

SACC South Addition Community Council

Minutes, April 19, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

I. Minutes from the March 15, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted.

II. Reports

President – Bonnie Harris:

- a. Recent Planning and Zoning activities:
 - 1) Re-platting 1510 P St. and 1621 Hidden Lane - public hearing April 23
 - 2) AMATS Draft Pedestrian Plan - public hearing May 7 (call Cheryl Richardson for local meeting to review plan, 555-5555)
 - 3) Site Plan Review for E Street - public hearing May 7
 - 4) Chester Creek Restoration - public hearing May 9
 - 5) Sign Ordinance for residential districts – Anchorage Assembly
 - 6) Human Services Transportation Plan - public hearing May 8
- b. Numerous liquor licenses up for renewal, several near South Addition.
- c. Regulatory Commission Report includes:
 - 1) Enstar files for extension of mains and services
 - 2) Alaska Waste Services new billing system
 - 3) AWWU tariff revisions
- d. Items of local interest:
 - 1) Pioneers Home to celebrate its XX Anniversary on June 21. They are also sponsoring a lecture series put on by the Advanced Health group (???).
 - 2) Veteran's Memorial unveiling in April at Denali Elementary School.
 - 3) Playground improvements to the area behind the Police Substation at Westchester Lagoon. Paul Provencio indicated that the state and some local businesses have provided over \$100,000. They are working on a design.

Treasurer's Report – Doug Johnson: SACC's current balance is \$1070.00.

Assembly Report – Assembly Member Allan Tesche:

- a. Code Enforcement is now available on-line. MOA encourages people can now report zoning violations and nuisances, such as noise, junk cars, trash, etc., that plague neighborhoods by filing a report on the MOA's web site. MOA hopes to keep current the status of complaints. To date Mountainview has posted 35-40 complaints, and Fairview 25-30. Allan encourages residents to use the system to test it for its ease of use and provide feedback on improvements. He hopes the APD and Animal Control will be added to strengthen the system. Alan meets with system designers on May 23rd and would welcome input.

- b. Title 21 review; the Assembly is now reviewing the first four chapters. Alan is very concerned that the public is not involved in the process. Several people at the meeting agreed with Alan that the public involvement has faltered.

Federation Of Community Councils (FCC) – Kathy Weeks reported from the April 18 meeting on the need to revise the neighborhoods Capital Improvements Project (CIP) list. She handed out last year's list to consider for 2007. The FCC is working on getting the Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) conference in Anchorage in 2010.

Legislative – Representative Les Gara forwarded two letters. One to AMATS stating concern for the Knik Arm Crossing in terms of costs, road connections and need for the Long Range Transportation Plan to state there will be no neighborhood impacts. The other was in support of the coastal trail extension up through Ship Creek.

III. Old/New Business

- a. Downtown Plan – Tom Davis, MOA planner, described the draft Downtown Plan. It is one of several focused area plans as an outgrowth of the 20/20 Comprehensive Plan. Others include Fairview, Mountain View, and Hillside. The goal of the Downtown Plan is to create a vibrant northern center that is a gathering place for all of Anchorage.

The plan will set the groundwork to create a unique civic core that supports a variety of activities for Anchorage's varied population. Key ideas include increasing housing downtown by making the streets more livable and providing support services such as grocery stores. He stressed circulation, connectivity and conversion of streets to "activate the ground floor environment"-meaning shops and businesses. The Plan discusses improving the relationship of the building to the right-of-way by encouraging development that steps back to allow sun to the street and suggest utilizing winter city ideas that will make downtown a great place to live. Once the plan is completed it will be incorporated as an appendix to Title 21.

Discussion included questions about the new parking garage and whether there would be residential above and ground floor retail. Concerns for understanding the effects of big buildings on the downtown microclimate were raised with particular focus on the convention center. The ConocoPhillips Building was noted as causing severe weather along "G" Street in addition to having roof ice falling on to sidewalks. It was clarified that the "E" Street project design considers closure of "E" Street at Towne Square versus a full length closure for events.

- b. Condominium Development at 10th and "E" – Harvey Prickett with Dean Architects showed a rendering of the six-unit building currently under construction. The building includes underground parking with visitor parking at the street level. Themed for ice and fire, the building will be unique and include vibrant colors and significant glass windows with many materials that are environmentally friendly. It will be completed by the end of 2007, units range in size from 1,700 to 3,000 square feet and will be for sale when the building is further along.

Mr. Prickett also had renderings of two other projects he is working on including a four-plex at 8th and "O" St. and a 24-unit building at 6th and "M".

- c. Lower Chester Creek Revitalization and Fish Weir – Doug Johnson is attending committee meetings, representing SACC, to review and advise on the proposed project. The project scope has been significantly reduced due to the large area related to the antenna ground plane. It now includes a much smaller area within proximity to the existing weir. The project includes realignment of the creek, adding a view area and a small loop trail and reusing existing vegetation (birch trees) in other location of the Lagoon to improve habitat.
- d. Municipal/School Land exchange – Bonnie Harris presented a resolution passed by the Northeast CC regarding the MOA and school district transferring property without informing the public and requesting that the MOA and School District provide meaningful public hearings. Doug Johnson moved (Second by Lisa Jamison) to request the MOA to provide proper public notice for transfer of property management authority including park lands and leases. There was no opposition to the motion and 13 in support.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.