

Minutes of the Tudor Area Community Council
November 2, 2006
Rogers Park Elementary School

Sheli Dodson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. There were eight members and four guests attending. The council approved the minutes for the Oct. 5, 2006, meeting without objection.

Christy Stuller, DOWL Engineers, talked about the project to extend E. 40th Ave. from Lake Otis Pkwy. to Piper St. and upgrade E. 40th Avenue from Piper St. to Dale St. The 40th Ave. extension is intended to improve access to the south U-Med District and to function as an east-west collector street that may return 42nd Ave. to a residential street. A public meeting is scheduled for Nov. 13, 2006. (See <http://www.east40th.com/>.)

Rep. Berta Gardner announced that a public member is needed for the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics. More information can be found at <http://ethics.legis.state.ak.us>, under Public Member Appointments and Vacancies. If you are interested in serving, you should send a letter of interest and a resume to Chief Justice Dana Fabe, Alaska Supreme Court, 303 K St., Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2084.

Teri Peters, Muni Parks and Recreation, discussed concerns about David Green Park. It is designated as a neighborhood use park, but is open for use by all Anchorage residents. In 2005, Parks & Rec. decided not to issue permits for park use, not realizing that the lack of permits for use of the pavilion would lead to more people using the park or that groups would stake out the park for their exclusive use. The permits have restrictions on noise, alcohol, and numbers of users, and inflatable play structures require insurance. Neither park use nor park permits are enforced; there are no "park rangers".

Council members asked many questions about the problems they have had with park users. Problems include loud noise and excess use of public address systems, overcrowding, lack of adequate parking spaces at the park, and illegal parking on the streets and on others' property. Example: the First Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, across MacInnes St. from the park, has had their parking lot so full of cars belonging to people using the park that churchgoers had no place to park. Park users use alcohol in the park, leading to rowdiness and other problem behavior. Toilet facilities at the park are inadequate for the crowds that use (and abuse) the park.

We were told that residents should report illegal activity, excess noise and illegal parking to the police. (Past discussions with the Anchorage Police Dept. liaison officer about the availability of officers for resolving problems like these have not been encouraging. There simply aren't enough cops on shift most of the time to take care of "minor problems".) Council members heard no substantive solutions to the many problems they have encountered.

Several procedural approaches were proposed: Parks & Rec. plans to go back to their permit system next year; they will not rent the park to known problem groups. The park does not have a master plan. Teri Peters suggested that Parks & Rec. and the council could prepare a community vision plan to help define park usage. The council could invite the Chief of Police to a council meeting. Other community councils may have been successful in alleviating problems; the Council chair will contact the Russian Jack and Spenard Councils to find out what successes they may have had. AM¹ Dick Traini participated in the discussion. More to come.

Dick Traini gave the Assembly report. They are working on the interim budget, the second year of a two-year budget cycle, intending to reduce property taxes if higher mandatory retirement contributions for PERS/TRS will allow. The Muni ethics ordinance is coming up for a public hearing soon. AM

¹ AM: Assembly member(s)

Traini and Coffey are proposing a bond package to extend Bragaw St. from Northern Lights Blvd. though to Tudor Rd, dividing the campuses of the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and Alaska Pacific University. UAA no longer objects to the new road.

Mr. Traini says the fire department plans to relocate the engines now at Fire Station 4 to the old borough fire station on Lake Otis while the new building for Station 4 is being built at Tudor and MacInnes. He is working on getting some interim funding for Fur Rendezvous. Mr. Traini is also working with the Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau to have ACVB provide long-term funding for Fur Rondy. ACVB is resisting efforts to share "their" funding, much of which comes from a Muni bed tax on hotels.

AM Traini and council members discussed the shortage of police officers and difficulties in recruiting and training new officers. The Assembly did not fund police officer recruitment travel, thus limiting the police department's efforts to put more police on the street. Mr. Traini was surprised to discover that the main police station was not manned on the weekends due to limited funding and the shortage of officers.

Sheli Dodson presented a Federation of Community Councils (FCC) report. Connie Quinley attended the 10/18/06 FCC meeting. Rogers Park council proposes a joint meeting with the Tudor Area council on the planned construction of a religious center and museum at 36th Ave. and MacInnes St. People can find flu shot dispensaries at www.flucliniclocator.org.

There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM.

Tudor Area Community Council Contact Info: We want to hear from you! Contact me at: Tudor Area Community Council Sheli Dodson, Chair PO Box 230808 Anchorage, AK 99523 (907) 522-6436 sheli@gci.net Put Tudor Community Council in the subject line	Anchorage Police Dept. Comm. Center (Dispatcher): 786-8900 Emergency: 911
	APD Community Council Liaison Sgt. Cindy Stanton Phone: 786-2668 E-mail: cstanton@ci.anchorage.ak.us
	Code Violation Hotline 343-4141