



The Fairview Press

Serving Fairview where "People Make The Difference"

MARCH 12th PLANNING WORK SHOP GETS NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN ON TRACK!

Saturday, March 12, 2005 more than 75 persons gathered at Fairview Elementary School to participate in the Fairview Community Council's Community Planning Work Shop.

Following continental breakfast, registration and a welcome from FVCC President Darrel Hess, attendees listened to remarks by Mayor Mark Begich, Assemblyman Allen Tesche, and Community & Economic Development Director Mary Jane Michael.

All three stressed the word "connectivity", in referring to Fair-



presentation, David Post from the State Department of Transportation presented some concepts for the freeway to freeway connection between the Glenn Highway and the New Seward Highway, including some conceptualizations of the proposed Hyder Project.

Following Mr. Post's presentation, and a brief question and answer session, FVCC Neighborhood Plan Committee Chair Allen Kemplen reviewed workshop materials and the work shop outline.

After enjoying a light lunch, participants broke out into 5 facilitated work groups. Discussion in the work shops was articulate, passionate and lively, with a lot of give and take!

Using large base maps of Fairview with tracing overlays, each work group came up with their consensus vision of a revitalized Fairview. After wrestling with varied concepts for nearly 4 hours, the work groups came together to present their visions.



It was the consensus of the workgroups that they would like to see continued development of multi-family housing in west Fairview, with stricter design standards.

The groups favored mixed use development in the Hyder Corridor, with affordable housing above businesses, and closer ties between the Sports Complex and the proposed mixed use Hyder Development.

The work groups felt that the focus in east Fairview should be single family housing, with emphasis on revitalization of current properties and development of new single family properties.



The concept of a zoning overlay found favor with many participants. The proposal will be studied by the Neighborhood Plan and Zoning Committees, with the intention of bringing a recommendation to the Membership.

All in all, it was a long day of hard work, fun and refreshments. The FVCC and ANHS will jointly produce a document outlining the Work Shop's findings and recommendations. The FVCC would like to extend a BIG THANKS to Assemblyman Tesche, Fairview Elementary, the Municipality, Committee Chair Allen Kemplen & all of those who participated!

DIVERSITY
IS OUR
STRENGTH

Volume 3, Issue 4

April 2005

Tentative Agenda Topics

For the April Meeting

- *A review of the Fairview Community Council's March 12th Community Planning Work Shop*
- *Community Comments & Concerns*
- *Committee & Community Reports*
- *Discussion of a proposed zoning overlay for Fairview*
- *Discussion of the money allocated for Fairview in the MOA Road Bond Package*

"There are those who look at things the way they are, and ask why...I dream of things that never were, and ask why not?"

Robert F. Kennedy

1926-1968



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S MARCH MEETING

Thursday, March 10, 2005, Fairview Recreation Center

Meeting called to order by Darrel Hess, President, at 7:08 pm.

1. Secretary's Report – It was moved by Lorne Bailey and seconded by Noel Rea that the minutes from the January General Membership meeting be accepted as written. The motion was accepted unanimously. It was moved by Noel and seconded by Lorne Bailey that the minutes from the February General Membership meeting be accepted as written. The motion was accepted unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report – There is no current report, as the books were being audited. The audit reports for the patrol and general accounts for 2003 & 2004 were read to the membership. The auditor, Mike Carlson of Alaska Craft, found all entries of income and expenditures and account balances to be accurate. Mr. Carlson found overall accounting practices and record keeping "very good."

