

NECC

Northeast Community Council

General Meeting Minutes January 17, 2019

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Pledge of Allegiance:

Introduction of the Board: New board member Charles England.

Board Members Present: Selina Metoyer, Kevin Smestad, Rachel Boudreau, Charles England, Marc Grober, Dave Ulmer, Carla McConnell

Board Members Absent: Stu Grenier excused.

Approval of January Meeting Agenda:

Motion to move the representatives to the beginning of the agenda by Mr. Kevin Smestad, seconded by Ms. Rachel Boudreau, motion passes.

Motion to amended to include discussion between government officials by Mr. Marc Grober, seconded by Ms. Rachel Boudreau, motion passes.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Mr. Charles England, seconded by Mr. Bob Reupke, motion passes.

Treasurer's Report: \$2083.69, Bob reported in place of Stu.

Executive Report: Food garden and fruit trees at the park, created the agenda, appointed Mr. Charles England to the board.

School Board Report: Not present.

Representative Reports:

Special Assistant to the Mayor: Not present.

Senator Bill Wielechowski: Very busy start of the session, committee hearings right away, oil production forecast, commissioner hearings all next week. About a 2.6 billion deficit this year. Governor has filed a bill to payback dividend checks over the next three years. Debate on whether the PFD should be in the constitution. The money is in the dividend funds to payback constituents.

Senator Kathy Geissel: Not present.

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux: Also off to a very busy start. New representatives elected. No majority house, business cannot be conducted, no speaker elected yet.

Representative Lance Pruitt: No majority house, business cannot be conducted, no speaker elected yet. Budget draft being sent out soon and proposing to draw from dividend. The hot topic is regarding the budget and budget cuts, feedback would be appreciated. Oil per barrel projected just under \$64.

Representative Ivy Spohnholz: Call 465-4940, transition office, call if need to get in contact..
Working on a bill for insurance coverage for tele-health services.

JBER Community Planning: Also in attendance-Mark, Daniel, Collette from JBER. iSportsman website is available for recreational opportunities, renew your iSportsman pass in the new year.

Muldoon Library: Not present.

Federation of Community Councils: Mr. Reupeke shared about the FCC meeting the previous day.

- Richard Fern-lead enforcement office gave a presentation on abandoned buildings.
- Eric Croft-presentation on the raising the number of assembly members
- Presentation on Next Door on what and how it is used.
- Transportation fair on Wednesday, February 6th at the Alaska Airlines center.
- ASD School board-a 10 million-dollar deficit projected in the budget, state budget will remain the same, French Immersion program of O'malley Elementary
- Information about the proposed alcohol tax available.
- January 22nd, Anchorage Climate Action Plan.

Community Activities Reports:

- James Smallwood running for school board seat C.

Business:

Old Business

1. Bus Barn Resolution to Support Moving to Site #27- Mrs. Rachel Boudreau presenting (5 min)
 - a. Planning and Zoning was looking at site #27 and voted in favor of only recommending site #27.
2. Cheney Lake Master Plan Follow up- Ms. Carla McConnell presenting (5 min)
 - a. Master plan developed 15 years ago, was never submitted to Planning and Zoning for final approval. Mr. Steve Rafuse said it would be about \$5,000 to submit it to Planning and Zoning right now.
3. Open Seat/Committees chair on the NECC Board- Mr. Kevin Smestad presenting (5 min)
 - a. One seat was filled by Mr. Charles England.
 - b. Mr. Rick Phillips is interested in joining the board.
 - c. A number of committees are open for anyone to join or be involved with.
4. **Added-Discussion of board members with officials on behalf of the NECC**
 - a. Mr. Kevin Smestad shared items of mail to the NECC from the Municipality.
 - i. Mail from the Municipality in regard to changes to the code on a number of items.
 - ii. Inscale housing comments.
 - iii. Title 21 regarding land use permits.
 - b. Mr. Dave Ulmer spoke regarding the substations.
 - c. Ms. Rachel Boudreau emailed Municipality resolutions from November.

