

## Scenic Foothills Community Council Minutes Feb. 4, 2010

Council President Mark Hill called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.; 24 people attended.

President Hill said Lance Pruitt was stepping aside as FCC delegate to run for office but will step in as Treasurer, filling a vacancy. There is still an open slot for secretary. He said there would be no Utilities Committee report at this meeting because Chairman Alex Monterrosa was away. He introduced Paul Honeman as the new Public Safety Committee Chairman, freeing Erika Wolter to participate on parks and trails issues. Mr. Honeman will meet with Erika Wolters this week to make the transition.

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chairman Paul Honeman, an Anchorage police officer for 23 years, said he had worked evenings and weekends and wasn't able to attend SFCC meetings. He has lived in the Scenic Park area since 1988 and retired from the Anchorage Police Department in October 2008 to run for Mayor. A number of active and retired APD personnel in Scenic Foothills. He challenged each meeting attendee to get involved or be involved in some way to make and keep Anchorage a better, safer community.

### POLICE

Anchorage Police Department is seeking suspects in two recent incidents in our area:

Area children have described a young, clean shaven, short-haired, light skinned black male 18-20 years old in a dark colored SUV, who has been seen cruising around east side schools, including Creekside and Wonder Park, and has bumped into children and then tried to entice them into the vehicle for a ride to school or to the hospital. APD officers are patrolling around schools, giving them a lot of attention, as a result.

Authorities are also looking for a robber who held up a bank branch at 7731 East Northern Lights Blvd. January 28. The man, possibly a white male wearing a ski mask, walked into the bank and verbally demanded money from a teller, took an undisclosed amount of cash, left on foot and got into a white sedan, possibly a Chevrolet Impala.

He noted that there is a Crime Map page ([link](#)) on the APD web site (which can also be found via the links page of the SFCC web site).

Citizen Policy Academy spring session starts February 10.

### FIRE

A recent fire in Muldoon started near the fireplace chimney. In winter, residential fires increase, which is believed to be due to increased heater and fireplace use. Fireplaces should be cleaned yearly. Make sure fireplace screens or doors are closed so sparks can't escape. Smoke and CO detectors in place and check batteries twice a year.

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### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Neighborhood Emergency Watch Program is being re-worked. This is for major problems, such as earthquakes, erupting volcanoes, broken water mains. All residents should have a family emergency plan and be able to sustain yourself and your family for 48-72 hours after a catastrophic event. Know your neighbors!

Neighborhood Crime Watch did not renew outside contract, now doing it inside APD. Average 1,400 burglaries a year but only 6 in NCW areas.

### HUMAN SERVICES

H1N1 (Swine Flu) vaccination clinics are done. Carr's Pharmacy and local health providers now have the remaining doses, likely for a fee. The MOA Health Department will also maintain some doses.

### COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

Publicity Chairman Jerrienne Lowther reported that snail mail meeting notices had gone out before a meeting about a proposed land swap between Centennial Park and the proposed Muldoon Park Strip was rescheduled from Wednesday to Tuesday but e-mails were accurate. Arnold Muldoon, who homesteaded near East Northern Lights Blvd. and Muldoon Road 70 years ago, inspired a new I Love Muldoon campaign.

Sheldon Fisher [www.sheldonfisher.com](http://www.sheldonfisher.com) said he was running for Congress. More information about his campaign is on his web site.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Chris Gunderson -- needs members for his committee, which is currently a committee of one. He said Anchorage Public Schools are looking for ways to cope with budget deficits. Parent involvement, managing class size, testing issues.

Physical Education: an attendee expressed concern about physical education once a week, not daily. Another (Cynde Hill, a Scenic Park Elementary School teacher), asked what's going on with our swimming pools? She complained about a high school pool that wasn't clean and said we need to support swimming pools in a town with so many lakes. Swimming program familiarization helps prevent drownings. She noted that schools had added an extra half hour per week of physical education.