3. Fairview Elementary Report – no report

4. APD Report – no report

5. Annual Election of Officers – Sharon Chamard, the chair of the ad hoc Nominating Committee, took over chairing the meeting at this point. She read the slate of nominated officers to the membership: President – Darrel Hess; Vice President – Justina Meyer; Secretary – Sharon Chamard; and Treasurer – Harry Deuber. After the chair asked for other nominations from the floor, and none were heard, it was moved by Claris Syren and seconded by Noel Rea to accept the slate as read. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Allen Kemplen and seconded by Lorne Bailey to amend the written agenda to move directly to the election of Members-at-Large. Sharon Chamard read the slate of nominated members-at-large to the membership: Celeste Benson, Dave Brossard, Allen Kemplen, Dale Myhill, and Noel Rea. After the chair asked for other nominations from the floor, and none were heard, it was moved by Claris Syren and seconded by Lorne Bailey to accept the slate as read. The motion passed unanimously.

At the request of Claris Syren, Darrel Hess read the new Board Contract for the Executive Board to the membership.

6. Oaken Keg Resolution – Sharon Chamard continued as chair for this agenda item. She asked Paul Kasha, the manager of Carrs Gambell, to read the resolution to the membership. The resolution recommends to the municipality

that the Oaken Keg at Carrs Gambell be permitted to remove the security guard from the package liquor store from opening at 11 am to 6 pm. There would continue to be a guard on duty from 6 pm until closing of the Oaken Keg at 11 pm. This change would last 180 days, at which point the Council would revisit the issue. Paul Kasha remarked that some people have expressed discomfort over the presence of security guards, and that most other Carrs/Safeway stores don't have guards.

Questions and comments from the floor:

- Paul Kanitz – I like having the guards there.
- Dan Loring – I'm not going to support this resolution. The preamble is not accurate or truthful. I do patrols late at night and see lots of prostitutes and drug dealers hanging around. I don't see Carrs/Safeway making an effort to clean up their property.
- Sue Ann Bailey – there is a problem with public inebriates. I suggest that Oaken Keg be shut down and the grocery store expanded into that space.
- Lee Ross – what do the Carrs employees think about not having a guard there after 11 pm?
- Regina Manteufel – employees would feel safer if there were guards there. I've been accosted there at night, and I worry about the smaller employees.

Ron Alleva – last month we had a sense of the body vote on this issue; the vote was 7-1 in support of the resolution. I support the resolution. It's for a trial period. If you have guards, it gives the impression that the place needs guards. Carrs/Safeway has been a good partner; they've never asked for anything before.

It was moved by Ron Alleva and seconded by Celeste Benson to open the floor for discussion on the resolution.

- Noel Rea – Carrs has been a great neighbor. We have a six-month trial period.
- Dave Syren – the reason those people are hanging around Carrs is because it's comfortable for them. Carrs may need two or three guards. The regular employees won't challenge people.
- Celeste Benson – my son works for Carrs/Safeway. They are trained in security. They have dealt with serious problems. Trained employees can deal with situations

better than one guard can.

- Peter Roherh – if a crime is happening on Carrs' property, it should be dealt with by APD, not by Carrs' employees.

Claris Syren – APD cannot go on private property to enforce laws. Carrs/Safeway has lost business because of this problem.

Celeste Benson called for the question, seconded by Noel Rea. Fourteen persons voted to close debate; four voted to continue debate.

Dan Loring made a point of order, arguing that the chair, Sharon Chamard, had introduced personal opinion inappropriately when she commented on time constraints and the meeting agenda while she was conducting the vote on the previous motion.

On the vote on the Oaken Keg resolution, eleven voted yea and seven voted nay. The resolution passed.

(Darrel Hess resumed chairing the meeting.)

7. Assembly Report – Allan Tesche

People should be sure to send their forms in for the property tax reduction, in anticipation of the proposition passing.

There is a change in the way liquor license processing will be handled. People will now be able to go to their Assemblyperson with concerns, which will then be referred to the Muni's Public Safety Committee. It is an informal process that should make a difference to neighborhoods.

The Neighborhood Plan Workshop this coming Saturday will be an important event for Fairview. This community is at the forefront of others in Anchorage in doing this and addressing the new zoning overlay issue.

The new bond packet includes \$250,000 a year for the next three years for pedestrian improvements and amenities in Fairview.

