

Meeting Minutes for Birchwood Community Council of March 10, 2005

Called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Library of Birchwood Elementary. Kurt Johnson, representing Chugiak Businessmen's Association, stopped in to let us know that there is consideration before the CBA for future extraction of gravel from the hills (lateral moraine) behind the CBA/Headstart building due to expected land loss during the upgrade of the Old Glenn Hiway.

Guest Speakers: Sgt. Cindi Stanton spoke with us for the first time since taking on the job of APD Liaison Officer with Community Councils on January 1st of this year. Questions she addressed and provided answers for included more traffic policing at Chugiak High School during all peak times, late night riders on snowmachines down local streets and utility right-of-ways, fully manned sub-station, better coverage of Chugiak/ Eagle River area by police officers and community policing as defined by APD. Sgt. Stanton also provided a printout on crime stats of our area. Private persons arrest was discussed at length and clarified. Sgt. Stanton works Monday through Thursday – noon to 10:00 p.m. and can be contacted at 786-2668 and email: cstanton@ci.anchorage.ak.us.

Mark Coburn, area resident and representative for Anchorage Tomorrow, spoke in support of Propositions #4 & #5 on the upcoming April 5th ballot. Prop. #4 is a Road & Drainage Bond affecting the Anchorage (ARDSA) area and Prop. #5, which is Public Transportation Bond (People Mover) affects the entire area of the Municipality.

Alaska Railroad – Tim Thompson, Public Affairs Officer, along with Clark Hopp, Blake Adolfae, Greg Lotakis, Mark Peterburs and Chris Anderson gave us a lengthy update on the railroads 2005 project list. Many questions and concerns, past and present, were addressed and answered. Such as: 1999 Memorandum of Understanding with Eklutna, Inc. has been terminated (2003), this dealt with a land exchange in the Powder Ridge Tracts, moving or burying old rail, trail restoration in N.W. Qtr of Sec. 25 (huge dirt berm), haul route by Alaska Railroad for DOT for gravel extraction in N.W. Qtr. Of Sec. 25 and expansion at Birchwood Airport of storage and switching yard. Tim brought several information Program of Projects books which are available at Chugiak/Eagle River Library.

Old Business: Vice Chair & Road Board Alternate – Due to time constraints, these will be addressed at the April meeting.

New Business: Preliminary Platt has been filed for 133 lots in Powder Ridge, south & west of current development, comments to be submitted by March 18th. Appears some of the lot sizes (6,943 sq.ft.) exceed what the master plan states for per acre density.

Questions on open space, parks & housing mix need to be answered. Also roads and snow removal have also raised several inquiries. Public meeting on April 6th. Circle S – subdividing – comments due March 11th, no objection voiced based on the information available. Change in ordinance to Residential Use of B-3 Property – further clarification needed before comments can be submitted. Neighborhood Planning District – comments due March 21st and this is covered by Title 21 so it is felt this issue is redundant.

Community Council Ordinance is still alive and well and change is being pursued. Minutes for February meeting approved. Bobbi would like all members to seriously consider a different meeting night, Thursday does not appear to be working well for this council and input is requested!! Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m..

(Nanette Belk/Sec.)

(cc: Chugiak/Eagle River Library, Linda Vizenor/Parks & Rec, council/Federation Office