

**Helena Citizens Council Regular Meeting  
November 19, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.  
City/County Building - Room 326**

**Members present:** Dave Dalthorp, Kent Schlosser, Winston Greely, David Scrimm, Larry Mitchell, Dave Fish, Ellen Bell, Dan Bernhardt, Maleen Olson, Harlan Rudolf, James Penner, Bob Habeck, Janet Hess-Herbert and Brian Olsen. Also present: HCC VISTA Julie Haehnel.

**Members absent:** Matt Cohn, Lynne Boone, Rebecca Ridenour, George Hoff, Remi Lancette, Adam Bell, Mike McGuire, Marshall Gingery and Justin Trafton.

**Visitors:** Priscilla Graham, Frances Angelo, Janet Spencer and HPD Officer Steve Hagen.

**HCC Meeting minutes - August 27, 2008 & Finance Report**

The minutes and were approved as submitted; the finance report will be considered at the December meeting.

**Helena Police Department (HPD) Report**

HPD Officer Steven Hagen announced he recently took over the Patrol Division of the Police Department and is the new liaison to the HCC. He spoke of working on the city's deer reduction pilot project and gave an overview of the program. The City Commission recommended moving forward with the project; the findings will be reviewed by the Urban Wildlife Task Force for their recommendations and then by Fish, Wildlife and Parks to receive approval to continue the program.

Discussion was held on the new traffic light at the Civic Center.

**Treasurer's Report**

No report given.

**VISTA/HCC Coordinator's Report**

No report given.

**Guest Presentation - Janet Spencer**

Ms. Spencer gave a presentation regarding her request that emergency access by-pass routes be in place which will allow traffic to pass the Cedar, Custer and Capital Interchanges even if the bridges are rendered unusable by earthquake or other disaster. A copy of Ms. Spencer's proposal is on file in the Deputy City Clerk's office should you wish to view it.

Chair Bell asked Ms. Spencer to provide her solutions to the access problems in writing to the HCC. Ms. Spencer agreed to do so. Vice-Chair Habeck urged Ms. Spencer to get Disaster Mitigation Coordinator Paul Spengler involved in her project.

**Motion:** Janet Hess Herbert moved to table a recommendation on Ms. Spencer's report. David Scrimm seconded the motion. All vote aye, motion carried.

**District Reports**

**District 1** - no report given.

**District 2** - no report given.

**District 3** - no report given.

**District 4** - no report given.

District 5 - no report given.

District 6 - no report given.

District 7 - no report given.

### Committee/Board Updates

Intergovernmental Transit Committee - Kent Schlosser has started attending meetings and will email details about the committee to the council.

Tenmile Watershed Collaborative Committee - Larry Mitchell will be attending their first meeting on November 20, 2008.

Growing Communities Project - The group is interested in locating gardens in parks that are not being reviewed in the current undeveloped parks project.

HOLMAC - David Scrimm gave an overview of committee discussions on trail coordination. He also provided information regarding the South Hills Fire Mitigation Project.

### Unfinished Business and General Orders:

- A. Unfinished Business
  - I. Undeveloped Parks Update

Vice Chair Habeck reported there were six parks that made the final project. Once they are finished, he and Julie Haehnel will work with Parks & Recreation Director Amy Teegarden to assign costs to each park and bring that information before the HCC. The District 5 parks will be finalized at a meeting on December 4, 2008 at Four Georgians School. Janet Street Park still needs to be finalized but through discussions with the Parks Department, it was discovered that former Parks & Recreation Director Randy Lilje may have already designed that park; the design is being looked for. Funding for the long term maintenance of the parks still needs to be decided upon. A draft parks development plan should be completed in the spring of 2009.

- II. Retreat Outcome
  - a. Effective Meeting Committee Report

Janet Hess-Herbert referred council members to the Effective Meeting Committee Report and gave an overview. A copy of this report is on file in the Deputy City Clerk's office should you wish to view it. Thorough discussion was held on the report.

**Motion: David Scrimm moved to table the Effective Meeting Committee recommendation until the council has heard from other committees charged with reports at the retreat. Dan Bernhardt seconded the motion. All vote aye, motion carried.**

- b. Review Committee Report

Chair Bell stated HCC Coordinator Julie Haehnel compiled a report of the city's boards and committees and their descriptions including input from the board/committee chairs or staff person. A copy of this report is on file in the Deputy City Clerk's office should you wish to view it. Discussion was held and Chair Bell recommended prioritizing the list.

**Motion: Winston Greely moved to task the Executive Committee with prioritizing the list of HCC participation on city boards and committees for review at the December meeting. Maleen Olson seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried.**

c. Marketing Committee

The Marketing Committee proposed the HCC purchase nametags for its members to wear to events and meetings and presented an example to the council members; it could cost \$10-\$20 per nametag depending on the design.

**Motion: Janet Hess-Herbert moved the HCC purchase the proposed nametags for its members, listing the members' full name. The design will be decided upon at the December meeting following the viewing of an example (purchased using HCC funds). Bob Habeck seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried.**

Discussion was held on the format of the upcoming District Meetings scheduled for February. It was noted the Marketing Committee is charged with publicizing the meeting.

**Motion: Winston Greely moved to hold one meeting for all districts in one location, to be determined, for the February meeting. Janet Hess-Herbert seconded the motion. All voted, motion carried with two members opposed.**

III. McHugh Dips Update

Chair Bell gave an update on the dips. The City is going to re-engineer one Cole and McHugh Avenue dip to determine if it alleviates citizen concern.

**New Business**

A. Nominating Committee

Chair Bell reported the Nominating Committee will form a slate of candidates to be voted on and appointed for 2009 at the January HCC Meeting. Lynne Boone, Rebecca Ridenour and Marshall Gingery will be on the committee. If you are interested in serving in an officer position, please contact a committee member. The candidates must be identified by January 15, 2009.

***SUMMARY OF ITEMS FOR FOLLOW-UP:***

- Janet Spencer will provide the HCC with further information about her bridge/emergency access concerns
- A presentation on bark beetle infestation in the Helena area ("red trees") will be scheduled for the January meeting
- The Executive Committee will review the Effective Meetings Report and provide a recommendation at the December meeting

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- HCC Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, December 17, 2008 @ 7:00p.m. - City/County Bldg, Room 326
- HCC Monthly Meeting with City Manager Burton - Tuesday, December 16, 2008 @ 3:30p.m. - City/County Bldg, Room 326

- City Administrative Meetings:
  - December 10, 2008 - Lynne Boone
  
- City Commission Meetings:
  - December 1, 2008 - Winston Greely
  - December 15, 2008 - Maleen Olson

**Adjournment** - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next HCC meeting is, 2008 at 7:00pm in Room 326 of the City/County Building.