

**GOVERNMENT HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 20, 2003**

The March meeting of the Government Hill Community Council opened at 7 pm with a telephone conference with representatives from Senators Dyson and Ellis and Representatives Dahlstrom and Gara's offices in Juneau. Topics included the Governor's proposed budget cuts, HB 106 which relates to lobbyists and HB 97 which extends a railroad lease from 55 to 70 years.

Our legislators will be hosting a pizza party in Anchorage on April 12 at the Fairview Rec Center.

Following the Juneau report, introductions were made by all those in attendance.

Assembly Report – Gene Storm was in attendance on behalf of Assemblyman Allen Tesche. He reminded everyone that the election is April 1st and urged everyone to vote. Assemblyman Tesche is a co-sponsor of Proposition 2, which changes the criteria for a runoff election from 50% to 45%. If this proposition passes, it will be applied to this election. The purpose of this change is to eliminate the high cost of having runoff elections.

A question on the removal of junk cars was given to Mr. Storm to pass on to Allen. It appears the criteria have been changed and it is not as simple as in the past to have old cars removed from the neighborhood.

February's Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the February 20th meeting were approved with two corrections.

Anchorage Tomorrow – Jacques Boutet of Anchorage Tomorrow, gave an overview of various bond propositions that will appear on the April 1st ballot. Anchorage Tomorrow supports the passage of Propositions 4, 7 and 8.

Brooke Chandler spoke in favor of Proposition 3, which would provide funds for site acquisition, design and construction of library facilities in Anchorage, Girdwood and Eagle River.

John Steiner, a school board member, spoke in favor of the school bond issues.

Theresa Obermeyer spoke on her candidacy for Seat F on the school board.

Railroad Gravel Extraction Update - Rick Lien, Project Manager from the Alaska Railroad, spoke on the status of the gravel extraction for the North Ship Creek rail expansion. This extraction will allow for one 6,000 foot track. The contouring and seeding will be complete this year and the whole project should be finished in 2004.

Capital Improvement Projects - A motion was made and seconded to delay discussion on this item until next month. In the meantime, it was suggested that the Executive Board meet and prioritize the list. The motion passed unanimously.

House Bill 97 – This bill, which is currently in committee, would extend a railroad lease to Mark Marlow from 55 to 70 years for the property on Government Hill near the Hollywood Vista site. This extension request came about because of a change in HUD policy. The Council feels that if this bill passes, it is to the benefit of one person and essentially becomes a sole source lease.

Kathryn Gerlek agreed to write a letter to our state legislators explaining our position on this bill.

Restructuring Proposal - A proposal was submitted by Kathryn Gerlek to restructure the Executive Board since no volunteer has stepped forward to assume the responsibilities of president. Under the proposal the duties of the president would be allocated to other members on a rotating basis. A motion was made by Stu

Hall and seconded by Stephanie Kesler to accept Kathryn Gerlek's proposal for a rotating Chair/Presiding Officer, under the aegis of the Executive Committee, for a period not to extend beyond January 2004, with Kathryn Gerlek serving as "Coordinator." The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm

Diane Miller

Co-Secretary Government Hill Community Council