

Spenard Community Council Meeting Minutes
Spenard Recreation Center
December 1, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:15. The November minutes were read and approved.

Chair Haag requested volunteers for a new committee which will be in charge of making recommendations for improvements to Cope Street Park.

Jason Bergerson gave an update on the NUSA conference which will be taking place in Anchorage in May of 2011. They are asking for funding from the Legislature and support from the community council as they ask for the funding and for volunteers from the community and donations, both cash and in-kind. The website is NUSA2011.org for more information or you can call Jason at 351-3493 or email him at bergerson.jason@gmail.com. ACVB has given an award to NUSA as an acknowledgment of the \$1 million dollar impact to Anchorage economy from last summer's visit of conference organizers.

Senator Hollis French reported the Legislature is not back in session yet. He has been doing a tour of area schools - Lake Hood, Inlet View and Romig - to get an idea of what their needs are. Gov. Parnell has appointed a new Attorney General, John Burns. Sen. French suggested that the Spenard Community Council bring up projects as an agenda item so he and Rep. Doogan know what we want/need in our area. There was a question as to why funding for improvements to McCrae Road

were deleted from the last budget. Sen. French suggested we make it a request for the next funding cycle. Chair Haag remarked the CIP committee needs to meet to start the process of itemizing needs and then follow the projects for the council.

Rep. Mike Doogan is back after his surgery and will be serving in the next session of the Legislature as a new member on the finance committee. Rumors of the State having large amounts of cash isn't true, in fact, they will have a \$300 million hole after the stimulus money is gone. In March or April of 2011 the revenue forecast will be done so they will have an idea of what they will have to work with as a budget. Reapportionment will change things with probably a half seat going to the Mat-Su Valley. The reapportionment committee is highly partisan which will make things unsettled in Juneau. His advice is that we pay attention to the issue as it comes along.

Assemblyman Ernie Hall was alone in his Assembly report as Harriet Drummond is out of town on municipal league business. He expressed gratitude to the work of Sen. French and Rep Doogan in Juneau. The Campbell Creek Estuary was recorded as a municipal conservancy this morning. He told everyone to say thanks to the Greatland Trust for their hard work in raising \$700,000.00, cleaning up the area and handing it over debt free to the Municipality. The Assembly is working well on the new budget and should pass with a 9 or 10 person majority. He said it was hard to balance the needs of people that want to keep their property taxes down with the needs of the community. There are many new taxes and fees. Next year expect to see personal property taxes for boats and snowmachines. The fees for building are scheduled to sunset in one year.

There will be a meeting on the Spenard Road project next Monday at Romig. There will be plans with both the three lane and four lane proposals so people can see how they will look and function. The project will not move forward for funding from the the Legislature until a consensus is reached between the stakeholders.

Chairman Traini from the Anchorage Assembly was at the FCC and said the Assembly will cut the budget for FCC operations. Part of the thinking is to incorporate the office of the FCC into the mayor's budget. Bus services are probably going to be cut.

John Parrot with TSAIA (the airport) came to give an update to what's happening there. They are busy with the holiday season. Pat down procedures are being done by TSA. The airport has requested TSA not institute the new radiation screening during summer while the airport is at its busiest. Mark Lugan is the new DOT commissioner. The airport is working on strategies for Anchorage and Fairbanks airports. Fairbanks has submitted their individual master plan, Anchorage will have to wait another year. Walkers around Lake Hood will no longer have access to Lakeshore Drive while aircraft are off the runways due to some close calls. A gate will close by radio direction from the tower when aircraft is moving to or from the runway.

Jet Blue and Edelweiss Airlines will be coming next summer to Anchorage in 2011. Two new suppliers of jet fuel have been signed. The airport needs storage tanks for the times when it's harder to get fuel and for future airport expansion. The airport continues to recover from the economic downturn two years

ago. Of the 217 Boeing cargo jets that operate between Asia and North America, 137 came through Anchorage last week. Eighty to ninety percent of the flights come over the water. There were questions as to why it seems some of the planes are taking off to the east over Anchorage in what appears to be calm weather with no or minimal winds. John Parrot replied that the airport does ask pilots why they are not flying the preferred flight path. The plane will have to wait, so it's not in their best interest to do so.

Suzy Baird did an update on liquor licenses. We have four from our area coming up: two at Bear Tooth, Arigato and the Carousel. If you have any complaints about any of these, please let her know so she can forward them to the ABC. There was a question as to why the conditions put on the Carousel and Steve's Sports Bar have never been implemented. They were conditions agreed upon between the owners/petitioners as they asked for approval of the transfer of the liquor licenses. It seems they were never recorded as part of the approval process when the ABC did the transfer, so the community council is out of luck. In and Out Liquor continues to be a problem by selling to the homeless community.

A question was raised about the current status of removing old and tattered banners along Spenard Rd. Chair Haag said she will be dealing with it in January.

Jim Bowers said the WAPD is scheduled to be released next week according to Thede Tobish of the municipal planning office. He also said he requested the sidewalk/trail people clear the sidewalk along Aspen and it's been done for the first time.

Another council member raised the question of safety when the trail along International has had snow pushed from the road pushed into the secondary entry of that subdivision. It would be difficult for the fire department to use the breakaway gate. It was suggested he contact Sen. French's office.

Chair Haag said Bob Auth would not be doing a report for the airport committee since their meeting has been cancelled until January. Allen Thornhill said trucks are still using Van Buren. The road was supposed to be used only for access to the soccer fields after the upgrade to Taft. Jim Bowers said he would be contacting PM&E for a response.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.