

EAST MILLCREEK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting held Thursday, May 3, 2007
Meeting called to order by Jay Griffith
at 7:03 pm

Present: Jay Griffith, Sally Kaiser, Nate Laver, Rob Dunfield, Greg Offerman, Anna Clare Shepherd, Stewart Woodruff, Leslie Riddle, Judd Jones, Kenneth Riter, and Kathy Swift. Kurt Zimmerman and Aaron Whitehead were excused.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led Sally Kaiser.

Nate Laver made motion that minutes from April 7, 2007 meeting be approved as amended – vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial report by Greg Offerman indicates a balance of \$5,583.94 and a special project balance of \$18,120; thanks were given to Mark Crockett for these special projects monies

John and Pat (in the audience) acknowledged everyone for having 11 of our members present and on time.

Mark Crockett presented to us the issue of the feasibility study that looked at splitting the Granite School District. A 56 slide presentation report can be found at www.wepc.biz, it is the website for Wickstrom Economic and Planning Consultants. The feasibility was paid for in part by Holladay City, South Salt Lake, and Millcreek Township. Researchers from the University of Utah will also be helping. State law says that if your area has 65,000 people and no “pockets” or “islands” and a vote of the residents says yes, then we could separate and become our own school district. The one requirement is a feasibility study and that has been done and the reason for Mark Crockett's discussion here. A question posed for the feasibility study, but was not necessary, was “Would the remaining school district be feasible?” The conclusions of that one question are that today there are more kids and not adequately prepared buildings and billions of dollars need to be spent on renovations and new building construction.

Of the 70,000 students in the Granite School District, 25,000 would encompass the split portion. We have 30 – 60 days for input from the public. May 22nd, 4:30PM at the County

Council Chamber will be a discussion about the methodology.

There are discrepancies in the level of funding. Funding for school districts are split at 1/3 from property taxes, 1/2 from the state, and the rest is from federal funding. Property taxes are assessed according to value of the home and home values are higher on the east side of the valley, hence higher property taxes are paid here. If split today, east side students would see a per student dollar funding to go from \$1600 to \$3000 and a west side student would see a per student dollar funding go from \$1600 to \$1100.

This whole discussion and feasibility study began because the Granite School District wanted to close our schools and we wanted more local control in our schools. We only have 2 representatives now. We began this because it is about the kids not the money and the media is speaking of it as a class warfare type of issue because our taxes would go down and the other side would go up. In order for the split to happen it must be put on the ballot first. For it to get onto the ballot the county council must vote to do that and Mark Crockett believes that they will not do that if they think we are doing this because we want more money. Mark Crockett suggests that we offer bond money for renovations and new schools to the west side. In other words, before we split, make a peace offering. It is suggested that we write to the county council members at large, Randy Horiuchi, Jenny Wilson, Jim Bradley, and Joe Hatch. David Wyle represents the Granite School District on the westside.

Paul Ashton is from the Special District Association and brought up to our meeting the need for a Recodification Project which would make consistent and bring up to date as part of this: police protection. Advantages to this project would be a secure border and a secure revenue source. He says it would move law enforcement from politics; it is the same tool as used in Las Vegas. Pat (from audience) said that it would eliminate a jurisdiction problem. Mark Crockett said that police jurisdiction is a huge work topic for him by a factor of 3. He says this recodification project would not address multiple dispatches; it would just change taxes and would just freeze boundaries. He says that are tax bases are already stable except for when contract cities leave. This does not keep cities from incorporating and we cannot force cities to join. If we lose on the township issue then we should

incorporate and will want a say to our own law enforcement and then wouldn't be able to. Mark Crockett said that he would vote no and that he would resign over this. He wants all entities to join together on voluntary basis. Paul Ashton responded that it is not forcing cities to join us. If Millcreek wants to become a city then we need to stop taking away jurisdictions from Sheriff's office, and that we want to own our law enforcement. Paul Ashton asked that we just start the process. Mark Crockett responded that all long-term answers begin with "start the process". Mark Crockett wants EPD, metro police authority (a co-op), or law enforcement administrative control board. Paul Ashton and Mark Crockett were polarized on this issue. Jay Griffith and Leslie Riddle asked them both to help educate us better on this issue because as we see it, they both have a point. Sheriff Winder will address this topic more publicly. Jay requested that Mark Crockett address ACCT regarding the issue.

Abby and Alan Pohlman are in attendance to ask for a variance for a pitched roof and 2 car attached garage at 4189 South Monarch Way. Input from neighbors has been positive. They have not been able to speak with their neighbors on their eastside. Motion by Leslie Riddle that variance be granted as long as the variance section remains one story. Motion passed with only one dissenting vote made by Greg Offerman. Leslie Riddle will get letter in advance for the planning commission.

Aimee McConkie spoke about the Venture Outdoors Festival being held June 16th between 3 and 9 pm. This year there will be a bike rodeo sponsored by the Salt Lake County Health Department at Cottonwood Park, a 5k sponsored by Fill the Ark at Wasatch Junior High School, a paddle demonstration sponsored by REI at Liberty Park, a trail hike sponsored by Save Our Canyons, and a Healthy Living Seminar sponsored by East Millcreek Recreation Center and Salt Lake County Senior Services at Evergreen Park. There will be 90 vendors and 45 recreational clinics. They have raised \$16,300 in private donations and community councils are footing the rest. Nate Laver made a motion to contribute \$4000. The motion passed unanimously.

Bev Uipi only had a few minutes to catch up on all her information.

-In regards to community councils not getting planning commission plans on time, we should make it that the planning commission cannot review plan changes until community councils have reviewed them. Yes, in two months.

-In regards to the drainage on Evergreen, everything is on hold because Salt Lake City is building a new line there and because not much work can be done when we are still experiencing spring runoff.

-Draft ordinance on housing issue (McMansions), current code enforcement complaints need to happen. Call Lori Nish at 468-2176 and she will handle the complaints.

-All recycle bins will be distributed by the end of July. After that point residents may get a second bin if requested. Call Curbside Recycling (Sanitation Department) at 562-6435, only after bins have been delivered to all residents.

-Bulbout at top of Evergreen. Regarding current design, call Andrea Pollus.

-The drainage problem that Kurt Zimmerman had pointed out has a temporary patch because of spring runoff. Problem will be addressed this summer.

-Bennion's driveway at top of Evergreen, issue here will be addressed after spring runoff and SLC line going in.

-3300 South weeds and garbage are the property owner's responsibility. We asked whom we could call to enforce the property owners to comply. (Lori Nish, mentioned above can handle those complaints.)

-No activity on East Millcreek Recreation Center/Park/Library.

-Public Works open house May 23.

An apology was made to Deputy Lutz North that there was no time for him to answer questions or update us on the Community Policing Report. Captain Mickelson had also been in attendance.

Sally Kaiser makes motion to adjourn at 8:58PM