

Minutes: Spenard Community Council
Spenard Recreation Center
2020 West 48th Ave
Jan 2, 2019
(all times approximate)

6:30 pm Set Up - Coffee/Cookies/Conversations

7:00 pm Introductions: Executive Committee; Guests

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Neighborhood and Community Announcements (1-2 minutes suggested)

- Laura Oden sent out meeting invites. Please let her know if you'd like to be added to the list
- Anchorage Fire Department say thank you for passing the bonds to replace fire engines. They just came in service recently and they are a wonderful upgrade. They have a new hire group starting in a couple weeks. They are hiring 25 new fire-fighters. They are involved in the homeless discussion at the Muni through C.O.R.E. They respond pretty frequently to 911 calls that can be handled by another agency and may not be an emergency. Tom thanks them for their service during the earthquake.
- Jay mentions that there are elections next month in February for board positions and auditors. You must be a member in good standing and have attended a meeting in the previous 12 months.

Approval of Agenda and December 2018 meeting minutes

- Tom moves to approve and seconded by Sam

Airport Report (John Johansen)

- North South runway project will be conducted early April - summer. North/South runway will be shutdown for the majority for the construction season. There will be a high noise impact during this time. Terminal Concessions update - brookstone has moved out. New stormwater permit is in application phase with DEC. 60 public review period with a public hearing next month. Pesticides will be used in Lake Hood to protect pilots as well as keep invasive species out.

Transportation fair with DOT - they will be there to talk about the construction process.

- Connors Bogs experiences high air traffic noise. Member asks if possible to provide ear plugs.

Assembly Report (Austin Quinn-Davidson)

- December meeting on Dec. 18th. Amy Demboski's seat has been appointed - Gretchen Wembhoff was appointed. She is a teacher and on the transit board. She will be serving until April.
- Plastic Bag ban delayed until Sept. 15th to allow business to use bags they have already purchased.
- Discussion on assembly representation of the downtown district. They only have 1 representative when all other council's have two, although they have fewer people. There is discussion of having single or double representative districts. Tom McGrath is supportive of the single member district. There is also discussion on rotating the number representatives per districts where you redraw the districts/rezone.
- The charter says the assembly can be single and double member, but there has to be 11 members.
- Proposal to allow fireworks on NYE. People were not in favor of fireworks and it didn't pass.
- The Mayor put forward a proposal for an alcohol tax on the ballot. 10-1 to put it on the ballot. The proposal is 5% flat tax that will provide 10-11 million for issues related to alcohol abuse. Laura Oden asks if some of this money will go to housing. Austin Quinn-Davidson + Eric Croft say that some will go to housing related issues, but the details of the money are not yet confirmed.
- Andy asks if this is going to be based on price, not on volume. So if 11\$ local 6-pack will have twice as much as a tax as a \$6 6-pack.
- Judy asks if some of this money can be donated to nonprofits who are already doing this work and have infrastructure to house people.
- Austin Quinn-Davidson says that the proposal allows flexibility for changes in how the money is spent as needed.
- Jay asks the council to follow-up with Assembly members for any more questions about the alcohol tax
- \$100,000 bond for improvements to Ure Park off of Taft by Bill's house. There is an amendment to the bond for connecting fish creek trail to the park and for more lighting. If this bond passes, the city will come back to Spenard to hear more about what we need.
- \$500,000 bond to create trail from 33rd Ave to Benson + Lois Drive.

- Eric Croft was elected Chair of the Assembly
- Peggy suggest to let people know the meeting is being live streamed.
- Vote on bob's amendment that instead of FB live streams we record for archive. 7 votes in favor and 14 votes opposed.
- Vote on resolution with live streaming at meetings with an announcement at the beginning. 15 votes in favor and 8 votes opposed. Resolution passes and Feb. we will begin facebook live streaming.

School Board Report (Deena Mitchell)

- Inlet View is looking at a full ID program.
- School bonds will be on safety and security measures. Half of our elementary schools do not have the offices at the entrance of the building. This bond addresses that. It also addresses a new automatically lock-down system as well as a remote entry system.
- 1/3 of earthquake damage comes from schools with a total of 76 million. Deena says that number is high because not all buildings have had as much scrutiny/research done on the damage.
- Tawny mentions that maybe there was so much damage to the schools because there was lack of infrastructure upgrades.

