

## **Airport Heights Community Council February 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Ramsey. A quorum was present.

The agenda for the February meeting and minutes from the January meeting were accepted with amendments related to the language relating to the CIP list discussion. CIP items that were discussed at the January meeting include: 1) A stop light at Debarr and Sitka Street / Chester Creek Trail Connectivity; 2) Walkway along E. 20<sup>th</sup>, and Nichols and Northern Lights; 3) Sidewalk on E. 20<sup>th</sup> between Tikishla and Bragaw.

**Assembly/Legislative:** Representative Tarr introduced a gentleman named Simeon who will be attending future council meetings as a community liaison; there will be a constituent meeting on March 21 from 3-5. Senator Begich mentioned that his renter's insurance legislation has passed the labor and commerce committee. Assembly member Rivera discussed the upcoming alcohol tax on April's ballot, the MTP 2040 plan, and issues relating to the Midtown Congestion Relief project. Assembly member Zaletel discussed the Port of Alaska cement terminal, the MTP 2040 plan (the assembly is submitting its own resolution), and a resolution dealing with mental health education.

**PTA Report:** Meg Zaletel gave a report that stated: 1) Airport Heights Elementary School is being considered as one of three schools to be named in honor of the late Bettye Davis; 2) The skate club is active and skating on the rink is taking place.

During discussion of the idea to name a local school after Bettye Davis, Kalen Saxton made a motion to have the council endorse East High School be named in honor of Bettye Davis; the motion was seconded by Dick Snyder. After much discussion, a motion was made by Matt Widmer to table this motion to March; the motion was seconded by Kalen Saxton and passed with unanimous consent.

**Tikishla Park 2020 Improvements:** Steve Raffuse gave a report on Tikishla Park improvements. The plan includes getting rid of the ball field fence, bringing the playground more out in the open, and improving parking lot visibility (cut corner out, take out mounds, insert trees that are more visible, insert new poles and light fixtures in lot). There will be no picnic shelter. The parks and Recreation Commission will take up the plan in March. The project will be completed by this summer.

A motion was made by Barbara Karl and seconded by Dick Snyder to write a letter of support approving the plan as submitted and to send a letter of support to the parks and recreation commission. The motion passed with 21 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

**Infill Housing (President Ramsey):** Tom Davis with MOA Planning met with members of the community at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to discuss the Infill project for R2-D zoning; plans relating to this have been put on hold due to their being upheaval between South Addition and professional builders – the builders want to build higher, South Addition does not. It was mentioned that the neighborhood planning process can be a method used to address issues in the neighborhood relating to zoning concerns.

**Spruce bark tree removal (Tyler Boyes):** Options to remove dead trees was discussed (removal options mentioned: 1) Bulk discount tree removal; 2) MOA "fire wise" grant application for removal – there are steps being made to confirm that this program is still live with the MOA. Reports on further developments will be forthcoming.

**CIP 2021 Report – Barbara Karl and Chelsea Ward-Waller:** The process of choosing council Capital Improvement Projects for the CIP list was discussed. The deadline to submit comments to the MOA is the end of May. A discussion will be held at the March meeting, with selections made after that.

**FCC Report:** John Whitlock (alternate FCC delegate) reported at the meeting of the Federation of Community Councils, overviews were provided on the bonds/propositions that will be appearing on April's ballot and the MTP 2040 plan.

**Community Concerns and Announcements:** n/a