

**CITY OF SEQUIM  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF  
CITY COUNCIL AND PARK BOARD  
MINUTES  
SEQUIM TRANSIT CENTER  
190 WEST CEDAR STREET  
SEQUIM, WA**

**MARCH 7, 2011**

**6:00 P.M. SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL/PARK BOARD MEETING**

Mayor Hays called the meeting to order.

Council members present: Laura Dubois, Erik Erichsen, Don Hall, Ken Hays, Bill Huizinga, Susan Lorenzen, Ted Miller.

City Staff present: City Manager Steve Burkett, Clerk Karen Kuznek-Reese, City Attorney Craig Ritchie, Communications Manager Barbara Hanna, Public Works Office Manager Jeff Edwards, Police Chief Bill Dickinson.

Citizen's Park Advisory Board members present: Allan Goff, Liisa Fagerlund, Roger Fell, Vincent Shu, Patsy Mattingley

**Citizen Surveys**

**Discussion with Ron Vine concerning Parks and Recreation Survey**

Burkett indicated a survey will be conducted with a sample of citizens from the City limits and outside the City limits.

Ron Vine, of ETC Institute, will send out 3,000 surveys by mail. It will be a random sample. He asked for input on what are the big issues or topics for Sequim? What would you like to see in the survey?

The responses included: Is there a need for more recreation programs? If so, what types? Is it time to move to a program based system? Are there unmet needs? What do they currently use? Most activities are run by volunteers. Do people feel we have grown and need formal programs? Would like to see questions about acquiring land for additional softball fields; there is a large senior population and young people in need of park services; we are a small City surrounded by a large rural area. Where does the financial support come from? How much are people willing to pay for these services? How satisfied are people with the current facilities? Should we acquire more park land? If so, where? Reference was made to the park survey that was completed a few years ago and how Ron should have those survey results. How many people use the facilities who live outside the City limits? Interest in day-use equestrian facilities? Should SARC expand into a regional park district? Do you feel like SARC serves your needs?

Erichsen is concerned that the Council is elected to serve the citizens inside the City limits. We should not be concerned with residents outside the City limits. Others felt that if we're going to improve our parks, we need to fund it regionally. Is there an interest in sailing activities? The survey needs to include a comprehensive list of recreation activities.

A five-minute break was taken at 7:02 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

#### Discussion with Ron Vince concerning Citizen Needs Survey

This will let us know what the citizens think of our services, their priorities, need and priorities for capital improvements. It will include general policy questions such as signs, downtown plan. We will use this information to do performance measures for the City. This survey will only go to City residents and will include different residents than those that receive the park survey;

Ron Vine asked what are the most important topics to you? Items were identified as quantity of growth should be addressed along with quality of growth.

Vine indicated most of the park questions will be omitted from this survey. Parks will be included in the list of priorities. Phrasing needs to give clear unambiguous answers. It should include a voter question. Do we need a public access channel? Do people listen to KSQM? How do people find out information about the City? How do people feel about funding non-core services such as health and human services? What are their shopping habits (do they shop downtown, big box)? How many people feel like there is a "downtown" Sequim? Do you attend any of the festivals or events in the City? Do you like town meetings (afternoons or evenings)? Public participation (what would people like to be involved with)? Would people watch live Council meetings? Audio streaming? Internet streaming? How do people feel about the Simdars interchange not being completed?

Vine suggested saying the City is considering doing XYZ. What is your first choice? Second? Third?

How do people feel about making the east end entrance the main entrance into the City? West Sequim Bay improvements? Poll people about City Hall. (This will be part of the capital projects.) Ask about their interactions with City staff, TBD priorities; why people live here? What brought you here? Why do you stay?

Disenfranchisement of the people in Sequim – do they feel they are heard and served by their City Council? Is the Council meeting the needs of the citizens? How effective are the efforts instituted with Sequim Speaks in helping citizens understand what is happening? How do people find out what is before the City Council? Was it in a timely manner? List the Council's priorities and ask how people would rate them. Would you like to have single district Council members? Would you like to have a Council person assigned to your neighborhood? Do you identify with your neighborhood? Do you want an identifiable neighborhood? Would you actively participate in a neighborhood emergency management group? Rate the overall value for

your City taxes and fees?

The final survey should be ready by the first part of April. The process will then take 6 weeks. The draft survey will be reviewed by the City Manager and staff. The final draft will then go to Council for input. Prior to the mailing, 10-15 people will be called to do a sample survey to see if there is any confusion with the survey.

What environmental issues are important? Present results in a manner that can be easily understood and identifiable.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Kuznek-Reese, MMC  
City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Hays  
Mayor

Minutes approved at a regular Council meeting held on March 14, 2011.