

Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council (OSOVCC)
Minutes of Meeting – September 25, 2019

Called to order at 6:30 p.m. Steve Beardsley, President presiding. Quorum in place.

Agenda modified to allow Sierra Gregg, STAR to present Green Dot program. Also modified to add 120th St. update. Agenda approved.

STAR – Standing Together Against Rape Green Dot Program – Briefing from Sierra Gregg, Community Prevention & Education Rep about the community bystander intervention program, the partnership with Anchorage Police Dept, and the elements of Green Dot. It is an advocacy education program aimed to get the public involved proactively to change culture when a potentially violent act is about to happen or is in process. It focuses on different levels of crisis intervention to recognize the act (Red Dot) and/or to intervene (Green Dot). Active intervention can be creating a distraction, delegating to an authority, or directly getting involved. A question/answer period followed. For more information call 907-276-7279. For 24/7 crisis assistance, call STAR at 1-800-478-8999.

Minutes approved with minor typo corrections.

Cook Inlet Housing Authority – Old Seward Senior Housing project – Briefing from Tyler Robinson discussed the project to be built in the lot just south of Remade on Old Seward Hwy. It is a 50-unit, three-story building with 1- and 2-bedroom studios for senior rental and possibly low income subsidized senior rental housing. Income restrictions will apply on 75% of the units. This is considered “affordable housing” and may be moving previously homeless seniors to the facility, but rental will have to be paid. Anticipated completion is Spring 2020 if it is completely funded. A site rendering was available. A question and answer period covered the following: 1) whether there is a plan to work with DOT to deal with egress/ingress for high speeds on Old Seward; 2) whether the site will have amenities for senior activities/exercise; 3) ice-free sidewalks (no); 4) a People Mover connection for seniors (not planned); 5) current foot trails/dog trails around area to be retained (unsure); 6) the need for a site project manager to work the high truck traffic vs speeding vehicles traveling on Old Seward and a request to be good neighbors in getting this right; 7) Alaska Native housing only (no); 8) and rental rates. For more information, call (907) 793-3000.

Anchorage School Board - Starr Marsett discussed the recent tragedy of the student hit by the car and the coordination with DOT on the incident. Also discussed the “90 x 20” program coming to an end. The ASD Strategic Plan steering committee will have upcoming public meetings and encourages input from the public. Focus is on “what does a graduate look like?” Groups involved are United Way, Mayor’s office, the military, the Native Health Consortium, and Anchorage School District, among others. Starr is designated to attend the Old Seward/Oceanview monthly Community Council meetings.

Joshua Spring, Assembly representation for Suzanne LaFrance - Discussed the homeless camps and zones, the designated camping zones to be federally funded by the VA near the base and Eagle River. None are designated for District 6 - South Anchorage. Question/answer period covered 1) Jeff Childs - Community Patrol (CP) concerns with the homeless. The muni says homeless numbers are stable but the CP disagrees due to more evidence of camps and the increased spread of crime; 2) CP discourages creating food sources in other Districts because it creates a draw to homeless to come into different areas for food and shelter – into areas that currently do not have the homeless population; 3) J. Spring mentioned that the current mission is to do an assessment of the homeless areas and determine what services are available in those areas; 4) Clare House example was mentioned; 5) If secure food sources

are provided, will there also be support and mental health services provided, and to neighbors, will additional APD security patrols be available. Answer – Focus is to use the resources to deal with problem specific homeless (VA, villages, human trafficking), and help with vocational training and utilize the downtown soup kitchen; 6) one last point was made about assisting the working poor.

FCC Notes: Nancy Joseph discussed 1) the Vision Zero program to reduce the incidents and accidents to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcycles caused by hazardous and poorly designed roads, streets, intersections, and pedestrian crosswalks; 2) Census jobs - \$28/hour available; 3) State funding has left the muni with a \$100 million gap; 4) Introduced the Alaska Middle College program for high schoolers who want to earn college credits toward a degree prior to High School graduation. Informational meeting details were put on Nextdoor.

Treasurer's report: Bank account balance is \$1,538.78. (to be confirmed)

Further discussion by members covered neighborhood problems: casing by suspicious vehicles, neighbor conflicts, the two Community Patrols in Old Seward/Oceanview, and an ask from CP to be proactive and watch out for other neighbors. The OSOV CC and the CP cannot help with personal conflicts.

Of Note: 120th Street is designated as a collector street and is funded for a \$1.33 Million design as a “full build” with gutters and lights.

Representative Chuck Kopp – A written update was provided discussing 1) Reps getting out to meet the public in our District; 2) the Joint Village Public Safety Officer Working Groups seeking best practices and strategies to improve the public safety landscape; 3) the BiCameral Permanent Fund Working Group - evaluating models and scenarios for the future of the Fund earnings; and 4) the effort to work with industry partners to diversify our economy and create jobs across the state.

Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Nancy Joseph, Minutes-taker - alternate