

Newsletter

Scenic Foothills Community Council

March 2017

Thursday, March 2, Scenic Foothills Community Council Meeting — 7 p.m. at Wayland Baptist University, 7801 East 32nd Avenue (enter via Old Muldoon Road off 36th Avenue). Agenda: http://www.scenicfoothillscc.org/pdf/agenda.pdf additional copies at the door.

The March 2 Council meeting has several presentations that are extremely important to all of us.

April election: At the beginning of our meeting, candidates to represent our East Anchorage on the **Municipal Assembly** will describe their candidacy. There will be time to ask them questions to determine how they stand on the various issues of concern.

Unfortunately, the **School Board candidates** have other forum commitments on the same night as our Council meeting. Nonetheless, the candidates have been invited to attend whenever they are freed up during the evening. We are hopeful that before we adjourn a few candidates will be able to drop by and discuss the school issues of concern to them. Questions will be allowed.

Alaska's fiscal dilemma:

Most of our residents are somewhat confused about the competing budget proposals being discussed in Juneau. How do they affect my Permanent Fund dividend? What taxes are being suggested?

We are fortunate to have at our meeting Ian Laing, Executive Director of Alaska's Future and a prominent participant in discussions of the interrelated effects of changes to the State's financial structure. Mr. Laing will describe the need for a long-term State fiscal solution. We have also asked Mr. Laing to give us an overview comparison of the plans under consideration.

Your legislators have made reference to the various House and Senate legislative bills that address restructuring of the Permanent Fund and our taxes. We suggest you research the various bills and legislative comments. To get you started, here is a link to the simplified presentation on the Governor's proposal. http://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?session=30&docid=1028>

Other ballot propositions: The April 4 election ballot will also contain, as usual, several other items requiring voter approval. Come to our Council meeting to discuss the different bond proposals on the ballot and how they will affect your property taxes.

Currently parts of the Anchorage Hillside are without service or management by the Anchorage Parks Department. A proposal to expand the parks service area will require a small property tax ONLY on Hillside residents added to the service area BUT requires approval BOTH by the residents affected and the residents of the entire Municipality.

Neighborhood concerns: As always, the Council floor is open to discuss any matters of concern. Earlier in the evening you can ask questions of your Assembly, School Board and State representatives. The latter part of the evening is always open to hear any other comments you may wish to make.

Please attend this meeting to help us, through our discussions, make Anchorage a better place to live.

Nextdoor.com is a free and private social network just for Scenic Foothills neighbors. On Nextdoor, neighbors share crime and safety concerns, local events, recommendations, items for sale/free, information on missing pets, ideas about how to make our neighborhood better and safer. In January 2015, Scenic Foothills Community Council board members rather cautiously began an evaluation of Nextdoor.com as a way of interacting with more of our neighbors – the folks next door. We now encourage your participation. Several smaller neighborhoods were combined into one Scenic Foothills neighborhood along our community council boundaries. Nextdoor.ScenicFoothills has since grown to more than 1,000 Nextdoor neighbors (24%), far more than the number on the SFCC e-mail list and with less than 25% overlap.

Many of our Nextdoor neighbors participated in the Capital Improvements Project survey last spring and many more have been active on park safety, bike trails, bear awareness and other neighborhood issues.



Nextdoor.com is an effective way to interact with more people who are actively involved in our neighborhood issues. If you are not already participating, we suggest you consider becoming a Nextdoor neighbor as a way of keeping up on neighborhood concerns, whether or not you choose to attend the SFCC meetings. Please join us on Nextdoor Scenic Foothills to build ourselves a better neighborhood. We also suggest you consider turning off some of the e-mail and notifications options, especially if you are using a smartphone. E-mail newsletters: send your e-mail address to sfcc@alaska.net to get the freshest news! Or use the contact form on the website: http://scenicfoothills.org/council/contact-form/

All committees are open for membership and support. Committee chair contact information posted on website.

Our Scenic Foothills website info is moving to an easier to read, mobile-friendly website – the legacy website remains to preserve historic information, including newsletters, minutes, etc. An updated Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) page can be found under the "Council" menu.

scenicfoothills.org (new site) • scenicfoothillscc.org • facebook.com/scenicfoothills

Our part of town—from the Tudor-Muldoon curve to the swerve onto the Glenn Highway—is named after Anchorage pioneer homesteader **Arnold L. Muldoon**. He put up a log cabin among the spruce trees near Northern Lights Boulevard in the winter of 1940. He packed the materials out on his back, along a muddy trail that became Muldoon Road. Arnold L. Muldoon Park, named in his honor, preserves a portion of his original homestead.

Scenic Foothills Community Council Board

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