Comments from the membership:

- Ron Alleva – I want to remind the membership that Allan Tesche has attended council meetings regularly and has represented Fairview's interests well to the municipality.
- Regina Manteufel – There is a boarded-up building (1226 E. 10th Ave.) that would be a good site for a UAA dental cleaning clinic. The health center needs to expand, and this would be a good location.
- Dan Loring – Does the Assembly talk about the achievement gap and low graduation rates from high schools?

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S MARCH MEETING

8. Presentation – David Post, State Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

This presentation concerned the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and its potential impact of Fairview in the coming years. Trans-Vision has six focus issues: 1) using systems more efficiently; 2) public transportation; 3) walking and biking around town; 4) roads; 5) commuters; and 6) the Highway-2-Highway connection. Over the next 20 years, there will be a doubling of traffic coming from the Valley. Volume on the Glenn Highway will increase from 50,000 to 100,000 daily trips; volume on the New Seward Highway will increase from 60,000 to 100,000 daily trips. This will affect neighborhoods like Fairview in a number of ways: more cut-through traffic, difficulties for pedestrians crossing traffic, a reduction in the level of safety, more difficult access to businesses and residential areas, and a physical division in the neighborhood.

One possible scenario for the Glenn Highway to New Seward Highway connection is a “cut-and-cover.” Pictures of other cities (e.g., Duluth, St. Paul, Seattle, and Phoenix) that have this sort of road development were displayed. A cut-and-cover is basically a trench with covered and open areas alternating every two blocks. The amount of covered area can be increased, but that would require installing ventilation systems.

If the volume of traffic on Gambell and Ingra Streets was lower, these streets could be reconstructed to become neighborhood streets with pedestrian amenities. The cut-and-cover project is more than just a highway connection. It could enhance trail and park connectivity; improve connections with downtown, Sullivan Arena, and Fairview’s neighborhood center; and increase the connectivity among Fairview’s different neighborhoods.

Questions from the membership:

Lorne Bailey – Have you considered the development of telecommuting?

David Post – Yes, there are about as many telecommuters as there are transit riders – about 1% of all commuters. Telecommuting does not have a huge impact.

Sue Ann Bailey – Is any of this going to be funded through municipal bonds, or will it all be federal money?

David Post – the project will cost close to \$2 billion; the federal share will be about \$1.6 billion. There could also be state bonds.

Noel Rea – The model shows a long span cov-

ered with a park. How much would you have to leave open for ventilation?

David Post – about the same distance.

9. Presentation – Allen Kempen: Neighborhood Plan Workshop Update

The workshop will be at Fairview Elementary this Saturday. The Mayor will be there, as well as other speakers from the city to talk about the importance of the Neighborhood Plan. The issues we will cover include what we want the neighborhood to look like over the next 20+ years, the connection between east and west Fairview, options other than the cut-and-cover, and ways of creating a more pedestrian-friendly environment.

10. Presentation – Dan Loring: School Bus Monitors

The issue is whether parents should have the right to ride school buses that their children are on. It’s a parental rights matter versus school district policy. Why are parents welcome in the schoolyard and in classrooms, but not on buses? The Anchorage School District transportation director is going to recommend to Carol Comeau to have a policy prohibiting parents on school buses for any reason at any time. I object to not having 24/7 access to and supervision of my child, and other parents agree with me.

Questions and comments from the membership:

Sue Ann Bailey – What about having trained volunteers on the bus to provide supervision beyond that of the bus driver?

Dan Loring – Carol Comeau has gone on record as being opposed to volunteers.

John Steiner (Anchorage School Board member) – Carol Comeau is concerned that if adults were on a school bus, they would be able to see when a child is getting off and figure out where he or she lives. I wrote her a letter stating this is a poor argument. I think just saying “No” to the idea of volunteers is wrong. Bus drivers can’t drive and watch kids at the same time. It’s not realistic.

Dan Loring – An alternative is for parents to go to the bus service company offices and watch the feed from the buses’ closed-circuit cameras in real time.