7:30 PM Lois Drive/Ure Park Bond Packages

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7:45 PM Action Item: Facebook Live Streaming Resolution (Sam Davenport/Arina Filippenko)

- George mentions that he feels uncomfortable with us facebook live streaming and says that others feel this way to. Peggy agrees. She also thinks that people are not really engaging. Bill agrees as well and emphasizes the value of people coming in person.
- Is facebook the only way we can stream it? No, we can use YouTube. Facebook was selected initially because we already had a following.
- Lindsey Hadjuk moves to approve this resolution and Arina approves to second.
- Tom agrees with Jay that live streaming is more conducive with the future and they way people get their information these days. Agrees with George that Facebook security needs to be tightened up on a national level, but we are probably safe as a council from hackers.
- Tawny agrees that Facebook is under investigation and it may not be wise to facebook live during this time.

- Meg says that most of the problems people have brought forward have solutions and that the benefits outweigh the challenges.
- Sam says that several hundred people logged in to view the meeting. In June 105 watched the video.
- Bob suggests changing it from Facebook live to video archiving.

7:55 PM Action Item: Captain Sparrow Memorandum of Understanding and Liquor License Renewal (Shigenori Fujimoto)

- All operators are asked to bring a MOU to council for liquor license renewal although it is ultimately up to the municipality to renew permits.
- This MOU asks Fujimoto and others to engage with the community council and the residents and property owners within 500ft. and to restrict sales of certain items ie: single shots that are \$1.50 or less and all single serving cans and bottles of Malt Liquor with an ABV content of 9.9% or more under \$4.
- Fujimoto says that he can distinguish between “street walkers” and poor people. They are taking pictures of people who are drinking in public and causing problems in public spaces. He says that most of the customers are responsible, but they are a few people that are creating this problem. He does not want to see his business impacted and says that he will have to close his store if he stopped making the sales of the identified alcohol. He doesn't think it's fair for him to take responsibility for a larger problem.
- He is not willing to sign the MOU and would like to put up a Drive-In Members only that discourages “street walkers”. Irene asks what constitutes a member.
- His renewal is up next month at the Assembly.
- 30% of his sales come from items listed in MOU. Laura is really concerned that his business is supplying our city's alcohol problem.
- Tom mentions that other businesses seem to stay in business without selling these types of alcohol and that if he refuses to sign maybe he shouldn't be in business.
- Jay mentions that all Spenard package stores are required to renew their licenses and are asked to sign this MOU.
- Chris asks how long Fujimoto has known about the MOU. He has been to several meetings and saw this MOU several month ago.
- Tom moves for SCC to ask Anchorage Assembly to require these restrictions or deny the permit renewal if the operator decides not to decide. Laura Oden seconds. No vote.

- Fujimoto decides to sign the MOU and everyone is encouraged to shop at Captain Sparrow.

8:15PM 32nd/33rd Project Comments (Finalize Letter)

- Aims to improve stormwater facilities and non-motorized paths.
- SCC/Jay wrote a letter supporting non-motorized paths but that this project doesn't seem to be working within other projects going on. He asked them to take a step back and review how this project which is \$14-18 million does not fit in the bigger vision of non-motorized paths for Anchorage. The committee told they are not going to stop the project.
- Peggy expresses concern that this is Midtown's project not Spenards. She thinks this project helps the underserved community in Midtown. She feels like this is an opportunity to give people who live in apts on 32nd and 33rd to have safer non-motorized paths.
- Jay's letter asks how this project fits into the larger safety issue in Anchorage. He thinks we should look at where the accidents are happening and put our money in those areas.
- Lindsey does not support the letter as is. She thinks we need to provide infrastructure in lower flow traffic areas. IE: you can't just provide bike paths on Northern Lights and that we have to have infrastructure in less stressful areas. She would like to include what we want to see in our community in this letter, not just to slow the project down. She says this project has been in the bike plan and in the works for a long time.
- Jay mentions that funding for Fireweed is included in AMATs funding plan.
- Joy emphasizes the question: How does 32nd/33rd fit into the overall connectivity for non-motorized paths. She thinks the money spent on this project should be prioritized where people go.
- Christine says that this project, if successful, could inspire and add motivation to other really important projects.
- Jay wraps up and thanks everyone for

8:30 pm Wrap Up

- Jay motions to adjourn meeting and Tom seconds.