

SACC Minutes South Addition Community Council Minutes, March 16, 2017

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Jeff Manfull, SACC Vice President. The agenda was revised to add a presentation by the Anchorage School District, related to bond issues, to New Business. The revised agenda was approved.

Minutes of the February 16, 2017 meeting were approved.

Reports:

Vice President's Report –

Jeff reminded everyone the Municipal election will be conducted April 4 – please vote.

Jeff reminded everyone that the Ship Creek Development Site Plan was still being reviewed by Municipal agencies and Jeff had information regarding this Plan for anyone wanting more information.

Treasurer's Report –

Cathleen Hahn reported our bank balance was \$3,437 and voluntary dues of \$5 are accepted.

Police/ Fire Department Reports – not in attendance

Assemblyman Flynn's Report – not in attendance

Legislative Reports (Gara/Begich) – not in attendance

Federation of Community Councils Report –

Bonnie Harris, President of the FCC and a member of SACC, reported to the group. She reminded us that FCC is a non-profit service organization, funded by the Municipality of Anchorage. Its purpose is to help facilitate community involvement in the governance of the Municipality. It has an office, with limited staff, on Fireweed Lane and it assists the individual community councils with communications to its members. The Mayor's liaison position with FCC is currently open.

Old Business:

Neighborhood Plan Update, by Hans Thompson

Hans reported the Neighborhood Plan is still being developed. Presently, the work of the sub-groups (Character, Safety, Walkability, Traffic and New Development) is being consolidated. Hans reports there will be another public meeting to review the drafted plan. This meeting isn't scheduled yet, but probably will be scheduled in April or May.

New Business:

Valley of the Moon Park improvements

Brad Muir and Ann Kegan from the Municipality of Anchorage's Parks and Recreation Department presented to the group the plans and status of the Valley of the Moon Park improvements. Ann explained the improvements have been funded and the scope of work developed and she seeks our input and endorsement regarding the project. The improvements are scheduled to be done early this summer. The proposed scope was developed after community input. Ann's presentation included an architectural rendering of Valley of the Moon Park incorporating the improvements. The main improvements/changes are:

1. Additional parking spots, by converting undeveloped park land to the east of the existing parking lot into parking spaces.
2. Additional lighting
3. Adding an additional 'dog entry' gate system to the dog park.
4. Incorporating a landscape buffer between the parking lot and the street (done to satisfy requirements of Title 21).

Brad Muir coordinates the Youth Employment in the Parks program and indicated his youth program (part time employment) will be used in this project and asked us to spread the word should we know any youths eligible to participate in his program.

Brad and Ann took questions. Following the improvements, there will still be on street parking allowed on 17th Avenue. The representatives weren't sure what exact signage would be placed at the parking lot regarding hours. The current bike trail access to the Chester Creek Trail will be retained. The representatives indicated that incorporating traffic calming measures to 17th avenue was outside the scope of this project.

A community member emphasized that the current parking lot is blocked from view of the street by foliage and this creates a bad environment.

Ann and Brad emphasized there will be a Volunteer Day on July 22 for the public to help in the Valley of the Moon Park.

Motion was made and seconded to adopt a resolution (South Addition Community Council Resolution in Support of Park Improvements to Valley of the Moon Park) endorsing the project. An amendment to the motion was made and seconded to add emphasis to the Resolution that signage be added to the parking lot setting out closing times. Following discussion, the amendment was passed 10-0-2. Then the motion, as amended, was passed 10-0-2.

Anchorage School District representative, regarding proposed bonds

Mike Nero, representing Anchorage School District, made a presentation to explain the school bonds on the ballot in April. Mike emphasized there is a recurring need for the funding provided by bonds and that, similarly, every year there is retirement of bonded indebtedness. Mike emphasized the highlights of the current bond issue are roof replacement and enhanced

ventilation systems. In light the difficult, economic environment, funding for major building replacements is being deferred. Mike did emphasize the School District does fund some improvements, by necessity, from its General Fund. He mentioned improvements to West High are included in this year's bond issue and that improvements (including sprinklers) to Inlet View Elementary School will be included in the 2018 bond issue. Mike distributed a pamphlet, Facility Sustainment Needs, to further explain ASD's approach to capital maintenance. Mike also took questions from the group.

Community Comments:

1. A resident pointed out there is a West Anchorage Candidates Forum on March 29 at the Spenard Rec Center.
2. Holly of Anchorage Tomorrow advocated we vote for the bond issues on April 4. She mentioned in addition to the School Bonds, there will be bonds for Roads and Parks and Rec.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30.