

East Bellevue Community Council
Summary Minutes of Regular Meeting

February 7, 2012
6:30 p.m.

Lake Hills Community Clubhouse
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Chair Kasner and Councilmembers Capron, Gooding, Hughes, and Seal

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: None.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Chair Kasner presiding.

2. **ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll. All East Bellevue Community Councilmembers were present.

Chair Kasner led the flag salute.

(a) 2012 Election of East Bellevue Community Council Officers

Chair Kasner opened the floor to nominations for the Community Council's 2012 officers.

Councilmember Capron nominated Steve Kasner to continue as Chair, which was seconded by Councilmember Seal.

Councilmember Kasner was elected to serve as the 2012 Chair by unanimous consent.

Councilmember Gooding nominated Mr. Seal to serve as Vice Chair, which was seconded by Councilmember Hughes.

Councilmember Seal was unanimously elected to serve as Vice Chair.

Councilmember Gooding nominated Mr. Capron to serve as Alternate Vice Chair, which was seconded by Councilmember Hughes.

Councilmember Capron was unanimously elected to serve as Alternate Vice Chair.

Resolution No. 523 electing Chair, Vice Chair, and Alternate Vice Chair for the year 2012.

Councilmember Capron moved to adopt Resolution No. 523, and Councilmember Seal seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0, and the following officers were confirmed: Chair Kasner, Vice Chair Seal, and Alternate Vice Chair Capron.

3. COMMUNICATIONS - WRITTEN AND ORAL

Councilmember Capron provided an update on the Kelsey Creek Shopping Center project. He reported that he met with Brian Franklin, representing the developer of the site, and Jennifer Spall, representing Walmart Bellevue. Ms. Spall communicated that Walmart wants to be a good neighbor, and that the store is scheduled to be completed by the end of June. Tenants for the new building on the site include a Verizon retail store and Little Caesars Pizza.

Chair Kasner explained that there is a deadline of June 30 related to the impact fee agreement for the Center to achieve full occupancy. If this does not occur, a payment to the City will be required. Mr. Capron said Ms. Spall indicated that Walmart would like to include some electric car charging stations on the site. The Walmart store at this location will not allow overnight RV parking, as it does at some store parking lots throughout the country.

Mr. Capron said that LA Fitness anticipates opening in Kelsey Creek Center in early March.

Mr. Capron announced that Sammamish High School is having an open house on Thursday to discuss their modernization/redevelopment plans.

Councilmember Seal reported on his trip to the state legislature with three current members and one former member of the Houghton Community Council (Kirkland). Mr. Seal said he testified that legislation related to community councils (Community Municipal Corporations) includes a clause requiring that they be recertified periodically by residents in order to continue to exist.

Chair Kasner noted that information on pending bills, including video clips of public testimony, is available online. He said there is some support for the proposed legislation in the House. However, given the state legislature's workload, it will likely not make it to the Senate floor this session.

Mr. Kasner reported that he met with Pam Fehrman, Parks Department, about Bellevue Airfield Park to be developed in the Eastgate area. The southern border of the East Bellevue Community Council area is SE 26th Street, which is adjacent to the park property.

Chair Kasner encouraged Councilmembers to utilize the City's website for a broad range of information.

Councilmember Seal shared that some residents of Phantom Lake have concerns about the lake environment, which they expressed to the City Council the previous night.

Councilmember Hughes noted the area of large rambler-style homes near SE 8th Street and 145th Avenue, and asked whether anyone knew anything about the home on 145th Avenue that has been moved 50 to 60 yards. The Clerk referred the Council to Development Services for information on the site.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilmember Seal moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Capron seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 5-0.

5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

6. **RESOLUTIONS:** None.

7. **REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS:** None.

8. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** None.

9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

(a) State Legislative HB 2610

Chair Kasner noted that HB 2610, which repeals provisions governing community councils (community municipal corporations), is in the House Rules Committee. Representative Larry Springer and Representative Deb Eddy are co-sponsors of the bill.

Mr. Kasner said that he and Mr. Seal are working with the Houghton Community Council on this issue. Responding to Councilmember Capron, Mr. Seal said that Representative Eddy's position is that the authority granted to community councils on land use issues is not fair to residents living outside of the community council boundaries.

Chair Kasner recalled past cases in which the East Bellevue Community Council was able to block certain land use actions by the City that were considered potentially detrimental for the community council area.

Councilmember Seal provided additional information on the history of community councils and the East Bellevue Community Council's involvement in local issues.

Mr. Kasner said that the next East Bellevue Community Council recertification election will be in 2013. The Council will vote in February 2013 about whether or not to pursue recertification.

Chair Kasner asked the Council to take an official position on HB 2610.

Councilmember Capron moved to take a formal position opposing HB 2610. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hughes and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Councilmember Seal suggested that, if the proposed legislation moves to the Senate, the Community Council contact members of the Senate Government Operations, Tribal Relations, and Election Committee to express opposition to HB 2610.

Councilmembers were in agreement that it is important to communicate to the legislature that the current law already has a provision for discontinuing the community councils, if desired by residents.

Chair Kasner noted that Representative Springer's wife is a Kirkland City Councilmember.

Councilmember Capron said that one benefit of having the East Bellevue Community Council is that the City brings issues to the Community Council earlier in a process, which allows both the Community Council and City Council to exchange information and to work toward a decision that is supported by both.

Chair Kasner noted that the Land Use Code provides criteria for evaluating proposals and determining whether to support or deny them.

Councilmember Seal said the Community Council provides a neighborhood-based forum for public involvement and open discussion.

Councilmember Hughes observed that most residents of East Bellevue, especially newer residents, are probably not aware that the Community Council exists.

11. NEW BUSINESS

(a) State Legislative SHB 2201

Chair Kasner referred the Council to page 11 of the meeting packet for Substitute House Bill 2201, which relates to the use and governance of hearing examiners. He noted an email sent by Monica Buck, Assistant City Attorney, which indicates that community councils are not referenced in the bill's language about certain land use decisions. There is a provision, however, for the City to opt out of the new legislation by March 31, 2013.

Councilmembers agreed that the City should consider opting out if the legislation is successful.

Responding to Chair Kasner, the Clerk explained that the City Attorney's Office is monitoring the progress of this proposed legislation.

(b) Retreat Planning

Councilmembers were in agreement that a retreat to address any specific topics is not needed at this time.

Chair Kasner noted that the Quarterly Home Occupation Report, which lists businesses operating from residences, was distributed to the Council.

Chair Kasner led a brief discussion about the Community Council's 2013-2014 budget proposal and performance measures, and the Council suggested minor revisions to the Clerk.

12. **CONTINUED COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilmember Capron noted a new Land Use sign posted on the cell tower site at 156th Avenue SE and SE 16th Street.

Chair Kasner reported that he met with the City Manager, who indicated that the City Council anticipates addressing helistop regulations within the next few months.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.14. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmember Gooding moved to approve the Summary Minutes of the January 3, 2012, meeting. Councilmember Seal seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 5-0.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:45 p.m., Chair Kasner declared the meeting adjourned.

Michelle Murphy, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

/kaw