John Steiner – This is not a dead issue. I’m going to follow up with the Superintendent.

Dan Loring – I was surprised how immediately opposed Carol Comeau was to this idea. The

school district has not properly managed the bus routes. The school district has failed this neighborhood.

Darrel Hess – The Education Committee should get together and come up with something it wants the Council to do at the April general membership meeting. Maybe we could invite Carol Comeau and John Steiner to our meeting and have a dialogue on this issue, if the Education Committee comes up with an agenda item.

11. Committee and Community Reports

Beautification Committee – Harry Deuber

The Spring Cleanup is on May 7th. There will be dumpsters at the Rec. Center, and Fairview Elementary is also participating.

Darrel Hess – the activities at the school start at 10 am. The Council will provide hotdogs. In past years, the Council has sometimes donated a bicycle for a prize. This year, I think gift certificates from Barnes and Noble might be better.

There are five diverters that are up for adoption for the municipality, for \$75.00 each. There will be a Memorial Day weekend plant sale to raise funds for the Flower Patrol. We will also be continuing with more landscaping projects.

Education Committee – Dan Loring

We did not meet last month because of an emergency PTA meeting.

There is a new charter school at Shiloh Baptist Church. It will start this fall. Orientation for Winterberry School, which is for grades K-8, will be this Saturday from 1-2 pm, and again this coming Tuesday from 5:30-6:30 pm.

March 17th is the deadline for the admission lottery; the final lottery deadline is in June. The curriculum will be based on the Waldorf approach. For more information, go to <http://www.winterberryschool.org>

Recreation Center – Dave Brossard

The gym roof has major structural problems. Work on the roof should be finished in early April. The Rec. Center will be closed from 6-19 June for work on the floors.

A community workshop held on Feb. 15th had

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S MARCH MEETING

a small turnout, but there were good ideas put forth about programming and youth activities. The next such meeting will be around April 15th.

The Parks and Recreation plan is being updated and new districts established. The Northwest District includes Fairview. The district meeting will be held March 15th from 6-8 pm at the Spenard Recreation Center.

Noel Rea, Darrel Hess and I met earlier last week with people from the Rasmuson Foundation regarding a grant for the Rec. Center computers. Rasmuson seems interested, but the grant would have to a match. We need to raise funds, provide staffing and maintenance of equipment, and secure other donations of software and hardware.

Lorne Bailey puts in a lot of time at the computer lab. It could not run without him.

Questions and comments from the membership:

Sue Ann Bailey – Is there anything on the horizon about paying Lorne?

Dave – No, our focus is on the equipment.

Celeste Benson – I hope you are keeping track of Lorne's hours, because this counts for the grant.

Regina Manteufel – I would like to nominate Lorne for a legislative citation for all the work he does at the computer lab. Everyone should contact Les Gara and Johnny Ellis about this.

Public Safety Committee – Sharon Chamard

The committee met on February 24th. Members of the committee reported on the status of their ongoing projects and what is happening with several properties that are being moni-

tored. There was a discussion about panhandling and possible solutions. Dan Loring spoke about the problems in school buses and his attempts to get the school district to allow monitors on school buses. Dan also commented on how there used to be a behavioral problem room at Fairview Elementary that was quite effective. Not only has the room been done away with this year, there also in no longer any tracking of behavioral problems at the school. The next meeting of the committee is March 17th at 7 pm at the Rec. Center.

Celeste Benson said that APD Sergeant Cindy Stanton had to leave the meeting for another commitment, but requested that community members contact her with any problems.

Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee-Darrel Hess

The Zoning Committee has been restructured. Both Dan Loring and Allen Kemplen volunteered to chair the committee, and after some discussion at the last Executive Board meeting, we decided to have two parts – one to deal with long-term planning issues, to be headed by Allen, and the other to focus on more immediate zoning and code enforcement matters, to be headed by Dan. Lee Ross came up with the idea of referring to these two parts as “proactive” and “reactive.” I mentioned this new structure of the committee to urban planner David Boehlke, who said it was a fantastic and innovative idea.

