

Spenard Community Council Minutes: DRAFT

April 7, 2010 7:05 PM. Spenard Recreation Center

1. Minutes and Agenda:

The minutes from the March meeting were not available for review and approval.

2. Announcements

a. Chair Rene Haag encouraged people join the community council. Also, people are encouraged to get agenda, minutes, announcements etc. by email rather than snail mail. This would save the Councils a lot of money, as well as get information to you faster.

b. Emergency and non-emergency numbers were not made available tonight; hopefully they'll be here at the next meeting.

3. Legislative Report

None

5. Local Projects and Discussion

a. Mike Courtney and Hazel Blakemore representing Neighborworks Anchorage addressed the Council with an update on plans for purchasing and converting the Chelsea Inn to low rent single room occupancy apartments with shared cooking facilities for low income folks. (They already operate two SROs) The grant they were counting on to enable them to purchase the Chelsea Inn was awarded to the Red Roof Inn project. Mike hopes that this is just a temporary setback. Neighborworks still would like to buy the property and proceed with the project. They are also trying to start a 10 unit facility for folks with disabilities.

b. Phil Steyer and Peter Perea from Chugach Electric gave an update on CEA's plans to construct a new power plant adjacent to their headquarters complex south of International Airport Road, east of Minnesota Blvd. The plant will have three gas turbines and one steam turbine. Construction is scheduled for the end of this year or the beginning of next year, with completion about two years after that. Ensuing discussion centered on air quality and permitting issues, zoning considerations and complaints about helicopter traffic originating from CEA's facility.

c. Brook Blessing from the Muni PM&E gave an update on the Fish Creek Trail Connection Project. The project, has easement and money for the design phase, would connect Spenard and Northwood. There is still no money budgeted for construction; estimated cost would be \$1million. Brook also talked about a proposed project that would construct a trail on the south side of Northern Lights between Lois and Forest Drive. It is in the design study phase now with no funds allocated for construction.

4. Assembly Report

Matt Claman and Harriet Drummond: Matt ~ March 16th meeting: KABATA returned to Short Term Plan. Title 21 work continues. Approved a one year trial for busses on two routes to semi-control traffic signals. Harriet ~ March 23rd: ASD budget and 10 year capital improvement plan was approved. 100% ID check postponed; package stores pledged to a voluntary 100% check. Requirements changed for distance of alcohol dependent housing from schools, parks etc.

5. Local Projects and Discussion

d. Airport manager John Parrott gave a synopsis of continuing efforts to improve safety around Lake Hood and Lake Hood Strip, announced an erosion control/bank

stabilization project for construction this year, Runway 7 Right construction this year and next. Also, there is a new automatic e-mail notification that you can sign up for; see the ANC website.

6. Old and New Business

- a. Thanks for the big turnout for the West Anchorage Assembly forum.
- b. Rene and Mark Butler gave a brief description of the planned Spenard Farmer's Market, to be held at Chilkoot Charlie's parking lot every Saturday starting May 22nd. Agricultural produce would be featured, but also locally made arts and crafts, restaurant foods etc. Mark and Rene requested that the Spenard Community Council lend two thousand dollars to get the market up and running. The plan is to establish a non-profit organization to be named the Spenard Farmer's Market that would organize and run the concern. **After discussion, a resolution was passed that The Spenard Community Council lend Two Thousand Dollars to a non-profit organization, upon its legal formation, to be named The Spenard Farmer's Market. No interest will be charged; the loan is to be repaid within two years (anticipated to be May 2012).**
- c. Two Anchorage police officers made a brief announcement encouraging the formation and offering to help set up Neighborhood Watches.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Spenard Safety Committee's chair Matt Burkholder gave an update: Meetings are being held the second Friday of the month at 7:30 AM at the Village Inn on Spenard. Volunteers welcome. Those with questions email spenardsafety@gmail.com Surveys are currently going out to residences.
- b. CIP/Pedestrian concerns: Jim Bowers met with Jim Lamson at the Muni about three concerns: The Spenard-Wisconsin intersection; the stop sign on 48th at Van Buren; connecting the pathway across the railroad tracks by Spenard Builders. Other issues raised in following discussion: putting in a cross walk on Spenard near the tunnel, applying for money to fund projects, tearing down the DOT building at the corner of Spenard and Benson.
- c. Mark Butler reminded the council that the Neighborhoods USA will be holding their national convention in Anchorage May 2011.
- d. Rene has downloaded the CIP list. Please review and start prioritizing projects. Interested parties can meet between now and then to start work on it. Contact Matt Burkholder.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30