Huffman O'Malley Community Council Minutes
February 19, 2015
Shepherd of the Hills Church

1. Call to Order 7:01 by President Christine Monette

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome and Introductions:

Steering Committee Members Present:

- Christine Monette-President
- Evan Budd
- Matt Burkholder
- Katie Nolan
- Paul Rasmussen
- Tim Stevens
- Melissa Schmiedt
- Diane Shellenbaum

Absent: Wayne Crayton, Brian Partch, Susan Richards

Quorum is present

4. Consent Agenda Items

A. Minutes: None available to review – to be sent out via e-mail

B. Treasurer's report (Monette): $514.13, but outstanding checks - $200 to Shepherd of the Hills Church, $25 to Halo for candidates forum.

5. Presentations

A. Assembly Member Updates: None

B. Legislative Update: None

C. Fire Department updates: None

D. Bowman Elementary Pedestrian upgrades – Brook Blessing

- First reported on this project a year ago, which is to add sidewalk on the west side of Gregory Road, add pedestrian crosswalks near the school, and add some add street lights along the new sidewalk. They have met with the PTA and the Principal at Bowman, both are supportive of the project. Project is fully funded and they are ready to start the bidding. They hope to start construction after school lets out.
- **The Council had no objections.**

E. Equestrian Center Upgrades Presentation – Rebecca Widmer (presenter) and Steve Riduffo

- Equine Assisted Therapy Alaska (EATA) is proposing building a large covered area at Ruth Arcand Equestrian Center. They are hoping to extend their season by 1-2 months. The program is currently at maximum capacity, 116 clients last summer. Current funding, all private, will cover ½ the costs, they are looking for more funding including in-kind donations.
- **They request a memorandum of support from HOCC**

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6. Continuing Business

A. Parks committee report: Several points of concern.
   a. Presentation of the list of parks to be dedicated to the Anchorage Assembly for approval, of March 2015, has been delayed. The purported reason was that the City Manager had been asked by one of the mayoral candidates to delay the dedications until after the election, in case the new Mayor wished to remove some of the parks from the list.
   b. Some of the parks had already been removed from the list approved by the Parks and Recreation committee, including Nancy Park and the rest of the Rabbit Creek Green Belt in the HOCC area. – We do not know the reasoning behind this.
   c. Rabbit Creek Community Council has requested that all Anchorage Community Councils provide feedback to the Assembly objecting to the delay and removal of some parcels from the list of recommended dedicated parks.

7. Reports:

A. FCC (Monette): Main issues covered were the Parks dedication delay and the success of the police task force that had been formed to address the recent rash of drug related murders..
B. HALO (Nolan): Candidate forum Wednesday March 4th – O'Malley on the Green.
C. Crime Statistics: Wayne provided written summary.
D. South Anchorage High Neighborhood Liaison Committee: (Monette)
- The existing board was voted out, and the status of the planned appeal is unknown.
- The project is in need of an additional $500K in funding.
- If project progresses, some kind of mechanism will be needed to ensure that all P+Z requirements are enforced.

8. President's Report:

A. Incoming and Outgoing correspondence-
- Bank Statement
- Letter from Oceanview CC regarding letter from Railroad to limit homeowner access to railroad easements. From RR perspective a safety issue, but a serious access issue for many Oceanview homeowners.
  - **Oceanview CC requested HOCC support on the issue.**
- Master plan for Valley of the Moon Park – comments due by March 16.
- Final Site plan review for Rabbit Creek Elementary School.
- Case S2144 – Petition of zoning change – merge two R6 lots into one. Near Birch and E 112th.

9. New Business:

1) **Motion: HOCC has no objection to sidewalk project on Gregory Road near Bowman Elementary**
   - Motion by Katie Nolan, second Tim Stevens – **no objections**

2) **Motion: HOCC has no objection to zoning change request from case S2144.**
   - Motion by Katie Nolan, second Tim Stevens **– no objections**

3) **Motion: HOCC supports EATA desire to add privately funded covered equestrian area in Ruth Arcand Equestrain Center.**
    - Motion by Katie Nolan, second Paul Rasmussen **– no objections**

4) Motion: HOCC vote in support private property rights and Oceanview Community Council objection to Railroad asserting sole rights to the easements in their neighborhoods.
    - Motion by Katie Nolan, second Tim Stevens.
    - Discussion – council would like to hear other side of the issue before taking a position.
    - **Action: Request Tim Sullivan at Alaska RR to give presentation with RR position.**

5) State has determined that Anchorage is short 14 emergency beds, Alaska Regional proposes adding two emergency clinics, one in Eagle River, one in South Anchorage, but is currently shut out of the process.
    - Alaska Regional requests support for Alaska Regional proposal be considered by State.
    - **Action: Chris will send further information on how to provide feedback**

10. Open Forum:
    - Katie is supporting Dan Coffee in the upcoming mayoral election, he is having a Q+A session at Bells Nursery February 26.

Chris adjourned 8:15 pm

Submitted by Diane Shellenbaum 3-8-15