

# Scenic Foothills Community Council

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 4, 2012

**Call to Order:** President Alex Monterrosa 7:06pm. September minutes unanimously approved. President Monterrosa introduced SFCC Executive Board: Vice President Roger Shaw, Past President Mark Hill, Secretary Brynn Moe, Treasurer Harry Crawford, Publicity Chairman Jerrienne Lowther, Public Observer Bill Miernyk and FCC Representative Lynda Billmyer.

**Anchorage Municipal Library Muldoon Branch Manager, Jacob Munford:** Munford shared that libraries and their staffs are a service to the community and encouraged SFCC members to keep libraries as a priority in the upcoming city budget planning for 2013. The Muldoon Library Branch hours will be drastically reduced if Mayor Sullivan's Option A budget plan is adopted.

**MOA Park Planner, Mark McCaffery:** Scenic Park and Little Dipper Park have been selected by the Parks and Recreation Department and Anchorage Park Foundation to receive improvements in the summer of 2013. McCaffery asked for volunteers to participate on park committees that would help the Parks and Recreation Department plan for these improvements. Volunteers for each of the two VIP Park committees are asked to attend three planning meetings this fall.

**Personal Initiative for Neighborhood Change:** Alex Monterrosa shared that he notices a woman resident in our community picking up trash daily as she walks Baxter Road. Monterrosa wants to encourage community members to evaluate what they can do to initiate the changes they desire to see in their community.

### **Candidate Forum State Senate District M**

**Senator Bettye Davis:** Davis shared that she has represented District K since 2001 and lived in Alaska since 1972. She raised her children here and has worked as a nurse and social worker during that time. Davis has served on the school boards, state house, board of education, and is a member of Shiloh Baptist Church. Davis said one of the main reasons she is running again is to see the Bi-partisan Senate Coalition continued.

**Representative Anna Fairclough:** Fairclough shared that she has served House District 17 for six years and is honored to serve Alaska. Fairclough served on the Anchorage Assembly for three terms. She was inspired to serve her community as she raised her two sons. Fairclough desires to improve school curriculum, empower girls through programs such as Girl Scouts and Standing Together Against Rape, and advance our economy with developments such as the TransAlaska Pipeline.

**Q & A:** Attendee asked Fairclough's position on a Girl Scout Resolution. Fairclough was in favor of the Girl Scout Resolution and tried to work with Senator Davis to move the resolution to the house floor. Miernyk asked the candidates' stance on the highway to highway project in Anchorage. Davis said she expects to see this come back to the Legislature and encourages the community to speak out to their legislators with their desires for capital projects. Fairclough said the Assembly has not made the highway to highway project a priority, but a \$20 Million state bond is before Anchorage for a portion of the project for the Glenn Highway and Muldoon Road interchange. Harry Crawford asked Fairclough whether she was willing to cross partisan lines. Fairclough said she would not join a bi-partisan coalition, but is happy to work with both parties and will continue to reach out to minorities.

### **Candidate Forum State House District 25**

**Representative Pete Petersen:** Petersen currently serves House District 19 and has done so for two terms. He has lived in Alaska for 31 years, run a small business, been a landlord, and coached for Nunaka Little League Baseball. Petersen would like to increase Alaska's use of renewable energy, see the highway to highway project come to fruition and continue to work on his bill that would require insurance companies to cover autistic children.

**Representative Lance Pruitt:** Pruitt currently serves House District 21. He was born and raised in Chugach Foothills and served as the SFCC treasurer prior to serving in the State House. Pruitt desires to see Alaska develop the Susitna-Watana Dam project and develop a natural gas line. Pruitt serves on the energy, education, transportation, judiciary, and fiscal policy committees.

**Q & A:** Bill Miernyk asked whether \$60 Billion (news story) is realistic to export LNG. Petersen said the estimates he has seen are \$20 Billion, including tankers and facilities. Pruitt said he is unsure of the cost estimates, but the project needs to make sense and have a greater good for Alaska. Michele Pamer commented that she would like to see all candidates keep an open door policy as they serve Alaska. Crawford asked the candidates' views on the Bradley Lake Project. Pruitt said he would like to see the Bradley Lake Project expand and Petersen said Bradley Lakes would be the fastest way to bring renewable energy to the grid.

**Chugach Electric Association Representative Phil Steyer on "September Storms and Outages":** Steyer said that 80% of the problems during the storm were caused by fallen cottonwood trees. Of the places that lost power during the storm, 85% of 31,000 had power within 24 hours. CEA never lost generation power. Crews came from Kenai and Fairbanks to help CEA restore power. Steyer explained that crews work to restore the most places at once and then focus on individual homes and businesses.

**Assemblyman Paul Honeman:** Honeman reports the Assembly is currently working on the 2013 budget and expressed concerns for budget Option A leaving a \$30 Million deficit and cuts to AFD and APD. Honeman expressed budget concerns that would decrease services for the Boys and Girls Club, bus transportation, and libraries.

**Community Patrol:** Patrol meets the first Friday of the month at 6 p.m. at Denny's.

**Assemblyman Adam Trombley:** Trombley said that the six year project plan includes 3% property tax increase. Trombley said the \$30 Million deficit would help city pay debt. Trombley said he would like to see money that goes to city planners transferred to police and fire.

**Municipal Budget, Roger Shaw:** Shaw reported Assembly work session is scheduled October 12. Public hearings are October 23 and November 13, Assembly amendments will be made by November 16, and the budget adopted by November 27.

**East Anchorage District Plan, Roger Shaw:** East Anchorage District Plan Community meeting 6 p.m. Wednesday, November 14, in the multi-purpose room at Begich Middle School, 7740 Creekside Center Drive, to present the draft plan and get residents' input.

**SFCC Comments:** Monterrosa shared that community members have expressed concern via e-mail about graffiti in the area, the East 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue fence, and unkempt neighborhood homes. Jerrienne Lowther shared that she has noticed trees and storm debris being dumped on park land, yards, and right of ways that will pose problems in the spring time. Mark Hill reported continued efforts to clean up Arnold L. Muldoon Park and encouraged the community to use their private assets to clean up areas of brush and debris. Bill Miernyk celebrated with SFCC the completion of the East 32nd Avenue upgrade project. Michele Pamer asked for volunteers to patrol SFCC parks during Halloween. Community Patrol Volunteer Will Theuer asked for anyone willing to participate with the Infraguard Member Alliance to contact him.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:09pm