

Spenard Community Council Minutes: DRAFT

March 4, 2009 7:05 PM. Spenard Recreation Center

1. Approval of Minutes & Agenda

Discussion of Minutes: The minutes were approved as submitted.

Discussion of Agenda: The agenda was approved as amended by: under 5b add Trevor Strait and Clare Stockard; under 5c add Jeff Mathis; under 5d add Mike Price and Tim Steele; 5f becomes an announcement 2d; under 4 Assembly report, add Michael Fox Johnson from the Mayor's office.

2. Announcements

- a. Meet our state legislators over a slice of pizza on March 14th from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.
- b. March 24th the Northwest Community Councils Mayoral Forum will host a Mayoral Forum at the Spenard Recreation Center from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Show up early to meet & greet the candidates. Submit questions in advance to spenardcc@gmail.com
- c. The Assembly cut \$200k from the Spenard Road Reconstruction design budget. Feel free to contact the Assembly and let them know how you feel about this.
- d. John Isaacs (URS) Spenard, Sand Lake and Turnagain councils will each have two representatives on the Westside advisory group in developing the Westside plan. Peggy Auth and Jason Bergerson will be our delegates. A preliminary meeting (about an hour or so) needs to be scheduled within the next two weeks.

3. Legislative Report

The phone call from Juneau never came, so there was no report.

5. Local Projects and Discussion

- b. Trevor Strait and Clare Stockard provided handouts describing Bond Propositions 3, 4, 5 and 6 for Roads and Drainage, Parks and Recreation, Public Safety and the Library System. Passage of the bonds is necessary to leverage additional state and federal funds. There are also \$1.5 million in private funds available for a downtown library.
- a. Kari Sherman, representing the Muni Rain Garden Program, gave a presentation of how to put in a rain garden and get reimbursed for one half the cost, up to \$750. Rain gardens are a low impact way to reduce runoff. More information is available on the Muni website.
- c. Jeff Mathis had hand outs for the park report card: an assessment last fall of parks around the city found that the parks aren't in great shape overall and the ones in our area are somewhat worse than that. Jeff also had a flyer advertising park planning community meetings to be held this spring. The meetings will address prioritization of assets to better the condition of the parks.
- d. Mike Price and Tim Steele gave a rundown on school bond Propositions 1 and 2. Prop 1 (\$70 m.) is mostly for Service High. Prop 2 (\$28 m.) is for district wide systems upgrades and major maintenance work. Both bonds are better than 58% reimbursable from the State.
- e. Deputy Chief Weston of the Fire Department gave a presentation about bond Propositions 6 and 7. The two bonds would pay for new defibrillators area wide, a new

ladder extension truck and improvements to several fire stations, including an addition to Fire Station #5 here in Spenard.

6. Old and New Business

a. Faith Community Christian Rezone: Matt B: the Assembly passed an ordinance allowing the construction of three of the four planned hotel/commercial developments before any construction of residential buildings is required. Before the fourth can be developed though, all four of the planned residential buildings must be constructed and have their certificate of occupancy.

b. Lt. Gary Gilliam had scheduled introductions of three members of the CAP team that will be implementing the SARA project, but they were a no-show because they were working on a case. APD and UAA are putting together a survey as part of the scanning and analysis part of SARA. Matt B introduced John Cahoon of the Puffin Inn.

c. 48th & Van Buren plans and update by DOWL HKM's Aaron Christie with Tim Potter: Phase 1 construction is still scheduled for summer 2009. Phase 2 – the relocation of the soccer field to the west with new access – is dependent on approval by the voters in 2010 of a land swap with AFF and construction to follow in 2011 or 2012. There was virtually unanimous support, or at least non objection willingness to compromise, to almost all aspects of the project with one major exception – in negotiations with American Fast Freight the Muni has agreed to a right of way vacation of Van Buren adjacent to the soccer field as a part of Phase 1. This, in addition to a screening fence, will result in diminished access to the field, parental oversight of field activities. The general feeling is that the community and the Muni have been taken advantage of by AFF in the past and we have no desire for that to continue. Although Aaron had brought a resolution of support for the council's consideration the general feeling of the body was to have a committee meet with DOWL HKM, the Muni and perhaps AFF to come to some accommodation and sign a MOU. A resolution was passed to that effect.

d. Players House of Rock status: Eileen Zaiser reported that two weeks ago Friday loud boom box music was coming from a SUV in the Players House of Rock parking lot between 8:00 and 9:15 PM. Eileen contacted Players and the offending party directly to no avail and then called APD. APD responded with three cars to take care of the situation. Eileen also commented that she had heard that there was a proposal to expand the after hours concept city wide. Harriet Drummond confirmed that this idea had been brought to the Assembly Public Safety Committee by CHARR. Harriet reported that APD is opposed to the idea although the State ABC seems to support it. Lt. Gilliam reported that there were 12 calls for service to Players last month.

4. Assembly Report

Harriet Drummond, after introducing her aide Ryan Bucholdt to the council, reported that the budget shortfall has been taking up the majority of the Assembly's time. Revenues and expenditures are both being evaluated. Near the top of the local interest list was the \$200,000 cut from the design budget for the Spenard Road project. She has been discussing the situation with Dan Coffey and hopes to have that funding restored. Bear control, garbage trucks, fleet acquisition and maintenance, the new crime lab, labor contract renegotiation, the Faith Christian Church rezone & development, property values were all touched upon. Michael Fox Johnson spoke to reassure the body that our concerns

were still being heard, even with Matt Claman acting as mayor rather than our assembly person.

7. Committee Reports

a. Planning & Zoning needs members. Volunteers please?

b. Public Safety committee is off to a good start with John Cahoon, Renee Haag and Tom Bichsel volunteering as business representatives. Kevin Tritt and Ian Umholtz volunteered as residents. We still need more folks to represent residents' and landlords' perspectives. We also are considering rolling the Alcohol committee into the Public Safety committee.

c. Membership still needs to be increased.

d. FCC delegate: Jason Bergerson reported that there are 26 active councils now. The FCC was successful in attracting the NUSA conference will be held in Anchorage in 2011 with an estimated economic impact of \$1.14 million. In the "don't let a good deed go unpunished" category, the Assembly cut the FCC's budget 5%.

e. CIP Jason Bergerson reported that we're still waiting for the OMB to get the project prioritization list out. Jason has been trying to get the OMB to get the list out earlier. He is also trying to get more coordination between the various Westside councils.

f. Alcohol Committee: the new Comfort Suites motel, 2919 W. Int'l Airport Rd, next to Greer Tank has requested (case 2009-040) a beer and wine license and restaurant. No one attending the meeting reported being notified of this. Comments to the Planning & Zoning due by March 17th. Annmaria Umholtz to follow up.

g. Westside Plan: Peggy Auth & Jason Bergerson have volunteered to represent Spenard to the Westside Advisory Group. Matt Burkholder and Jim Bowers will serve as alternates but everyone can show up and participate. In fact, please do!

Additional comments:

Annmaria Umholtz volunteered that the likely reasons for the steady, but decreased, number of disturbances stemming from Players after hours club were the cold weather and the economy.

Lt. Gilliam apologized for the CAP team not making it. (but everyone was understanding that they had a doggone good reason not to)

It was agreed that the delegates to the Westside Advisory Group would meet with John Isaacs before the next council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30