

SACC Minutes South Addition Community Council Minutes, May 18, 2017

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Jeff Manfull, SACC Vice President. The agenda was corrected to note (under New Business 1) that “4” positions will be open (President and Secretary “and 2 At Large”).

Minutes of the April 20, 2017 meeting were approved.

Reports:

Vice President’s Report –

Jeff reported that he was provided a 2017 Equal Rights Commission Report and it is available to anyone wishing to review it. Jeff reported the AFD is continuing the Bike Helmet project, which provides (free of charge) bike helmets to children. Jeff reported the AFD will host an Open House at the Merrill Field Fire Station, Saturday May 20; 10 to 4. Jeff also distributed a list of marijuana licenses that are scheduled to expire 8/31/2017.

Treasurer’s Report –

Jeff reported for our Treasurer (who was unable to attend the meeting) that our bank balance was \$3,452 and voluntary dues of \$5 are accepted.

Police/ Fire Department Reports – no reports

Assemblyman Constant’s Report – Chris Constant reported that he was glad to support our Assembly District and acknowledged the strong voter support he received from the Inlet View precinct. Assemblyman Constant said the most intensive issue he has addressed since his election last month is the Port’s tank farm and its impact on the Government Hill neighborhood in relation to the new buffer requirements of Title 21. In response to a question, Assemblyman Constant discussed the ride sharing legislation passed by the State Legislature and said he is troubled by it, as it precludes local control. Assemblyman Constant was complimentary of state legislative action which has enabled local governments to issue tax incremental financing. In response to a question, Assemblyman Constant did not think a recently enacted panhandling ordinance would be enforced. In response to a question, Assemblyman Constant indicated he did not think the homeless problem was expanding; but he noted the overnight shelters available in winter weather are now closed. In discussing homelessness, Chris said he did not favor designated camping areas. Rather, he favored the Mayor’s approach of reaching out to the homeless individuals and matching them with social services and available housing. Assemblyman Constant noted a reduction in sleep off nights at the Sleep Off Center which he interprets as reflecting positively on the Mayor’s efforts. Finally, Chris emphasized he would resist efforts to further consolidate, into the downtown District, the facilities servicing the homeless population.

Legislative Reports –No reports from Representative Gara or Senator Begich.

Federation of Community Councils Report – Jeff reported that the 2040 Land Use Plan Map would undergo a third public comments process prior to October 1, 2017.

Old Business:

Neighborhood Plan Update

Jeff reported the public meeting related to the Neighborhood Plan, which had tentatively been scheduled for May 11, was postponed until sometime in the fall.

Elderberry Park Master Plan update

Dwayne Adams, representing the Anchorage Parks Foundation, reported that the Elderberry Park Master Plan had been endorsed by SACC in 2015 and approved by the Anchorage Assembly in 2016. Unfortunately, funding is not available to entirely fund the proposed upgrades outlined in the Plan. Mr. Adams explained the committee decided to use available funding to enhance the Oscar Anderson House, including adding heritage gardens and improving access. In response to a question, Mr. Adams explained the project would not be able to improve bicycle access to the Coastal Trail, due to funding limitations. Also, Mr. Adams responded to a question that there is no requirement or plan to offset trees removed.

New Business:

SACC Executive Board Election

Nominations were opened for the Executive Board. Moira Sullivan was nominated for President. Hans Thompson was nominated for Secretary. Jeffrey Manfull is running for Vice President and Cathleen Hahn is running for Treasurer. There are three At Large seats for which there aren't any nominations, presently. Nominations are held open until the next meeting. The election will be conducted at the June meeting.

Resolution thanking Frank Perez

The Resolution thanking Frank Perez for his volunteer efforts for Engine 556 passed 18-0-0. The Resolution is attached to these minutes.

Clarion Bell at Anchorage Cemetery

Ernie Hall, representing the Anchorage Parks Foundation, reported on improvements that have been made to the Anchorage Cemetery and the plan to build a bell tower at the cemetery. A motion was made to affirm SACC's support of the plans to build the bell tower as presented by Mr. Hall. Passed 19-0-1.

MOA Office of Economic & Community Development, re possible downtown library

Clare Ross, representing MOA Office of Economic & Community Development and Lucy Quinn, representing the Library Advisory Board, led a discussion regarding a proposed new library for downtown. An 8 million dollar bequest has been received for the purpose of funding a library facility within the boundaries of the original Anchorage town site. Ms. Ross and Ms. Quinn are soliciting thoughts and suggestions regarding this project. In response to a suggestion, they indicated they would try to coordinate with the University. In response to a suggestion, they indicated they thought using the old 4th Avenue theater would be impractical, given the funding constraints. In response to suggestions, they indicated they preferred teaming up in a multi-use facility. However, coordinating with the proposed residential development at Ship Creek would probably not work, as they thought that development is outside the prescribed boundaries. In response to a question, they anticipate the bequest will fund the cost of a facility and ½ the operating costs, with the remaining operating costs borne by the Municipality of Anchorage.

Presentation of 2018-2022 Consolidated Plan

MOA Senior Neighborhood Planner, James Boehm, reported that federal funding would be received in the form of block grants that can be used for community safety and development. The funding magnitude is 2-3 million, annually and the cycle being planned is 2018-2022. Mr. Boehm reviewed projects that had been funded in the past. To assist his planning, Mr. Boehm requested we complete a written survey which he distributed to everyone in attendance. One constituent discouraged building new facilities, noting a surplus of vacant property may arise. In response to a question regarding funding additional mental health practitioners, Mr. Boehm indicated 15% of the funding could be used for services, rather than facilities.

Sea Shack Lots 7B1 and 7B2 Subdivision

Tom Dwyer, representing the S4 Group, reported to the SACC the intention of the property owner of Sea Shack Lots 7B1 and 7B2 of filing a replat application to combine these lots. He hopes to present the replat application to the Platting Board at their August meeting. Included in the replat application will be a variance request from the 60 foot ROW requirement, to 50 foot ROW, as is presently the case with the lots as currently configured. Mr. Dwyer speculates the property will be used for a condominium project and that this development will occur whether or not the replatting is done. There were questions and discussion regarding the ROW variance. There was discussion regarding prior filings made for these lots. In response to a question, Mr. Dwyer said a site plan wasn't being submitted at this time. A constituent thanked Mr. Dwyer for the presentation and suggested that anyone with concerns regarding the development of this property should participate in the Platting Commission hearing in August and future Planning and Zoning hearings.

Community Comments:

1. A resident mentioned the neighborhood dinner for June would be picnic style at Westchester Lagoon.
2. A resident stated that, in light of increased crime in the neighborhood, folks should know that all ingress and egress to the Inlet View neighborhood could be monitored with 4 cameras.
3. A resident reported her mail had been stolen from her mail box and she encouraged folks to report such criminal activity.

Jeff announced the June meeting would be held in the basement of the Lutheran Church.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:03 (noting a 10 minute time extension had been authorized).