

Spenard Community Council Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2010

Spenard Recreation Center

Chair Rene Haag brought the meeting to order at 7:15. September meeting minutes were read and approved.

The local business association is having a potluck at 1010 West Fireweed.

Chairperson Haag's store, Blaine's Art Supply, is having a grand opening at their new building Friday, Oct. 8 at 6:00 p.m.

There will be no legislative reports. Brea from Rep. Mike Doogan's office said it was quiet at their office. People are busy campaigning. The PFDs are coming out tomorrow. You can reach Rep. Doogan at 269-0216 for help if you're having problems with your PFD or any other help you need or complaints to be made.

Officers Mark Karstetter and Nate Mitchell from the CAP SERA program did a lengthy presentation about crime in Spenard. Lately they have been hitting the Chelsea Inn pretty hard. There has been a lot of drug activity and prostitution occurring at the park at 36th and Iowa. There has been an order to restrain from evicting inebriates and the homeless who are camping illegally due to a filing by the ACLU. There will be a hearing on the suit in November.

In the meantime, the Red Roof Inn conversion to housing for hardcore inebriates is continuing. A project of RuralCAP, It will house 48 people. There have been stings on alcohol distributors, including one the package store at 36th and Spenard. They are also gearing up to hit Paradise Inn. The problems with meth are on the upswing because the dealers have been pushed out of Fairview. The Spenard Hotel is on their radar, prostitution is again occurring on the site.

One of the biggest problems for the CAP-SERA officers is their limited hours. For now, they are on 12:45 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. shifts Thursday and Friday, but a large portion of the crime is happening in the hours of the morning after their shifts end. This has been discussed and they hope to bring more officers on another shift. Another problem is that the street inebriates at 13th and Gambell have come to know the officers and will disperse until they know the officers are off their shift.

Drug dealing is happening on Aspen off Spenard Road in the evening and according to one council member, women in the McCrae area have been experiencing problems with a peeping Tom. Several women have seen him.

AMC-80 is an ordinance in which a business or home is charged when they are generating too many police calls. They get labeled as nuisances and are charged \$500.00 per call after 80 calls. The community needs to call when there is a problem

so the nuisance can be tracked. A person making a legitimate call is not charged, it is the offending home or business who will be charged. You can also log onto Crimestoppers or call the non-emergency number: 786-8500.

Suzy Baird is doing recommendations for the renewals of alcohol licenses in Spenard for the council.

Susan Harnasch with APD did a presentation on cyber crime. There are six positions in the cyber crime unit, her position is 100% grant funded. She did a Powerpoint presentation on what is called Cybering and Sexting, two problems that are becoming a problem with young people. Parents are urged to speak to their children as studies have found the best protection for children is parental involvement: talking to their children, making them aware of the dangers of not being careful with what they put on the Internet.

Assemblyman Ernie Hall did a presentation on the Municipal budget. State taxes are probably going to happen within ten years, probably as income taxes. Members of the council were divided into two groups and asked how they would trim the budget and if and by how much they would be willing to pay in increased property taxes. Work sessions on the budget are scheduled for October and tentatively for November 5th, 12th and the 19th.

Assemblyperson Harriet Drummond announced the opening of the Spenard/Romig Hill Rd. in September. Forty-four acres of land were approved in a rezone on the Chugach Electric plant site. The Assembly passed an ordinance regarding elected officials leaving office and then working as contractors for the Municipality. Abatement of campsites was passed but stayed by court order. The Campbell Creek Estuary was conveyed to the Municipality and a hearing about it will be in October.

Jason Bergerson announced that Irene Person from Windemere Homeowners Association was there to ask for volunteers for the annual cleanup of Arctic Blvd. on Saturday, Oct. 9 as part of the Adopt-a-Road campaign. He also announced the Capital Review Advisory Committee is meeting about a school bond package.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.