

Minutes: Spenard Community Council Meeting - June 6, 2018

6:30 p.m. Set Up - Coffee/Cookies/Conversations

7:00 p.m. Introductions: Executive Committee, Guests

Tom McGrath - Auditor

Peggy Auth - Auditor

Bill Marsh - Auditor

Irene Gamble - Vice President

Jay Stange - President

Sam Davenport - Treasurer

Bob - Return chair

Neighborhood and Community Announcements (1-2 minutes suggested)

Paul Berger, owner of Carousel Lounge

- Saturday night is the grand opening at the Carousel Lounge, inviting anyone who wants to come, local bands will be playing

Cathy Gleason, President of Turnagain Community Council

- In 2015, Turnagain Community Council had leftover money so they decided to do something with it. When the boundaries were changed they put the money towards Spenard Beach Park and they're working with Parks and Recreation to get the ball rolling again. If anyone in SCC interested in working with TCC they should let her know

Approval of Agenda and May 2018 meeting minutes

Lindsey Hajduk moves to approve

Second by Lyla Vogt

Airport Report

John's Updates

- There was a meeting May 15 to talk about airport communications plan, three people from the SCC were also at that meeting. Considering comments and deciding what to do with them
- Runway project going on this summer and next summer, on June 18, 2018 the runway is getting shutdown for three weeks, doing maintenance. By October, the runway should be reopened and running normal operations through the winter
- Next summer around April 2019 it will be completely shut down for the summer, hope to get another 15-20 years out of it
- Since it's summer, the airport is busy so make sure you have enough time to get through security

- Still looking for heavy equipment operations and facility maintenance people to work at the airport

Jay mentioned to the council that the SCC board is recording the meeting via Facebook Live on a three month trial and if anyone doesn't want to be in sight to sit on the left side of the camera

7:20 - Assembly Report

Eric Croft

- Answering questions about police department moving to downtown building
- Several members of the council had questions about task force targeting criminal element in homeless camps. Eric said he would ask about it, Bill Marsh said he is an avid dog walker and he sees a lot of criminal activity in Woodland Park Area next to the Boys and Girls Club, he asked Croft if the bike patrol can extend to that area, Croft made a note of it
- Croft mentioned that Tim Steele is retiring, who served on the school board for nine years and served west anchorage, he has skin cancer issues and needed to take some time for himself
- The public gave assembly the authority to sell MI&P working through the details
- Question from Jay Stange, he heard that the Assembly planned on appointing interim assemblyman for Tim, Eric said that if it's within 6 months of an election, by August there will be a special election for Tim's seat
- Tom McGrath made a motion to encourage the Anchorage Assembly to fill the interim assemblyman, Peggy Auth seconds, they agree that ultimately, they would like to see the interim as someone who isn't running in the fall
- Croft answered questions about the vacant building registry. Peggy mentioned that APD is severely understaffed. When the budget is coming up, there needs to be personnel there from Code Enforcement so they can address those issues

7:40 - Memorandum of Understanding with AM Delight, Renewal of Retail Marijuana License

- The neighborhood responsibility agreement establishes a relationship between marijuana retailers and their local community council
- Angela Vinh from AM Delight was at the meeting to sign the next round of the Neighborhood Responsibility Agreement
- Bill Marsh asks if they have cameras, they say they do and Brown Jug consistently asks to see their camera footage, their blindspot is the railroad where the "nefarious" activity happens

- They had one break-in but the security system caught him and police arrived quickly

7:50 Christine Bedell - Presentation about the 2040 Land Expansion

- Goals are to streamline residential parking to make it easier to use available reductions that require parking, and increase reductions on transport porters which Spenard is apart of
- Also working on compact housing ordinance, it amends the height of buildings which would allow more development in R2M zones in the area
- Trying to fix regulations for mixed use development and simplify those
- Working on redevelopment focus area, which Spenard has
- A council member asked what a reduction was, Bedell says it reduces the amount of parking thats required so people wouldn't have to provide as much parking
- Peggy Auth mentioned that the forums in person are more useful instead of giving handouts to people, and Bedell suggests that SCC appoints someone to continue working with them over the summer
- Jay Stange asks about what planning they see for the area around Chugach Way and the "Hockey Stick" lot area. Bedell says that there is a redevelopment focus area that needs to be completed as well as an EPA grant, the grant gives them the ability to do a small area plan. They have 3 areas they're looking to for that grant, priority one is in that Spenard area
- Bill Marsh asks if the council should appoint Peggy Auth to work with the 2040 Land Expansion, she says she'll do it

7:55 - Letter from the Chair in Support of Anchorage Assembly Dwelling Units Ordinance

- Melissa Morse is with the American Students of Architects Alaska, she says the purpose of ADU's are to add density without building large apartment buildings
- Chris Schutte from the Municipality of Anchorage Economic Development was also at the meeting, he helped draft the ordinance also
- Morse says that accessory dwellings add more on a property, we have a lot of larger lots and smaller homes. Changes made in the ordinance were 10 years overdue, a lot of concessions made to get it passed
- Melissa says there's about 160 or so legal ADU's in Anchorage. People want to build ADU's but they can't, so they've been rewriting this over the last 18 months to make it possible

- The ordinance allows more flexibility for Spenard-type homes. It protects setbacks, lot coverage, etc
- You have to live on site and be an owner occupied to qualify for an ADU, owner has to sign an affidavit
- Bill Marsh said that this is going to create duplex lots, his concern is that on street parking is going to be a serious problem for the neighbors
- This is not a new change to code, currently accessory units are allowed in attached and detached, the big change is the R1 and R1A districts. You cannot have a detached R1 or R1A, the secondary structure has to be a lower height than the first structure
- Turnagain Community Council had a lot of concerns and asked for modifications involving current codes, including notification for adjacent neighbors and the TCC to be notified when there's a request for a detached R1 or R1A
- For the last 25 years, many properties on Spenard Road have been rezoned from R3 to B3, Schutte agrees that Anchorage has overbuilt on commercially zoned properties and there is little industrial land because of it
- ADU's give obligation to provide parking, but it can be met on the property or not on the property, dependant on the traffic engineer not the property owner

Jay asks for a motion to support

Tom McGrath moves to approve and Lindsey Hajduk seconds

- Bill Marsh asks for an addition to community council's involvement as far as ADU's go, but Lindsey Hadjuk says that we shouldn't require notice, Tom McGrath agrees with Lindsey
- Morse says this is a homeowner to homeowner issue, not a business to homeowner issue
- Votes for Bill's amendment: in favor: 8; all opposed: 9; the amendment fails
- Bob Auth suggests an amendment to one story R1 and R1A, seconded by Peggy Auth
- POI by Morse about difficulty of writing in code, Bob amends his amendment for one level for detached in a condition in the letter
- Votes for Bob's amendment: in favor, 9; all opposed: 6; the motion is approved
- All in favor of supporting the letter: 14; all opposed: 3, the motion passes

8:45 p.m. Wrap Up

Adjourn - Jay Stange

Seconded by Allison Kelley