

North Star Community Council

When: Wednesday, February 25, 2004, 7-9 p.m.

Where: North Star Elementary School Library

Who: Anyone who lives, owns property or a business, or has a student enrolled in the NSCC area

AGENDA

7:00 – Call to Order

7:01 - Introductions

7:05 - Approval of 02/25/04 agenda

7:06 - Approval of 01/28/04 minutes

Reports and Presentations

Elected Official's Reports

7:07 – Legislative (5 minutes + time for questions)

7:17 – Assembly (5 minutes + time for q & a)

7:27 - School Board (5 minutes + q & a)

7:35 - Treasurer's Report

7:37 - Police Report – Sgt. LeBlanc

7:45 – North Star Elections – People are needed to fill open offices. Be thinking of stepping up and running to keep your Community Council viable!

8:00 - Alaska Railroad Whistle Noise Reduction System – Stephanie Wheeler (5 minutes + Q&A)

8:10 - Solid Waste Services – Alley Refuse Collections – Brian Vanderwood (5 minutes + Q&A)

8:20 – Federation of Community Councils – Update on The Next Phase- Closing the office and moving operations/services to the MOA Clerk's office

8:25 - Mid Town Community Council Update

8:30 - Westside Community Patrol Update

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment at 9 p.m. (unless majority votes for extension)

For more information about North Star Community Council or to receive this agenda by email, contact

Sam Rose: 277-6361 or samrose@gci.net or

Mike Mitchell: mgm@ak.net

Council Elections Are In February. Consider Stepping Up & Running To Keep Your Community Council Viable!

Minutes North Star Community Council

Wednesday, January 28, 2004, 7-9 p.m. North Star Elementary School Library

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM

In attendance: Sam Rose, Chair; Bonnie Jack; Kattaryna Stiles; Mary Jo Robinson

Also present: Doug VanEtten, Sgt. LeBlanc

Agenda approved.

Approval of minutes: There were no minutes to approve.

School board report: None given.

Assembly report:

Doug VanEtten distributed his Assembly report.

Public testimony will be taken on Tuesday for Internet voting for municipal elections.

A resolution supporting a gas pipeline spur to Anchorage is being discussed at the Assembly. VanEtten wants more information on the implications and alternatives.

Bonnie brought up concern that we are one of only a few states that don't require this real estate disclosure, which can lead to unfair or inequitable tax assessments. Action will not likely be taken at the municipal level, but could be pursued with certain Anchorage legislators.

Kattaryna brought up that Alaskans for Tobacco Free Kids is discussing an increase the local tobacco tax with certain assembly members and that ATFK may seek community council resolution next month.

Legislative Report

Mayor has been in Juneau outlining legislative priorities, which are posted on the municipal website.

Les Gara's legislative newsletter was distributed

Treasurer's Report

None given

Police Report

Sgt. LeBlanc reported that recent APD prostitution detail had focused on johns. 7 have been arrested in recent efforts and contracts have been approved to begin impounding johns' vehicles.

Bonnie asked about enforcement or towing of cars parked over 24 hours on roadways. Sgt. LeBlanc stated that enforcement is nearly impossible since it requires an officer to be present until towing is completed, which is not feasible at this time of officer shortage. 13 new officers are currently in training and will be online around mid-April. Sgt. LeBlanc gave a report on an increase in home burglaries across Anchorage – none yet in North Star. Method is often to force entry through front doors, which can be prevented by replacing short lock screws with longer ones to impede forced entry.

APD crime suppression unit is primarily working downtown to reduce predatory activities against intoxicated or otherwise incapacitated persons.

Upcoming North Star Elections In February

Sam announced that he would not be seeking re-election for the chairmanship as he will be moving into a new community council area.

Mary Jo stated she could no longer hold the position of treasurer.

Members are needed to run for open offices.

Kattaryna was bribed by the offer of good food/lunch into accepting a nomination for secretary.

Federation of Community Councils

Funded only at \$26,000 this year, which won't cover office space or staff. Offices will be closing and operations will be moving to the MOA Clerk's office.

Ideas were discussed on how to streamline communications process. A web reporting form and use of the free media (Anchorage Chronicle, Anchorage Press, Pulse) for dissemination of council information was recommended.

Resolution –Near Point Antenna Farm

Not discussed

New Business:

Hong Kong restaurant liquor license is up for renewal. Council expressed no concerns.

Home depot wants to landscape. Council expressed enthusiasm.

Espresso stand going up on corner of A/Northern Lights by Taco King. Council expressed no concerns. This business is outside our boundaries but near enough to trigger notification.

Romig Park had an R-1 zoning issue for a 15,000 sq. ft. lot. Comment period is over.

Anchorage Comprehensive Community Plan was not discussed.

Mt. Vernon condos is involved in the creation of a Midtown Community Council. NSCC expressed many concerns about this issue, including how MTCC would affect our boundaries. We went through the boundary review process that lasted over two years. Through that process, our southern boundary was extended to 36th Ave., which includes the attendance area of North Star Elementary School. If MTCC gets the boundaries they have requested, it would chop us back to Fireweed Lane. It seems unfair that they get to bypass the review process and be granted area that we are connected to and can represent well. An option would be to "split the difference" and push our boundary back to Northern Lights Blvd.

Adjournment 9 p.m. no objections.