Minutes of Midtown Community Council Meeting

JANUARY 10, 2018

3000 C STREET, 1ST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

The January meeting was called to order at 12:04pm.

Reports of State Officials: Representative Harriet Drummond provided an overview of the upcoming Legislative Session in Juneau, including a separate bill to directly fund K-12 education rather than wait on the state's Operating Budget to pass.

Reports of Local Officials:

Reports of Councils: There were no reports.

Presentations: There was a presentation by Steve Nobel at DOWL on the DOT's Seward Highway Mobility Project, which replaces previous 36th Avenue Interchange Project, which seeks to alleviate congestion from 15th Avenue-Tudor and C Street-Lake Otis Parkway.

Another presentation from Lounsbury & Associates discussed the renovations of the old Carrs Grocery space in the Sears Mall; there are negotiations to sign an undisclosed tenant in February, 2019. Improvements will include landscaping and pedestrian access. Council members asked about security measures, and were told that that is being considered by the design team.

Hearing Notices: Hearing notices were provided to the members regarding 3 upcoming liquor licenses as well as 2018-009, a Municipal ordnance reading land use regulations for commercial marijuana.

Old Business: Kenny Peterson presented the Hart Amendment to the council for adoption; the amendment resolves to connect with the homeless population as a pilot program in coordination with the city. A guest inquired about "filling in the gaps" between food banks and the homeless, and Ric Davidge suggested modeling the project after homeless veteran services. There is no financial cost; the movement is donation-based. The motion to adopt was passed without objection.

Guest Speaker—Anchorage Police Department Chief Justin Doll: Chief Doll presented to the council the mission and status of the APD force. They are aware of the current crime spike, but are stronger than ever, thanks to large recruitments and new technological advancements. Chief Doll has seen a high number of retirement-eligible officers stay on the force. He also said the bike and foot patrol in downtown Anchorage last summer was successful, and would like to align beats with community council areas. Chief Doll also answered questions from council members on the topics of funding concerns, the opioid crisis, homeless, and state and federal agency collaboration.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13pm.