

**Federation of Community Councils  
Board of Delegates  
Meeting Minutes  
February 16, 2005**

Chair Merten Bangeman-Johnson called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

**Delegates Present**

Al Tamagni, Abbott Loop; Fred Schurman, Airport Heights; Bob and Marie Laule, Bayshore/Klatt; Nanette Belk, Birchwood; Sandy Traini, Campbell Park; Merten Bangeman-Johnson, Chugiak; Kim MacBeath, Downtown; Charles Horsman, Eagle River; Tom Freeman, Eagle River Valley; Ron Burson, Girdwood; Cecilia Hildago, Glen Alps; Tim Stevens, Huffman/O'Malley; Kep Pierce, Mountain View; Ainslie Phillips, Northeast; Katie Weidemaier, Old Seward/Oceanview; Dianne Holmes, Rabbit Creek; Ed Leach, Russian Jack; Janice Johnstone, Scenic Foothills; Sheila Dodson, Tudor, Mark Wiggan, Turnagain.

The January 2005 Minutes were approved with the change of the date from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Reports**

**Mayor's Office:** Teri Albrecht outlined the Legislative Process and announced that there would be a Power Point presentation on it tomorrow night from 5:30 - 7:30 PM here in the Assembly Conference Room. The Fire Dept. will be attending Community Council meetings.

**Assembly:** Janice Shamberg told us that all of the bond issues would be on the April ballot. Arlis Sturgelewski has stated that the State Constitution does not call for a 60% majority for the Hotel/Motel Bed tax, because this is a fee and not technically a tax. Ed Leach pointed out that the Municipality would not own the building. Tim Stevens objects to our taxes being used to operate it. It was pointed out that ACVB is funded by the Hotel/Motel Bed Tax, as will the maintenance and upkeep of the new Convention Center. The Egan Center is now used 6 out of 7 days every week. The new Center will free up space in the Egan for local events and will also be able to host more and larger conventions. We are not going after the huge conventions - just the ones we cannot accommodate in the Egan for lack of space and open dates.

**School Board:** Jeff Friedman reported that a student had been stabbed on one of the school busses today and an investigation is underway. As promised, there are no school bonds on this ballot. The Board is taking an in depth look at all programs to determine if they work or not - if not, they won't be funded in the future budgets. In answer to a question, there are not many cameras on the school buses. They do reduce crimes and problems, but they are expensive, and there is no money in the budget at this time. There will be a community work session at the School District building on February 24 to address issues with parents dropping off their students at Dimond High.

**APD:** Officer Cindy Stanton said she had not received many calls or emails yet from Community Councils or residents reporting problem areas.

**FCC Report:** Chair Bangemann-Johnson told us that the Foraker Group is working on a contract for running the Community Councils Center. Janice Johnstone stated that Scenic Foothills has a problem with the hiring of Deborah Bauer since her husband is running for an Assembly seat. The Chair pointed out that from a legal standpoint, it would be illegal for us to fire her just because a member of her family is

running for office. A discussion followed and the Board was told that she is currently not working in the office as her mother is dying and she must attend to family business. In the meantime, someone will be hired to fill in for the interim.

**Web site:** We have entered into an agreement with the Foraker Group to set up a new Web site. A Web site committee was then appointed: Dianne Holmes, John Weddleton and Ron Burson.

**Treasurer's Report:** The contract with Assembly for funding the Community Councils Center has been signed and will be paid in quarterly payments. The Business Plan requested by the assembly Chair is the Scope of Work in the grant agreement.

The Chair asked the Board members to think about what their expectations of the Community Councils Center are - what services do they want, what hours of operation, etc. We would like to have a list by the next Board meeting for a good discussion at the next meeting.

Mark Wiggin from Turnagain Community Council said they had not had a fully printed newsletter for three months. Niki Burrows said there needed to be some conformity for the newsletters, and that prior newsletters which had color behind the text did not print the text. However, Christie at Speedy Mail has assured us that she has now corrected that problem, and should be able to print all our newsletters. But, keep in mind that they will be printed in black and white and colors may not come out the way you intended. We are working on "rules" and will send them out soon.

**Office Lease:** Ron Burson moved that the Board pass a Resolution giving the Executive Committee authority to make the best decision for office space. A friendly amendment by Ainslie Phillips to renegotiate the current lease at or below the current rent was accepted. The motion passed with no objections.

**Old Business:** Status of the Assembly Community Council Ordinance amending Title 2.40. Stu Hall said he hoped that it would not be dismissed, because there are important issues in it that need to be addressed. Dianne Holmes listed some concerns Rabbit Creek had: age is not clarified, boundaries should state "as set forth in 2.40.040 D", and dues should allow for none - Rabbit Creek thinks \$3 - 5 is enough. The Annual Report requirement should be clarified and the latest version of Roberts Rules rather than the Revised Edition. Rabbit Creek also has a problem with the requirement that any action taken by a Community Council Board must be approved by the membership at the next meeting. Birchwood has provisions for Emergency Questions to be voted on by phone.

**New Business:** Al Tamagni presented a legal opinion by Roger F. Holmes of Bliss and Holmes that our Bylaws are not a model of clarity and that perhaps the elections in January were not exactly as provided for in the Bylaws. A heated discussion followed. Tom Freeman moved that the issue be tabled until the next meeting when the members had had a chance to read the Bylaws and make an informed decision. The motion passed.

The Ordinance on Title 21 will be in front of the P & Z Board on April 4<sup>th</sup> as AO 2005-039.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM