

# **Spenard Community Council Minutes**

December 3, 2008 7:00 PM. Spenard Recreation Center

## **1. Approval of Minutes & Agenda**

**Discussion of Agenda:** The agenda was approved after clarification that Mark Butler would be discussing the Spenard Road project

**Discussion of Minutes:** The minutes were approved.

## **2. Announcements**

-Matt Burkholder gave an update on snow plowing the pathway on the north side of International west of Arctic. DOT is getting equipment but doesn't have the budget to do the actual plowing.

## **3. Legislative Report**

-Senator French's aide Andy Moderow and Representative Doogan's aide Priya Keane encouraged everyone to call or send emails with any concerns/requests. Money will be tighter than last year, though.

## **5. Old and New Business**

**a.** Dwayne Adams of Land Design North gave an update on the proposed Faith Community Christian Rezone Development. Zoned R-3, to date development has been prevented by peat up to 16 feet deep on the east side of the property and much of the area has a silt overburden. The proposed development would include hotels and office buildings/retail space on the east and center of the site in addition to residential on the west. Planning and zoning special conditions include phasing that requires residential construction concurrent with the hotel construction. Because of the credit market now, Dwayne and the prospective developer are now seeking from P&Z or the Assembly a dilution or deletion of the required phasing, although eventually the residential would be built. Dwayne maintained that the proposed plans would be part of the rezone and that residential buildings would be constructed as shown – no future substitution of commercial for residential could take place. During discussion though, members of the Council stated that they have been informed otherwise and were not comfortable with doing away with the special conditions requiring the phased construction. Problems with future platting and construction were also raised. The issue will be before the Assembly January 20<sup>th</sup>. **Rather than any motion of support or non-support, the issue was tabled until next meeting.**

**b.** Russ Oswald, Muni project manager for the 48<sup>th</sup>/Taft-Van Buren project couldn't attend tonight, so Jim Bowers gave an update: the Muni, after meeting with American Fast Freight, is having DOWL engineers come up with a one phase design for the project, allowing construction in 2009 rather than the previously planned two phase, two season, two bond issue design. Also, since the Muni's right of way boss Bob Kneifel talked to AFF trucks have not been using the soccer field's parking area as a staging area.

**c.** Mark Butler, North Star Community Council member, spoke in favor of the proposed Spenard Road Reconstruction project north of 30<sup>th</sup> Ave to Chester Creek and asked that individuals express their support to the Muni at anytime and for the Spenard Council to

pass a resolution of support after our January meeting. Site plan review hearing February 2<sup>nd</sup>; landscaping review is in January. Council meeting comments for landscaping are due December 26<sup>th</sup>, for site plan by January 13<sup>th</sup>. There was some question of a meeting about (against?) the project on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**c.1.** Jed Whitaker sought the Council's support of a resolution for specific traffic control measures on Spenard Road, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> that he believes will result in a quieter and safer neighborhood. Discussion: Doran Powell, general manager for Chilkoot's, while disagreeing with some of Jed's view of the situation, supported some of Jed's suggestions. **The consensus was that Jed and Doran would try to come to some agreement that the Council could then forward on to the Muni, perhaps for incorporation into the proposed road project.**

#### **4. Assembly Report**

**Harriet Drummond:** The past month the Assembly has been busy authorizing operating, municipal utilities and capital improvement budgets and labor contracts for municipal employees and IBEW.

**Matt Claman:** Next month the assembly will be addressing more labor contracts, a budget adjustment and building codes.

-Questions & Discussion: What about traffic calming? Harriet D: There is a budget for traffic calming; it would be great if the Council could come up with a resolution supporting specific needs. Matt C: Be sure to prioritize projects. Same principle applies to sidewalk construction and snow clearing. Priya, Matt B, Harriet D: Continuing efforts to coordinate DOT and Muni sidewalk/pathway equipment purchase and operation.

#### **5. Old and New Business**

**d.** Player's House of Rock: Ron Berger could not attend the meeting, but in an e-mail to the Council he reported that noise and traffic problems continue. He is disappointed with traffic control measures and asked if and when the Assembly will take the matter up. Discussion: Antonio Anderson gave an accounting of a recent disturbance involving occupants of a neighboring property. Matt B encouraged Tony to follow up with the property owner. Ailene Zaser credited Tony's traffic control efforts but believes the after hours club is incompatible with residential neighbors.

#### **6. Local Projects and Discussion**

**a.** APD SARA Project: In response to complaints about late night noise, traffic and shootings in the vicinity of Player's House of Rock, APD Lt. Gary Gilliam is laying the groundwork to implement the SARA project in Spenard. They are currently in the scanning phase, identifying hot spots, and meeting with the Council officers.

-Sharon Chamard, Fairview Community Council president and assistant professor at the justice center at UAA, gave a summary of how the Project and the CAP team have worked in Fairview over the last year. Lack of resources and budget is a problem to instituting programs in more communities. The program is not the same as the old Community Oriented Policing, although community involvement is very important. The program stresses specific, targeted problem oriented policing.

Discussion: What exactly is the problem with Player's? Determination of problems - what's perception vs what's reality - is part of the scanning process that is probably now

underway in the area around Player's. Private citizens should call when they see a problem, continue to gather information and present a record to the police. Educate and work with landlords to control problems. Problems can be displaced but later return; a sustainable approach requires continuing community involvement. Security firms should work with the police and the community. There was mention of a police crackdown about three weeks ago at Players, which was viewed in the long run as positive both for the neighborhood and the business. Community involvement has contributed to Spenard not having as much of a prostitution problem as in the past. Problem oriented policing does work, but you need more people – both police and the community. **A motion was unanimously passed to have a community council sponsored meeting to specifically address implementing the SARA project in Spenard.**

## **7. Committee Reports**

**a. Planning & Zoning Committee – none.**

**b. Public Safety – none.**

**c. Membership – none.**

**d. FCC Delegate** – Jason Bergerson: next meeting the 15<sup>th</sup>. Issues include perceived problems in local priorities being recognized and respected as the process goes from council to assembly to legislature and then back down.

**e. Capital Improvements** – Jason: if the above issues can be addressed and we can get a list to work from sooner rather than later, we can start to assess and prioritize.

**f. Alcohol** – nothing new.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM