

Minutes of Midtown Community Council (MTCC) Meeting
Wednesday, June 14th, 2017, Noon
Wells Fargo Museum – 301 W Northern Lights

Council President, Peggy Robinson, called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. IN ATTENDANCE: 25 voting members and 9 visitors. The sign-in sheets are filed with the Federation and new members are added to the mailing list if they included their email address.

The agenda for the meeting was approved as presented. The NTCC Minutes of May 10th, 2017 were approved as well.

REPORTS FROM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

Assembly Member Felix Rivera reported that current Captain Justin Doll will begin working as APD Police Chief on June 30. Felix provided an update from the Assembly meeting last night. The proposed overnight parking ban for RV's was withdrawn. There is a proposal for developers to build a new complex next to the Permit Center on Tudor Road. MOA would trade the land for building a new Dept. Health & Human Services building as well as receive tax breaks. A public open house is being held tonight to explain it further.

Kristin Kranendonk from Representative Drummond's office reported the House is currently on the floor and the Senate may adjourn soon. John Church from Senator Gardner's office stated that the Senate is hopeful it will have a plan in place soon.

Peggy Robinson reported the Federal Community Council will next meet in July for a picnic at Valley of the Moon Park. The dog park on Arctic Benson Park is receiving improvements and re-seeding, and there will be a work party for planting and cleanup on this coming Tuesday at 6 pm. She also mentioned that work being planned for W 32nd and 33rd from Arctic to Old Seward Highway to provide more bike and pedestrian friendly use. A planning open house should be held towards the end of July. Peggy also spoke about a partnership with the Alaska Humanities Forum in their "Step Up Alaska" program designed to develop more connectiveness with residents and users of midtown businesses and services. The program will be held on August 19 at Loussac Library. Persons interested in attending the planning meetings on Tuesday afternoons can contact Peggy.

ACTION ITEMS

Peggy stated the action items for today's meeting are to vote on Hearing Notices.

There was NO OBJECTION to the following:

- Applebee's application for transfer of Beverage Dispensary license to a Trust controlled by the same individual.
- Anchorage Alehouse application for Restaurant/Eating Place serving Beer and Wine at 2830 C Street.

Marijuana Hearing: Seth Molen from Turnagain Herb Company presented his request for a retail, manufacturing, and growing facility at 524 E 48th Avenue. His architect and engineer were also in attendance to answer questions. There were questions and discussion from meeting attendees, both for and against the proposed businesses and the location close to homes across the street and the Salvation Army's Rehabilitation

Facility further down E. 48th Avenue. The entrance to the retail store will be on the south facing side of the building, not visible from E. 48th. There is adequate parking in the back lot for employees and customers.

Peggy asked that an advisory vote be taken whether people would support the marijuana businesses if the retail store was not included. Results: YES 10, NO 5

The first vote on the Memorandum Understanding: “Do you support the Memorandum of Understanding as presented?” YES 16, NO 4. PASSED

“Do you support operation of all three (3) businesses presented by Seth Molen?” YES 14, NO 4. PASSED

These two documents were signed and given to Seth for his presentation to the Assembly and the State.

PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES

- AKGLD, LLC, 2612 Eagle Street, Rich Breezy, COO, provided an update of their businesses. They have not opened yet their retail store at 407 E Northern Lights Blvd. They said there were no negative issues to report about their grow operation. The area is clean, landscaped and monitored and is more secure than before.
- AlaskaSense, 521 W Tudor Rd, Unit 201, is now doing business as Cannabaska. The owner Smadi Warden was present, along with her attorney Jana Weltzin and another representative for her business. They reported there has been no crime or vandalism, and they do not sell to people with “red lined” state identification. They’ve been meeting with the neighbors and have been well received.

OLD BUSINESS

Peggy announced that there will be a “Crime in Midtown” community meeting on June 26th at 6:30 pm at the BP Energy Center. The first hour will include a presentation from the police department and during the second hour, the attendees will break into groups for brain-storming and problem-solving ideas. Al Tamagni (board member) mentioned there were donations to this effort that will be used for advertising. The news media have been notified.

NEW BUSINESS

A Plat Subdivision was received yesterday. It combines 2 lots into 1 lot between Northern Lights and Benson just west of Arctic. There were no objections.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kristin encouraged the new people in attendance to continue to come to the community council meetings.

NEXT MEETING: July 12th. Broken Dirt, LLC DBA Catalyst Cannabis Company will have their hearing.

ADJOURN

Respectfully Submitted: Sue C. Johnson and Peggy Robinson