Driver's education -- we don't have it in schools and young people aren't learning how to drive properly, another attendee said.

Trade education -- Steve Million said he asked a school board member about why our schools lack trade education; the answer was that it isn't funded -- but if they put it together, the state might help on funding.

Roger Shaw said even though he had no kids in schools he supported education but the current administration won't let schools tax to the cap to fund schools. The Mayor has a

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sustainable veto but offers no reason why. Our schools need more and parents want more service, he said.

Technology and art can't be let go, Michele Pamer said. Dr. Seuss reading program has been tentatively set for March 3-4, she said.

### STREETS

Cathy Carte, Streets Committee Chair said upgrading East 32nd Avenue and Pioneer Drive on track but need bond money. East side streets are a shambles and we need a comprehensive street plan, going street by street, taking pictures, figuring out what they need. Residents have problems coming up with their 10% or 20% share, she said.

Mike Gutierrez brought up an area where a storm drain failed 15 years ago. Residents are unable to sell homes that have mold problems. Ask Juneau for the 10% to fix or have damaged homes become worthless, he suggested.

### ALCOHOL ABUSE, MANDATORY ID CHECK HEARING

**Assemblyman Mike Gutierrez** said an Alcohol ID Hearing March 2 before the Anchorage Assembly in the Council Chambers needs support. Meeting starts 5 p.m. but this issue won't come up before 6 p.m.

Certain alcohol abuse defenders have a court-order not to buy or consume alcohol and a red stripe is added to their driver's license or state issued ID card. Without mandatory ID checks the law has no teeth. State-wide, about 1,000 red stripes are issued per year for the duration of the order. Half the population of Alaska is in Anchorage. The ID checks are to look for the red stripe and not the age of the buyer. There is no cost to the Municipality. The Alcohol industry is fighting the proposed ordinance, which started with one liquor store in Muldoon, as a condition of obtaining a beverage license. The proposed ordinance would make mandatory ID checks throughout Anchorage.

**Heather Ireland (for Sheila Selkregg, Anchorage Assembly):** There will be an informational meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 9, at Begich Middle School to discuss a possible trade of land in Centennial Park campground for land east of Muldoon Road at DeBarr for a proposed Muldoon Park Strip. No decisions will be made at the meeting.

Anchorage 2020 Plan's Plan for East Side District will begin soon. It covers all or part of Northeast, Russian Jack, U-Med, Scenic Foothills, Campbell Park and Basher Community Council areas. It is east of Bragaw to the military boundary and south to the Basher area. It will look at roads and undeveloped or under-developed land in the district.

**Richard Benavides (for Alaska Senator Bettye Davis):** 1-3 p.m. Saturday, February 13, General constituent meeting at East Anchorage High School multi-purpose Room; refreshments will be provided. Senator Davis's Eastside Update for February is [here](#):

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### PARKS COMMITTEE

Michele Pamer reported that she had sought quotes on motion detector lights and surveillance cameras for three parks: Chugach Foothills Park, Scenic Park and Little Dipper Park. David Savage demonstrated the LED light that comes on instantly when motion is detected, has 135-watt bulb rated for 60,000-100,000 hours and can't be taken out with a rock. Chugach Foothills Park has a lighted trail now; the idea is to light up the playground, which has had three arson events in the past year, and the picnic shelter. She is also seeking a second picnic shelter for the park, all as part of a Capital Improvement Project to be submitted to the Alaska Legislature.

Roger Shaw said the Council could support the concept but would need a proposal with the rest of the price quotes to do a regular resolution. The quotes should be available within a few days and the executive board could take any action necessary before the next Council meeting.

Will Theuer said Dawn Groth had reported new graffiti on the fence bordering Chugach Foothills Park and a growing accumulation of dog feces in the park. She is feeling overwhelmed and needs some help.

Michele also reported that the portable signs announcing Council meetings have now been wrapped with reflective tape and flagged for better visibility.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.