

Spenard Community Council  
Meeting Minutes  
June 2, 2010  
Spenard Recreation Center

Assemblyman Ernie Hall spoke about the need to work on municipal streets and keeping minds open. He did a follow-up to previous discussions of the Chugach Electric conditional use permit for the repositioning of the heliport at their facility on International. He said the FCC controls the altitude and patterns of helicopters in the area.

Ernie is also working on the Spenard Road plan. Are the improvements in the 1980s on the south end a model for the north end? It is a much better job than what has been done on Arctic Blvd. which has been cited as a poorly planned road. Tom McGrath pointed out that in the 1980s rights of way were purchased with funding that is not available for the north end. He again noted the road has been discussed for improvements since 1993. There will be a meeting on June 14, 2010, in the Mayor's conference room to talk about Spenard Road for everyone interested in attending. It was asked if we could have a meeting at the Spenard Recreation Center since this is a neighborhood issue and it can handle more people than the Mayor's conference room.

There was also discussion about 36th and Spenard, the many car crashes that occur there, the bad placement of bus stops on curves. Can we widen and straighten the road there?

Woodland Park update - Some people would like to see the Fish Creek greenbelt named after Thelma Buchholdt (the first Filipino-American elected as a legislator in the US; she served the Spenard area in the State House in the 1980s). There is a work party scheduled June 12 from 9:00-noon to do painting and cleaning. The celebration is sponsored by the Filipino community. The Filipino community is raising \$20,000.00 in matching funds to the Park Foundation grant for a picnic area and memorial to Ms. Buchholdt.

Jim Jaeger - The Fire Island Wind project is getting close to moving forward. They are moving the VOR navigational equipment at the airport so there is no interference from the windmill turbines. The

decommissioning of the VOR can begin as soon as this summer. They will be laying 8.6 miles of cable in the dedicated cable right of way to interconnect with the grid at International Airport Rd. There will be 33 turbines, 1.6 megawatts, to power 17,000 homes by 2012. The project managers plan to install all 33 by the end of summer.

Assemblywoman Harriet Drummond gave an update on the status of the fire department raising funds for charity in the "Fill the Boot" campaign they do annually. Questions have been raised by the Mayor as to the legality of the charity work being done while some the municipal workers are on duty. The Assembly is working on the issue.

The cost of tickets at the Performing Arts Center have gone up \$3.00 for seniors. The I/M (vehicle emission testing) program has been repealed in the Municipality, but it has to be approved by the state of Alaska DEC and the Federal EPA. The program will not be dropped immediately, as there will be a 180 day period after the approval processes have happened before it ceases to exist.

The Assembly also unanimously approved a resolution against Ballot Measure 1 which will be voted on in the August primary. The Assembly is working on the homeless issue. As of now, illegal campers can be evicted from their campsites within 12-24 hours. (That policy is being challenged in court.)

Spenard Road banners - What would be the costs to replace? Can we have new designs? Because the banners are installed next to high voltage electrical lines, we would need an outfit like the IBEW to donate time to take down the old banners. Harriet is willing to help with the design of new banners.

Matt Burkholder spoke about zoning. There is always a need for more volunteers to work on the Zoning Committee.

Cora Weaver of Code Enforcement did an update on 4000 Lois Drive. This property has been an issue for the SCC since the 1990s.

Matt Burkholder also did a Public Safety committee update. They have been doing surveys over the last couple of years and are questioning the

value of trying to do another part of Spenard. The next meeting of the Public Safety committee will be Friday, June 11 at 7:30 a.m.

The new Spenard Farmers Market which will inaugurate this month will have a community council booth. They need volunteers to help with the set up and take down of the booth. Please let Rene know if you are available.

FCC - Kathleen Liska was sent to the NUSA conference in Little Rock, AR along with 10 others. The national conference is coming to Anchorage in 2011 and we will need volunteers to help us.

Bob Auth gave the Airport Advisory Committee report. The group was formed by Matt Claman last fall (2009). The group gets information from the airport and it is a chance for community members selected by the community councils to interact with the airport managers. The committee has agreed that the next meeting (August 25) will be an additional hour long so the group can suggest ideas on how to structure the committee and bring more focus to the group.

Minnesota Park - Matthew Jackson gave an update on the park. They have a \$28,000 grant from the Park Foundation which will be matched by the Minnesota Park Committee by fundraising, volunteers contributions and in-kind services. Tom McGrath reminded everyone to call Cora at the MOA with zoning complaints (343-4141) and to call the police department (786-8900) to report prostitutes and drug dealing at the park and elsewhere. Ernie Hall told the council that the Park Foundation, of which he is a member, has awarded \$241,000.00 in dollar for dollar grants this summer.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made and approved at 8:30.