

Rabbit Creek Community Council
General Meeting and Annual Election
January 11, 2001

Board Members Present: Scott Sell, Carol Fries, Art Geuss, Bob Miller, Greg Ross, Barb Weinig, Nancy Pease, Jess Grunblatt, Brad Kutzer, Mike Zidek, excused Vivian Mendenhall.

Meeting Convened at 7:15 PM

Approval of December minutes will be postponed, Minutes were not available due to Secretary's mishap.

Presentation of park Improvement planning for Moen Park (located on South Goldenview, south of Bluebell.) by Dennis Boyle of Land Design North

Budget for the project is \$60,000 for construction. Planners are open to comments.

Kutzer suggested a sandbox, climbing apparatus, swings, fort. Other ideas included a loop trail, tot lot, picnic shelter, off road parking and a plexi-glass shield for the picnic shelter to block the wind. Typical cost for a children's playground is \$100,000.

Barbara Weinig indicated that adjoining property owners need a buffer. Suggested looking at Stork Park for design of a tot lot. Chris Birch pointed out the example of Birch Park as an illustration of neighborhood involvement increasing the bang for the buck. Wonder Park in Wasilla was also cited as an example of neighborhood involvement. Ann Rappaport suggested leveraging funding and involving local civic organizations.

Carol asked Nancy and Jess to organize a work committee and contact potential partners including neighbors (Becky Judd and Brad Kutzer live in neighborhood).

Art Geuss suggested that Land Design North contact neighbors and provide a cost list for possible equipment. It was also suggested that a rough master plan be developed for the entire site even if the current budget allows only limited development. Future improvements could then be phased in according to the master plan.

Legislative Teleconference

Representative Bunde, Patti Swenson and Ben from Senator Cowdery's office were in attendance in Juneau.

Representative Bunde reported that the Caucus has just finished updating freshmen legislators on budget. Preliminary budget should balance or create a slight surplus but next year looks bleak without major cost cuts or new revenue.

"Missions and measures is intended to evaluate the efficiency of state agencies.

The LRSA bill will be re-introduced. Rep. Bunde promised that he will have a frank discussion with Mayor Weurch who opposed the LRSA bill last year. Rep. Bunde will serve on a special committee on education to revisit the formula for state spending on schools. Discussion proposed delay of exist exam requirement for high school graduation.

Con Bunde would like to receive email regarding issues: Phone contacts:

Rep. Bunde 1-800-892-4843 email patti_swenson@legis.state.ak.us

Sen. Cowdery 1-888-269-3879

Sen. Ward 1-907-269-0106

Assembly Report

Dick Tremaine reported that the Assembly will hold one more work session on the Comp Plan. A written review draft will follow and the public may submit written comments on the draft. A possible final hearing is scheduled for February 20. Tremaine expressed concern that the Assembly might be explicit about intent of this plan, because it should give clear direction to P&Z, platting and assembly action.

Question posed by Weinig on the Fire Station funding for remodeling will be checked on by Tremaine. At issue is whether bond money has been diverted from the South Anchorage stations to other stations.

Bob Miller expressed concern that it was important for the Assembly to be clear on the cost of Comp Plan implementation.

Update on the Cluster Housing ordinance. The building industry has proposed some wording on usable open space. MOA committees are working on new standards.

Pat Abney has submitted a draft resolution to the MOA to support Bunde's bill on LRSAs.

Pat Abney has also proposed a noise ordinance for vehicle noise and car stereos to allow alternative sanctions for violations.

Elections: Elected to two year terms: Mendenhall, Geuss, Grunblatt, Fries
Elected to one year terms: Miller, Kutzer, VanFlein

Announcements of upcoming hearings before P&Z, Platting and the Assembly.

Meeting participants took part in a survey from the Health and Social Services Commission.

Carol suggested that members think about convening a committee to promote or jump start a Hillside District Land Use Plan.

Pat Abney is initiating an effort to acquire parkland at former Equestrian Acres in the vicinity of North Goldenview and Pickett. There are 50 undeveloped acres. Neighbors and supporters of this effort should contact Pat for information on how to help get this off the ground.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.