

Helena Citizens Council Regular Meeting
January 27, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.
City/County Building - Room 326

Members present: Winston Greely, Lorabelle Behlmer, David Scrimm, Bobette Madonna, Stanley Johnson, Bob Clarkson, Jim McCormick, Erick Woodland, Olivia Tooley, Dan Bernhardt, Ellen Bell, Collin Watters, Randy Phillips, Roy Henry, Albert Clark, Eric Ball, Jim Penner, M.C. Beeby, Carrie Severson, Bob Habeck, Janet Hess-Herbert, John Forbes, Sande Wilson, Frank Rives, Kent Schlosser and HCC Coordinator Bonnie O'Neill.

Members absent: Mark Seitz.

Visitors: HPD Lieutenant Steve Hagen and Brian Coplin.

HCC Chair Dan Bernhardt called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

HCC Meeting minutes- December 9, 2009

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Finance Report

The finance report was approved as submitted; there was no Finance Committee report.

Helena Police Department Report

Lt. Steve Hagen reported the current deer culling project is 50% completed and the HPD has been helping with snow removal ordinance enforcement.

Election of Officers

Chair Bernhardt called for the election of HCC officers for 2010. Nominating Committee Chair Ellen Bell distributed ballots listing the following nominees: President - Dan Bernhardt or Randy Phillips; Vice Chair - Winston Greely; Treasurer - Jim McCormick; and Secretary - Olivia Tooley or Carrie Severson. Chair Bernhardt called for additional nominations from the floor; none were given. The candidates gave a brief presentation supporting their candidacy.

The election results were as follows: *Chair - Dan Bernhardt, Vice Chair - Winston Greely, Treasurer - Jim McCormick, and Secretary - Olivia Tooley.*

VISTA/HCC Coordinator's Report

HCC Coordinator Bonnie O'Neill discussed the following: the permanent HCC Coordinator position, speakers for the March Neighborhood Fair and the Green Blocks Program.

District Reports

District 1 - no report given.

District 2 - no report given.

District 3 - no report given.

District 4 - no report given.

District 5 - Neighbors have been helping those unable to shovel snow do so in order to comply with the city's snow removal ordinance.

District 6 - no report given.

District 7 - no report given.

Committee/Board Updates

Marketing Committee - Chair Bernhardt recommended the Vice Chair of the HCC be appointed the Chair of the Marketing Committee. Discussion was held on duties and spending authority of Marketing Committee members.

Motion: made and seconded to task the Marketing Committee with developing a mission statement. Motion carried.

Motion: made and seconded to appoint HCC Vice Chair Winston Greely as Chair of the Marketing Committee without spending authority. Motion carried.

Parks Board - M.C. Beeby gave an overview of a recent community survey on Helena's parks, noted the Parks Board desires to adopt the Community Gardens Project, and has created a Safe Routes to School Committee that could potentially partner with the HPD.

Urban Wildlife Advisory Committee - the committee is setting up their regular meeting schedule; contact Randy Phillips or Eric Woodland for more information.

Intergovernmental Transit Committee - the committee continues to work on a ballot initiative to create an urban transportation district throughout Lewis & Clark County.

Unfinished Business

Executive Board Report -

District Chairs - Chair Bernhardt asked that appointment of District Chairs be completed no later than February 5, 2010.

HCC Committee Assignments - Council members are encouraged to get involved on City Committees and Boards, as time allows, in addition to HCC committees.

Motion: made and seconded to appoint Randy Phillips to the Transportation Coordinating Committee and Dan Bernhardt to HOLMAC. Motion carried.

Neighborhood Fair - Chair Bernhardt reported the HCC was unable to secure HCT for the meeting site; however, City Manager Alles offered the use of the Civic Center (one time per year). Chair Bernhardt recommended a thank-you letter be drafted to City Manager Alles and the Civic Center Board for the use of the facility.

Discussion was held on the Neighborhood Fair, including whether or not to allow commercial businesses to have tables and who should participate. It was recommended City Attorney Nielsen be contacted for his opinion on the issue.

Motion: made and seconded to charge the Marketing Committee with setting policy for Neighborhood Fair exhibitors, contingent upon City Attorney Nielsen's opinion. Motion carried.

New Business

.5 FTE HCC Coordinator Position - Discussion was held on the proposal, including funding the position and applying for an extension of the current Ameri-Corps Vista program. There was Council consensus to submit a letter of support to the City Commission requesting the position be included in the FY2011 budget.

Upcoming Meetings:

- HCC Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, February 24, 2010 @ 7:00p.m. - City/County Bldg, Room 326
- City Administrative Meetings:
 - February 3, 2010 - Albert Bruce Clark
 - February 17, 2010 - Ellen Bell
- City Commission Meetings:
 - February 8, 2010 - Executive Board
 - February 22, 2010 - Randy Phillips

Please pick up informational packets on the Administrative and City Commission Meetings in the City Clerk's Office.

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.