

Spenard Community Council
Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2004

From Juneau, via teleconference, Hollis French spoke on the proposed gas pipeline. He is working on transparency in negotiations. He referred to the PFD spending and conference of 55 in Fairbanks next week. A law on mandatory disclosure price of real estate sales doesn't look like it will come about this session. There will be a be an Anchorage Town Meeting 9-noon, Saturday, February 7 at the Assembly chambers.

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m.. Motion for approval of January, 2004 minutes was made by Tom McGrath and passed.

The Anchorage Police Department would like feedback on police performance. They have a place on their website where one can make comments. At this time, only website comments are welcome.

There will be a public hearing on the new Midtown council February 17 before the Assembly. Woody Sanders, acting as the representative for Spenard at the last Midtown meeting, said there is a draft on rules for Midtown in the works. Next Midtown meeting will be at the University Center, room 144, 7 p.m. February 11.

Dan Sullivan gave an Assembly report. The Assembly accepted \$450,000 from the Rasmussen Foundation for study of the further expansion of the Coastal Trail, although he was personally against it. The vote was 8-3. Rezones will now cost \$4,000.00 for residential to B-3. Abstentee vote by fax was approved. There is a new bill in the Legislature on teen strip clubs. Questions were raised about undergrounding utilities on Northwood and the current state of the Harding extension. Harding has been put off for a year. Tom McGrath brought up conditional use costs for small businesses for beer and wine licenses has become too costly. A Weed and Feed program for Spenard was discussed.

Sam O'Connor reported on the January 12 fundraiser at Pizza Olympia. Already 65% of the monies raised have been sent in. Five thousand dollars were raised. The Westside Patrol will possibly use the funds to purchase Web cams to monitor the more unsafe streets in Spenard. The Council will vote on spending the money, probably at the next meeting, after the Patrol has had a chance to check the prices of the cams. There was a public safety meeting at the Anchorage School District offices on youth violence and crime. Another neighborhood meeting is scheduled for the area around 30th and Spenard on March 1 at the Paradise Inn.

Tom McGrath made a motion to thank the \$100.00 contributors and the staff at the Governors office for the work they did at the fundraiser.

Stephanie Wheeler came to speak for the Alaska Railroad and their new projects for 2004. The railroad is building infrastructure for future commuter passengers. Tom Brooks for the Railroad talked about reducing noise at railroad crossings. Using median barriers would diminish the possibility of vehicle traffic circumventing the gates and thus lessen the railroad's need to use 100 decibel whistles as long or as often.

They will be used on 36th Avenue as part of a study. A question was raised about Chugach Electric using the railroad corridor for their new lines.

In and Out Liquor - Tony Kim would like to donate \$100.00 to the safety fund. He's transferring his liquor license to his father. Tony Kim would still be managing the store with his father. Motion to approve the transfer was made and passed unanimously.

Margaret Auth reported for the Zoning Committee. The Maple Ridge rezone did not go to the Planning and Zoning Commission because the property had not been properly noticed. It is now scheduled for March 1. Ownership will change. One of the tracts involved has already been sold according to the new owner and he is negotiating for the other tract closest to Spenard. The Cook Subdivision on 40th and Denali rezone has also been rescheduled for March 1. Bart Green is selling some of the properties that had multiple fire, code and building violations and has signed a letter with the fire department on converting a B&B back to a single family residence.

Sam O'Connor, acting as nominating committee chair, said that Bob Auth has been nominated as chair, Brenda Smart as vice-chair, Jason Bergerson as secretary and Allen Thornhill as treasurer. A motion was made and passed unanimously for the slate.

FCC had a meeting. Harriet Drummond had cancelled the meeting in December, so they couldn't nominate new officers. The delegates are the only ones who can cancel meetings. Assembly Chair Dick Traini is looking to "in-house" some of FCC's work. Brenda is continuing to work on the by-laws committee.

Sam O'Connor recommended a letter of commendation and a mention in the next newsletter of a pizza delivery driver who fended off an attack and led the police to the culprit. Allen Thornhill gave the treasurer's report for the fundraiser: Cash in hand: \$2,500.00, promised contributions: \$2,100.00. Balance of over \$16,000.00 includes funding for public safety equipment.

Move to adjourn was made and passed at 9:10.