12. Community Comments and Concerns

Lorne Bailey requested that he be reimbursed \$406.06 for expenses that he incurred for upgrading the firewall at the Rec. Center computer lab.

Dan Loring moved, seconded by Regina Manteufel, that Lorne be reimbursed the full amount. Discussion on the motion followed. Celeste Benson said that we all need to understand that when we do these unselfish acts, there are procedures, and that the Council has to vote to spend money before people can just go out and spend it. At the very least, the issue has to be brought before the Executive Board, and that if someone is going to spend money, there is a process. Other comments referred to the June 2004 general membership meeting, when Lorne Bailey requested reimbursement for money he spent on equipment for the computer lab, in anticipation of receipt of funds from the Lions Club, which never materialized. At that time, although the membership voted in support of a motion to reimburse Lorne, he was told that in the future, such requests would not be honored unless he asked ahead of time for permission by the Council or Executive Board to make purchases and then be reimbursed. Dan Loring said that he would support the current motion in recognition of all of Lorne's hard work in the computer lab, but that in the future, Lorne could not do this again and expect Dan's support.

The motion to reimburse Lorne Bailey was passed with a vote of 6 yeas and 1 nay.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Chamard, Secretary.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE COUNCIL WILL BE THURSDAY APRIL 14, 2004, AT 7 PM AT THE FAIRVIEW RECREATION CENTER, 1121 EAST 10th AVENUE

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COMMUNITY FOCUS: GATEWAY LEARNING CENTER

This month's Community Focus is on one of Fairview's most important partner organizations, The Gateway Learning Center!

The Gateway Learning Center is located in the southern end of Park View Manor, 801 Karluk, Suite 1 (corner of 9th Avenue and Karluk). Enter the parking lot from 9th Avenue to see the separate entrance and designated parking.

Purpose:

The Gateway Learning Center was established to house AHFC's Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program. FSS is designed to complement Alaska's welfare-to-work initiative by providing additional training and incentives, including an escrow savings account, to families seeking to improve work-related life and vocational skills. Gateway Learning Center programs help AHFC housing participants to become more self-sufficient.

Activities:

The primary focus of the Gateway Learning Center is adult training for families lacking competitive job skills. The Center will adult basic education and GED training, English-as-a-second-language training, entrepreneurial (small business) training, and computer skills in office-environment software. Scheduled hours are available for school-aged, low-income youth to improve their computer skills. The Center has been fully operational since May of 1998.

Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and after-hours on evenings and weekends of scheduled classes and activities.

Partners:

The FSS Program was launched in 1993; and in 1995, the following agencies and businesses became advisory partners. Through their efforts, the FSS Program continues to be a success. Several partners (*) offer direct services in the Center.

- Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
- Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, Division of Public Assistance*
- Alaska Employment Service
- Alaska Youth and Family Network*
- Anchorage YWCA Women's Fund*
- Child Care Connection
- Nine Star Enterprises*

- WIA, Department of Health & Human Services, Municipality of Anchorage
- University of Alaska, Anchorage, Adult Learning Center, Workforce Development Program
- University of Alaska, Anchorage, Educational Talent Search Program*
- University of Alaska, Anchorage, Educational Opportunity Center*
- U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

Agencies to be Located at the Center:

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

Provides staff for Gateway Learning Center and workshops on various topics, including self-sufficiency, life-skills topics, and home-buyer education.

Alaska Youth and Family Network

Provides support for youth experiencing behavioral, emotional and social challenges. Assists youth, their parents and professionals to become equal partners in developing and providing services. Their website, at www.avfn.org serves as a statewide networking and information center about Alaska mental health resources.

