

Neighborhood Representatives/City Manager Monthly meeting

3/12/09

By Lynne Richard

Joe's report:

- Budget process underway. Revenues down, departments will likely be asked to cut further.
 - Will go to city council on 4/6. School referendum will likely occur 5/12
- HCD program- changes this year mean no funding for Peaks Children's Workshop.
- Stimulus pkg: Federal paving projects are approved, hoping for \$\$ for school renovations, Energy conservation. Other projects to consider: megaberth, jetport expansion.
- Ameresco contract signed. They'll audit 50 buildings for energy conservation, recommendations by June (tentative). Ex.: Barron Center uses 140,000 gallons of oil.
- MSP meeting schedule established. I asked if ownership question resolved- Joe replied that ownership may not be an issue for future developers- it wasn't for Ocean.
- New Police Chief will begin here on May 4. Hiring process was excellent; using professional organization improved confidence in selection.

From the table:

Stroudwater upset about jetport expansion, lack of representation during planning stage. Joe replied that the project creates 350 jobs, is needed, and will be done at no cost to city residents.

Guest speaker: Economic and Community Development Director Greg Mitchell

Office now reports to City Manager. Greg introduced himself, gave background, overview of goals and current projects, and then took comments/questions from the table. I informed him of our view that the waterfront is our front dooryard, and that economic development must be balanced with livability issues for us.