

Huffman O'Malley Community Council Minutes
August 21, 2014

1. Call to Order 7:03 by President Chris Monette
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Welcome and Introductions:

Steering Committee Members Present:

- Christine Monette-President,
- Evan Budd
- Matt Burkholder
- Susan Richards
- Melissa Schmiedt
- Diane Shellenbaum

Absent: Wayne Crayton, Katie Nolan, Brian Parch, Paul Rasmussen, Tim Stevens

No quorum.

4. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes: June and July available, no quorum to accept
- B. Treasurer's report: \$564.14 in account, \$216 spent on yearly mailbox rental

5. Presentations

- A. Assembly Member Updates: None
- B. Legislative Update: None
- C. Fire Department update:

Michelle Ritter and DOWL, along with Fire Department and architect Bettisworth North representatives, presented pictures of the current design and plan forward for building Fire Station #9. Plan forward includes presentations to the Parks and Rec committee, Planning and Zoning, and the Platting Board, then the Assembly. The rezoning process will take about 6 months, and includes first rezoning the entire tract to PLI, then rezoning the 7 plus acres not utilized by the Fire Station, to dedicated Park Land. This is consistent with what the Assembly required when they approved using the Rabbit Creek Park Land for the Fire Station.

There will be another meeting in a week (thurs 8-28, same place, 5-7 pm) that will focus more on the site plan.

Diane Shellenbaum, neighbor and designated HOCC representative, and Claudia Christensen, neighbor and HOCC member, represented HOCC and the neighborhood at two design committee meetings.

The design honors the Assembly requirements to keep the footprint at 2 acres or under, by putting a 50 ft strip of park land on the eastern side of the Fire Station abutting the backyards of the Seafarer Loop neighbors. The strip does not go all the way to DeArmoun. Advantages include a minimum 75 ft buffer to the FS building, disadvantages are possible increased chance of vandalism if a public trail is placed in that strip. Comments included the understanding that if the strip is a park, it is open to the public, but a strong desire that no improved trail be put in to

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encourage increased traffic. The Fire Station also does not want an improved trail put in through FS grounds.

Discussion also included:

- Expected drying/climbing tower height (35-40 ft) compared to the trees (also that high) and compared to FS#9 current drying tower (36')
- Evergreens will be planted on both sides of FS to help provide a buffer for neighbors in winter after birch trees lose their leaves.
- Construction expected to be 9-12 months, starting spring 2015, trees to be cut down late Sept, early Oct this year.
- Working times 7 am-5 pm

Question: – Did the municipality have any plans for improving Lake Otis in front of the FS?

Answer – nothing currently planned

6. Continuing Business

A. Greenbelt Remediation: Some neighbors have started mowing the greenbelt again, and have pulled out 6 of the trees planted last fall, saying they were dead or dying anyway. Chris has spoken with Parks Department, who (said what?)

B. Parks committee report: Christine reported –nothing new, Jennifer Johnson is carrying it through.

C. By-Laws revisions – Wayne Crayton has sent first pass to all – please read and respond. Next steps: HOCC approves, then sent to Ombudsman then to Dick Traini (assembly) who sends any required changes back to us. This circle continues until the By-Laws are approved. Until then, we are officially working under the By-Law template provided by the Assembly.

7. Reports:

A. FCC (Monette) October 2nd is Ballot Initiative and Candidate Forum at O'Malley on the Green, 6:30-9:00

B. HALO (Monette) no report

C. Crime Statistics – provided by Wayne Crayton, read by Christine.

D. South Anchorage High Neighborhood Liaison - Alex Slivka reported. The first application for an improved stadium was denied, but a new application is expected. Neighborhood is documenting all the illegal summer activity occurring past 11 pm, when grounds are supposed to be closed. Over 12 complaints have been filed to date. The school board is being contacted regularly, and have been told that if they continue to do nothing about the situation they neighborhood will attempt to hold them personally held criminally accountable in the courts. Current activities during the summer have been 5 nights a week, from 6-10 pm, and it's after organizers leave that violations happen. The neighbors would like more signage and advocate blocking off the parking lot after 11. The area has become so unsafe after hours that no Summer Campers wish to stay at the school. Bottom line the neighbors believe this is a school district responsibility, and if the District continues to let their property be mis-used, to the detriment of the neighborhood, they will be sued.

8. President's Report:

A. Incoming correspondence-

- Comments due on Amendment to Municipal Code 21

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- Brayton Drive Tower site plan review - public comments solicited

B. Outgoing correspondence- none

9. New Business:

A .Rezoning on R1A rezoning for corner of Huffman and Lake Otis was approved by P+Z, with a 10' buffer to the north, and a 25 ' buffer to the R-6 zoning to the east.

B. More?

10. Open Forum: No comments

Chris adjourned 8:30

Submitted by Diane Shellenbaum 9-14-14