

# Scenic Foothills Community Council

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 6, 2012

**Call to Order:** President Alex Monterrosa 7:06 p.m. May minutes unanimously approved. President Monterrosa welcomed and thanked all attendees for coming. He discussed the Guidelines for Community Councils in Anchorage.

**Personal Initiative for Neighborhood Change, Antonio Monterrosa:** Antonio Monterrosa shared steps he took to communicate and meet with legislators and department representatives to initiate change in his East Anchorage neighborhood. Monterrosa found a solid red signal arrow on Muldoon Road turning west onto Northern Lights Boulevard undesirably long. As a result of his meetings and communication with members of our community, DOT installed a yellow flashing arrow in replacement of the solid red arrow. Monterrosa's example of initiative shows how one person's desire for change can spread throughout our community to instill a desired change.

**Alaska Public Offices Commission focuses on Campaign Finance, Paul Dauphinais, Executive Director:** Dauphinais walked the council through the State of Alaska website that displays Public Official Financial Disclosures (POFD) and Campaign Disclosures. This commission on campaign finance is made up of two nominated Democrats and two Republicans, as well as one governor-appointed public member. Each candidate is required to file a POFD that displays personal information, property ownership, and earned income and interest of self, spouses and children. Some see these financial disclosures as creating transparency for candidates with their constituents and others see the disclosures as invasions of privacy. Candidates are also required to file Campaign Disclosures. The Campaign Disclosures only allow a person to make a \$100 cash contribution to a candidate per calendar year. Five hundred dollars is the maximum amount a person can give to a candidate in a calendar year (cash, check, money order, non-monetary, etc). One thousand dollars is the maximum contribution a Political Action Committee can make to a candidate. Candidates can only reimburse themselves up to \$5,000 for their contributions to their campaign. Candidates are required to report 30 days prior to an election, again seven days before election and also 24 hours prior to an election for any expenditure over \$250. Independent expenditures can also be given to either endorse or oppose a candidate where the contributor may expend an unlimited amount as long there is no coordination or communication with the candidate, the incumbent or their staff. <http://doa.alaska.gov/apoc/FAQs/faq-contribution-limits.html>

**Bartlett High School Turf Fields Concept Update, Principal Daniel Gallego:** Gallego informed the council that Bartlett High School still has plans to install a baseball, softball, and soccer/football field in their current grass field. He hopes there will be enough funds remaining for stadium seating. The planning committee is made up of ASD faculty, USKH engineer, American Legion Baseball Legion board members, and Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage members. Construction is scheduled to begin May 2013 and be completed by August 2013. A motion was made by an attendee and seconded by Linda Billmyer that SFCC participate in the planning committee for the Bartlett turf fields.

**Assemblyman Paul Honeman:** Honeman said the assembly is currently working on the 2013 budget. Honeman shared concern for the projected \$30 Million dollar deficit. A motion was recently made in the Assembly to repeal the Sidewalk Ordinance. An attendee suggested a better emergency response protocol for municipal utility companies when emergency situations such as the recent wind storm arise. Another attendee asked what to do with trees that fall from municipal property onto private property and Honeman suggested she contact the Risk Management Department.

**Assemblyman Adam Trombley:** Assembly aide Michael Bronson reported that the Municipality is having a shortfall to cover labor costs due to incentive programs and service recognition. Bronson said the Assembly is moving ahead with the Chester Creek realignment.

**Senator Bettye Davis:** Davis discussed her current activity with grievance procedures in Alaska. Davis continues to work on increasing Denali Kid Care coverage and her passion for healthcare, social service, and education in Alaska. Working on various national commission boards, she attends three meetings yearly. Davis also works with the Alaska Women's Legislative Caucus, the UNICEF scholarship, and the National Foundation of Women Legislators.

**Representative Lance Pruitt:** Pruitt celebrated SFCC's summer picnic and thanked the volunteers. Pruitt announced that 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue is currently under construction and Cherry Street construction will begin in summer of 2013. Some of Pruitt's work this summer has focused on the Fiscal Policy Committee and the In-state Gas Caucus. Pruitt encouraged anyone needing to dispose of trees and brush to drop them off at the Anchorage Woodlot.

**Public Safety Chair Mark Hill:** Hill encouraged SFCC to allow recent wind storms to be a "wake up" call for our community to have better emergency management. Hill plans to help the Scenic Foothills area take advantage of Anchorage's Emergency Watch program. Hill also informed that Council that 20 Anchorage schools are emergency shelters that can house 7,000 people for up to seven days. Volunteers are needed to help clear Arnold L. Muldoon Park of dead and downed trees and brush; they meet every Monday and Wednesday evening from 5-8 p.m. at the corner of Creekside Street and 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Firewood is available at the trailhead. Hill encouraged community members to take advantage of the next Citizen Police Academy. Participation requires one evening a week and two Saturday afternoons for an 11-week period. Participants will meet on Wednesday evenings for three hours, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday afternoon sessions 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Chester Creek Realignment:** Genevieve Holubik shared that the Chester Creek realignment is out to bid but not under a contract yet.

**East Anchorage District Plan Update:** Holubik directed SFCC members to <http://www.eastanchoragedistrictplan.com/> for updates. A meeting for the EADP is TBA for September. Monterrosa felt the community council needs adequate time for such a large project as the EADP.

**Street Chair Bob Miller:** Miller shared that Scenic Park streets will receive upgrades starting this week. Jerrienne Lowther also announced that the Parks and Recreation Department is looking for community members for a committee to help with planning Scenic Park and Little Dipper Park design upgrades for next summer's Anchorage parks "fix it" projects.

**Education Chair Alex Monterrosa:** Monterrosa said he plans to attend Begich Middle School, Baxter Elementary, and Scenic Park Elementary PTA meetings this next month and invite the middle school student government to come to SFCC meetings.

**Parks Chair Michele Pamer:** Pamer reported a great summer for parks in SFCC with very little destruction. Pamer thanked all the volunteers and legislators for a successful SFCC picnic. Lowther said she will report recent trees down and new graffiti in parks.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:18 p.m.