the HCC or go directly to the city? In either case, it would be beneficial to have a place to direct people to whether it be the website or a handout that says who in the city deals with what and what ordinance pertains to which issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introductions of New Members:

George passed out the HCC bylaws (more current bylaws are on the HCC website). He also passed out the list of committees that HCC can serve on and asked for volunteers for the ones that do not currently have an HCC representative. Some of the boards may be inactive (the Community Policing Board is inactive) and the list needs updating. George also had the map of voting precincts available and asked that the members become familiar with which districts are within your district. The City Commission will swear in new members in January. George asked that new members hand in their contact information. Some of the new members were concerned about giving out their home/business emails and they asked if it was possible to get a city email address. Bill Roberts said he would check on this.

Nominating Committee:

George appointed Bill Roberts (as chair), Jan Lombardi and Laura Erikson as the nominating committee for January election of HCC officers. The committee is to have a list of nominees available at the December meeting. If you have interest in volunteering, email Bill Roberts at bill.roberts@bresnan.net. You can also put your name in or nominate someone else at the January meeting.

Motion: Move to accept the nominating committee as appointed by George Hoff.

Motion Carries

Commission and Administrative Meeting Packets:

HCC members attending commission and/or administrative meetings need to pick up the meeting 'packet' and maroon binder to review before the meeting. The maroon binder should not be taken home. The packet can be picked up a few days before the meeting. It contains the information that will be discussed at the meeting and does not need to be returned.

Jim asked the question: who decides what should be brought up at admin or commission meetings? Teresa said that the subcommittee is coming up with some guidelines on 'what' to report. Basically, the report should include what the HCC has been working on.

League of Women Voters

Bill Roberts said that the LOWV asked that an HCC member (or two) attend their December meeting. Bill and Bea Steen volunteered to go to the Dec. 13th meeting.

Meeting Reports:

Allen Tompkins reported on the admin. meeting he attended:

Ed McHugh is contesting the calculation of fees associated with storm water runoff at his McHugh Trailer Court. The fees charged have dramatically increased but the calculation is consistent with that of other sites.

David Neilson is working on a process for subdivisions that are being annexed into the city.

The City is planning an ordinance on deer control that would include assessing fines for feeding deer

and would allow the City Police Dept. to destroy animals that are dangerous.

There are two sites being considered for the Transportation Hub-the Mergenthaler site and the 6th Ward park. The city's preference is the Mergenthaler site.

Bill Roberts reported on the Open Land Management Committee meeting. Cheryl Liedle presented information on a proposal to construct a radio tower on Nob Hill. Peccia donated this land to the city as part of his Nob Hill development

Jerry McGee reported on the admin. meeting he attended: the Missouri River Drug Task Force says that much of the meth. is now coming from Spokane and the incidence of local labs is decreasing.

District Reports: No time for district reports.

Meeting Schedule:

City Commission Meetings:

Dec. 5: Teresa Klotz

Dec 19: Bill Roberts

City Admin Meetings:

Nov. 30: Allen Tompkins

Dec. 14: Jerry Hutch

Tim Burton's Staff Meeting:

Date TBA: George Hoff

Next HCC Meeting:

The next HCC meeting will be held December 14th.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Erikson
HCC District 1