Anchorage YWCA

Provides training, networking, business counseling and start-up loans to Anchorage entrepreneurs. AHFC has a unique partnership between its home-based business policy and the YWCA's Women's Fund, which provides AHFC tenants with comprehensive entrepreneurial training, technical assistance, ongoing support, and access to micro-credit loans to develop and operate home-based businesses.

Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, Division of Public Assistance (DPA)

Provides case management for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. DPA administers the Alaska Temporary Assistance Program, which places a five-year limit on welfare benefits. Many of AHFC's clients lack the essential education, communication, and job skills to seek and retain successful employment. The case manager work with FSS clients in setting goals to become self-sufficient, and partner agencies will provide the training.

Child Care Connection

Through a Municipality of Anchorage JTPA grant, will provide child-care training and certification to AHFC tenants interested in opening a child-care business.

NineStar Enterprises

Provides basic literacy and language skills training. GED preparation, and workplace literacy training.

University of Alaska, Anchorage (Education Opportunity Center and Educational Talent Search)

Federally funded programs designed to recruit and mentor high-school students and low-income adults in a college-prep environment. The program helps them successfully complete high school and go on to post-secondary education. Through individual, small group, conference and workshop settings, EOC provides tutoring, career counseling, self-esteem building, college planning, parent support. Financial aid counseling and assistance programs.

Funding: A \$459,525 Family Investment Center grant from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development provided the initial funding in April 1995. Of that amount, approximately \$216,000 was spent on architectural and engineering work and physical renovations. An additional \$77,000 of HUD Comprehensive Grant Program (CGP) funds were used to complete the design and construction. Three apartment units at Park View Manor, 801 Karluk, Anchorage, were remodeled to accommodate office space, a computer learning lab, and a resident community room and child play area.

The Family Investment Center grant provided staff support and supportive services for the FSS program. AHFC "matched" the supportive services component of the grant with an additional \$150,000 for educational instruction, furnishings, office equipment, and additional computers for clients. Grant funding was extended to provide for operation of the Gateway Learning Center through June 30, 2004.

Currently, Gateway programs are funded by AHFC with a combination of resident services and corporate contributions.

CONTACT: Carol E. Richards, Gateway Center Administrator 1-907-277-2450 crichard@ahfc.state.ak.us

The Fairview Community Council would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to The Gateway Learning Center, and all of their partner agencies! Our Community appreciates all that Gateway does for our residents, especially our youth! A special thanks is extended to Nine Star Enterprises, who continue to make important contributions to our community!

FAIRVIEW KID’S KITCHEN IN CRISIS!

The Fairview Kid’s Kitchen is on the verge of a financial crisis. This laudable organization, which serves meals to Fairview’s children in need, is itself in need!

Kid’s Kitchen, Inc, an 9-year-old charity dedicated to feeding hungry children in Anchorage is facing a crisis in gathering enough food to meet the daily need.

Founder and Executive Director Elgin

Jones says the “need has never been greater, but the resource challenge - both financial and human – continues to grow as well.

Since September 1996 we have served almost 550,000 fresh, hot and nutritious meals to children in the Fairview, Mountain View, Muldoon and Spenard neighborhoods.”

Kid’s Kitchen is hoping that media coverage of its charitable mission and

the challenges facing it will alert caring people to the growing need. “I know there are good people and institutions out there who would volunteer or provide food, if they only knew we were here and how great the need is,” said Jones.

For further information, or to volunteer or make a donation Contact: Elgin Jones, (907) 274-8522.

“No Child Should Be Hungry”

FAIRVIEW BLAST FROM THE PAST!



Can you identify these Fairview Businesses, as they were in the 1950’s? One is in the same location, and one has moved several hundred feet! Both are still an important part of Fairview’s business community, and a major contributors to the Fairview Community Council’s activities! As we build our future, it is important to remember, and honor, our past. Thanks to Allen Kemplen for providing these glimpses into our history. If you have any photos of Fairview through the years, please contact Darrel Hess: 258-3714, or e-mail gmpeon@alaska.net. We would like to start including historical photos in our newsletters.