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OCEANVIEW/OLD SEWARD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
C/o 240 PACIFIC VIEW DRIVE, ANCHORAGE, AK 99515
NEWSLETTER MAY 2003

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Oceanview/Old Seward Community Council will take place on Wednesday May 14 in the Salvation Army Church on the corner of DeArmoun and Old Seward Highway starting at 7:00 PM.

This will be the last meeting before we take our summer break and return to Community Council business on October 8.

Our feature presentations at this meeting will be Oceanview Community Council member **John Pletcher** who will fill us in on the AMATS process. Don't know what AMATS stands for? Well come to the meeting and find out.

The other presentation is from **Dean Kirgis**, District Manager of Waste Management, who will talk about the potential for one company to take over all city garbage collection services.

We want to complete one outstanding business item—finalizing the by laws. This has been pushed back on our agendas since the beginning of the year. Approval of the bylaws will allow us to start the new session with updated bylaws.

REPORTS FROM ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES JANICE SHAMBERG AND DICK TRAINEE

We will get an update from Janice and Dick on what's happening at the Assembly, and particularly what are their thoughts about the new administration.

In as much as we have had a very dry winter, we would be interested to know about the preparedness of the Municipality to combat wild fires and the precautions we should take to minimize the risks of starting a wildfire.

Come to the meeting with any questions you have for our Assembly members.

REPORTS FROM THE LEGISLATURE

We have been unable to speak directly with our legislators during this legislative session. As the session and our Community Council meetings draw to a close, we will have a teleconference with Senators Stevens and Bunde, and Representative McGuire. We will get an update on the highlights of the session and the status of the budget.

We are also interested in the status of the following bills:

- SB 23 concerned with the use of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge.
- SB 71 concerned with the amount of money that can be spent on enhancements for transportation projects.
- HB 48 concerned with the use of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge.
- HB 86 concerned with injunctions against permitted projects.
- What is the purpose of TRAAK? Can this function be disbanded without impacting critical state services?

If you have questions for our legislators, ask them during this teleconference.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee held a meeting on May 2 and discussed these topics:

Cleanup Day for the Municipality is May 10 and 11. To be honest with you, we are too late to organize a cleanup program for our area. But next year we promise to start planning for this event in March. We'll get a dumpster to collect the trash that we pick up, have a picnic and give away prizes for the family that brings in the most number of bags of trash.

You might consider this as being a little fanciful, but instead of locking up the **Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge**, why can't we enjoy it in its natural state. That got us to thinking of organizing tours similar to the Shorebird Festival held in Homer every year during the first weekend in May. Homer is host to bird watching groups that come from all over the world to watch the birds as they migrate to the winter feeding grounds in Alaska. One benefit of attending all these hearings on the Coastal Trail is to realize that we have a gem of an environmental haven literally at our doorstep. Why can't we organize wildlife viewing groups to watch the incoming geese or the sandhill cranes. The moose come down from the mountains this time of year and feed in the ACWR and also on our planted bushes that we have paid big bucks for at the local nursery. Rick Sinnot told us at our last meeting about our neighbors the bears and don't forget the little vole which according to our own resident expert Bushie is the base of the food chain which feeds all these other species. So what about organizing wildlife viewing groups, guided by our own resident experts and yes, a ball in the evening to come dressed as your favorite mammal and a vole look-a-like contest.

The Chugach Electric power distribution line is nearing construction. We promise to get more information on the project, meet with our neighboring Community Councils who are also affected by this project and start the public process to urge Chugach that the distribution line should be buried when it passes through a predominantly residential neighborhood such as Oceanview.

We need to find out more about the **highway projects** that affect our Council area.

If you are wondering about that dirt work and fencing work on the strip of land across the street from the Texaco station on the Old Seward Highway, we hear from usually reliable sources that this is the new location for **Evergreen Nurseries and Landscaping**.

NEWSLETTER

Last month you were asked if the Federation of Community Councils could send the newsletter to you by Email and save considerable expense compared to mailing the newsletter by US Mail. We got terrific response and many of you replied to the FCC asking to transfer from US Mail to Email. This is a repeat request to those you who have Email capabilities. Please take one of the following actions:

1. To receive the newsletter by Email, send a note to the FCC at councils@alaska.net
2. If you don't have an e-mail address but would like to continue receiving the newsletter by US Mail at a different address, fill in the blanks on this section of the newsletter and mail it to:
Federation of Community Councils, 401 East Northern Lights Blvd, Suite 204, Anchorage AK 99503.
3. Take no action if you want to continue to receive the newsletter by US Mail at the address shown on the newsletter.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NEWSLETTER

We are being asked by the Federation of Community Councils to encourage the distribution of the newsletter in electronic format and save money on mailings through the Postal Service. Every month the FCC mails the newsletter to 1015 homeowners at a cost of about 20 cents each. Only 96 homeowners, or roughly 10%, receive the newsletter electronically. In an attempt to encourage greater use of E-mail delivery, we are asking that you reply to the FCC either by E-mailing councils@alaska.net or returning the attached form to the FCC.

YES...

I would like to receive the newsletter by **email** at this email address:

OR

I don't have an e-mail address but would like to continue receiving the newsletter by U. S. Mail.
mailing address:

Mail this to the FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS or email councils@alaska.net **Thank YOU!**

MEMBERSHIP

If you have questions or concerns, contact your Community Council officers listed below:

President:	Tim Bridgman 345-3614
Vice President:	Hank Hosford 522-8638
Secretary:	Margaret Klatt 345-5848
Treasurer:	Mary Whitmore 344-2831
FCC Representative:	Vicki Hudson 345-0011

Please consider joining the Community Council. One-year membership dues applicable from January 1 through December 31 are \$5.00 for individual or \$10.00 per couple.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Salvation Army Church located at the corner of Old Seward and De Armoun