

Rogers Park Community Council
Meeting Minutes
7 PM Monday, September 10, 2018
****BP Energy Center****

I. Welcome

(Called to order in the Aspen Room of the BP Energy Center at 7:07 p.m. – quorum of over 40 attendees, with more arriving.) Jim Wright notes that we are over capacity for that room and may have to seek an alternate venue for tonight.

II. Approval of Minutes for May 2018

(Bob Churchill moves to approve, Gretchen Cuddy seconds, passed by 21, none opposed, 4 abstentions)

III. Assembly Report(s)

Felix Rivera: Budget coming up this fall. Property taxes will be going down due to the offset from the motor vehicle tax increase. There is a delay on the information they need from the mayor's office (the fund balance from 2017). Over the summer, Tim Steele resigned and Austin Quinn-Davidson was elected (West Anchorage seat). MLP to Chugach sale continues to proceed. Chugach Electric's board to vote on terms at end of October. MOA Assembly has until the end of the year.

Tom Crowley: Re: ADUs, we voted against it and why did you vote for it?

Felix: The number of ADUs expected was, comparatively de minimus on forecast between now and 2040. If done properly and with mitigation of excess it would be a boon for the neighborhoods. Could add code to limit the number in certain neighborhoods.

Dick Traini: Plastic bag ordinance is dealt with, but Weddleton wants to bring it up for reconsideration. Goes into effect March 1, 2019. We also have two marijuana establishments to deal with tomorrow re: licensing. Part of the budget issues is SAP. While SAP expense and delay was bad, he understands MOA cannot sue to recover.

7:20 p.m. moved location to the larger Birch Room in the BP Energy Center.

Jim Wright: Thanks to the volunteers who worked over the summer. Midtown Congestion (Highway) representatives met with DOWL/DOT, Crime & Safety Committee has been active, and Dave and Diane Evans led a crew who volunteered to tidy the garden beds at the LaTouche entrance. Dave credits his wife Diane.

IV. Legislative Reports

Rep. Andy Josephson (HD 17): Had hearings over the summer. One topic was the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. He provided AK LNG project updates, and addressed coastal flooding and NPRA future production. His staff is studying the diminishment of retirement benefits. He has been appointed to the Oil and Gas Working Group and Working Group on Worker's Compensation.

Rep. Harriet Drummond (HD 18): Over the summer, she was focused on agriculture and food security. She is Chair of the House Education Committee. Addressed gun violence prevention. Participating in a task force addressing reading comprehension and dyslexia. Bree's Law teen dating violence program. Spenard Road improvements are almost completed.

Jodi Madigan: Expressed concern that SB 54 was passed to defuse SB 91 but it seems like nothing has changed.

Harriet: There are about 5K people in prison and they're trying to keep it from growing. Agree there is too much crime, and people do have to take care of their neighbors. Noted the availability of Neighborhood Watch.

Neighbor who prefers to remain anonymous: Has taken personal security measures but still nothing gets done when you call the police. He is frustrated that he and his family are not being served. Online case reporting system doesn't work.

Linda Chase: Would you vote to repeal SB 91 if it came up again?

Andy Josephson: Would I vote to repeal SB 91? I was the only Democrat to vote against it.

V. Federation of Community Councils Report (Bob Churchill)

No FCC report to make in advance of first meeting this month (currently scheduled for September 19).

VI. Presentations and Discussion, as follows:

A. New Venue

Due to ongoing construction at Rogers Park Elementary School, the library is not available until at least February. Vice President Linda Chase secured alternate space at the BP ENERGY CENTER (the green building).

B. Midtown Traffic Revision Concepts.

Over the summer Jim Wright and Dave Evans have been attending meetings of the Citizens Advisory Council, sponsored by design engineers DOWL and the state DOT. Jim provided an overview of multiple design concepts plus anticipated non-motorized crossings, so far presented by DOWL/DOT.

A vote was taken on the sense of the body regarding having any road development that includes a LaTouche frontage road: **Zero in favor. 35 opposed.**

Zero abstentions.

Steve Noble (from DOWL, project manager for DOWL) attended, listened and offered some clarifications: Timeline for a decision will be: first, another meeting of the 3 advisory groups before the end of October to get rid of the road alternatives that are ridiculous or don't make any sense. Then they will commence with a public open house and public meeting again. No decisions will be made until spring. By the end of the next two weeks all meeting minutes to date will be on the website.

Dave McCargill: Asked what the estimated project cost will be.

Steve Noble: Indicated there is no estimate at this time.

C. **Crime & Safety Committee Update.**

Gretchen Cuddy: The committee worked clearing brush in the creek trail this summer, went to Assembly meetings, and Assembly crime and safety meetings. Working on getting the water quality report from AWWU re: the Chester Creek trail. Collection at Westchester Creek is problematic as fecal matter/e-coli tends to settle in the sediments there until high creek flows flush it out.

Sept. 11: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Forum on Public Safety at Wendy Williamson.

Sept. 18: 5:30-7:30 public forum for Anchored Home at Assembly Chambers (Loussac Library's Wilda Marston Theatre).

Next Crime and Safety Committee meeting is Thursday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Linda Chase: 1415 Bannister Drive.

Gretchen moved to propose a resolution and Bob Churchill seconds re Resolution in Favor of Concrete Actions the Municipality Should Take Now to Stop Illegal Camping.

Resolution: In favor: 33, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions.

Adjourned at 8:39 pm

D. **Other announcements as time permits.**

1. Tikishla Park Master Plan – was not addressed in this meeting.

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