New Business

1. Russian Jack Spring Park Master Plan-Van Le and Steve Rafuse presenting (10 minutes)

- a. Sharing about the beginning of the master planning process, master plan usually lasts about 20 years. Planning process includes a number of different populations and includes workshops, surveys, and outreach to other community councils.
 - b. February 27th is the first planning workshop. A website is available for the process.
 - c. The process will take about a year and then the approval process will happen, flyer has more information.
 - d. Ms. Kendra Closter, Ms. Kristi Wood, and Ms. Carla McConnell are all on the advisory board, selected by Mr. Steve Rafuse. They will report back to the council to share information about the process.
2. Bears in Chanshtnu Muldoon Park- Steve Rafuse presenting (10 minutes)
- a. Phase 1 is complete. In 2016 Parks and Recreation applied for a \$750,000 that was awarded in 2017 and just approved by the Assembly to use this week.
 - b. Phase 2 focuses on the central core area; off leash dog park, food forest, community garden, trails, lookout points, bike track, etc.
 - c. CMP highlighted in the AARP 8-80 initiative.
3. Information About Bears in Parks-Mr. David Battle from Alaska Department of Fish and Game (10 minutes)
- a. Area biologist and Mr. Cory Stanoff it's the assistant biologist.
 - b. Biggest concern is with the orchard idea. The park is in area with a lot of bear traffic and a good amount of trash available. Fruit that is allowed to collect on the ground and that provides a food opportunity to draw in bears. Alaska Botanical Gardens is no longer planting new trees.
 - c. Will include in the official document:
 - i. All trash containers should be bear resistant.
 - ii. If a fence is implemented, then the gate should have some sort of spring to close it to prevent moose from getting in there.
 - iii. The fence should be an 8-foot fence.
 - iv. Have gates on all side in the case that a moose gets in.
 - v. Bears can climb most fences that are not electrified, electric fences will be the only way to keep bears out.
 - vi. If there is an electric fence, there will need to be a schedule for someone to maintain it.
 - vii. Bears can also dig under fences; the bottom part of the fence will need attention.
 - viii. Clear lines of sight throughout the park.
 - ix. Make sure the plants and trees are not poisonous to the animals.
 - d. Botanical garden and CMP both have a lot of bears in both areas, there is a lot of available trash in the Muldoon area which is not at the botanical gardens. Muldoon is always a hotspot for bears. Has not had a lot of reports from the community in regard to bears in personal orchards. NECC does not have to follow his recommendation however, he needs to go on record to share statements. There are salmon that come up that stream. No data on the paths of collared bears, but in the past few years there have been reports of a bear/s moving further west, one bear can generate a number of reports.
4. Proposed new AWWU water main construction from Early View Drive and the extended eastern Debarr Road Easement, crossing Chanshtnu Muldoon Park – Mr. Dean Syta (Stantec Consulting) P.E. presenting (10 min).

- a. 486 zone intertie projects, a water main extension, at the very eastern end of the park. Need to connect existing water mains in the park. The purpose is to improve the water supply in about a two mile area with several thousand homes. The ground in the area is not good, rather than digging up the park they will be drilling under the park. Some excavation will be needed, but not in the park itself and does not interfere with the master plan of CMP, have been in communication with PnR (MOA with real estate office). Targeting construction for later this summer with 9-12 weeks for the project.
5. Catalyst Cannabis Company-Mr. Will Schneider presenting (10 minutes).
 - a. Planning on expanding and the northeast and east side is underserved area in regard to recreational marijuana. Wanted to start engaging the community starting now, the whole process will take about a year, they do not have a property identified yet. 9900 Old Seward is the first store and they are having an open house. Knows there are concerns regarding cannabis shops and would like to address those and dispel myths, desires to build a good relationship with the community council. MOA between cannabis shops and community councils to address problems as they arise, brought a template. Community involvement meeting also in the process.
6. Deadline to apply for State Individual Disaster Assistance is January 29th, 2019.
7. Alcohol License Renewal-Samurai Sushi Garden and Ding How Restaurant (February 12, 2019), Muldoon Pizza (January 29, 2019), Party Time/Boniface Liquor.

Assembly Person Pete Peterson: Passed 2019 budget. Applying to FEMA for reimbursement due to earthquake damage and may. Need to eat up some of the costs. Voted for a 5% alcohol tax. Voted to not make fireworks legal for 3 hours on New Year's Eve. Delayed the implementation of the plastic bag ban until the middle of September for retailers. Cost of rebuilding the port is a lot. Projected revenue came in pretty close to what was predicted.

Assembly Person Forrest Dunbar: Passed a resolution last night for the CMP, a matching grant passed. The 29th will be a meeting to review a number of items before the public for the ballot. One including regarding towing junk vehicles. Answered a number of questions regarding the port, bus barn, user fees, disaster assistance, undocumented individuals, etc.

Assembly Gretchen Wemhoff: Not present.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Ms. Carla McConnell motion to table until next meeting, seconded, motion passes.

Committee Reports:

Alcohol and Marijuana Committee- What was already on the agenda.

Bylaw Committee- had a meeting recently and will come out with a draft of recent changes.

CIP Committee- State has CIP list, probably not money this year.

Parks Committee- See above information regarding bears in the park.

Fat Bike Committee- Date available for using facility, moving along, talking with ANC fat bike.

Picnic Committee- Email coming out next week, proposed a date 3rd Saturday in June.

Trails Committee – Trail from Krispy Kreme to the bridge is now lit!

Community Patrols- Still reports of crime in the area, south side area growing.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.