

**Rogers Park Community Council
Minutes
7 PM Monday, May 14, 2007
Rogers Park Elementary School Library**

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of Minutes

- III. Announcements
 - A. Bike to Work Day – May 16th, 2007
 - B. Recycling Household Electronics: July 14th – EAST High School
 - C. Liquor License Renewal: May 15, 2007 Assembly Meeting
 - 1. Brown Jug (College Mall)
 - 2. Pizza Plaza (Northern Lights)
 - D. Title 21 – Chapters 4,5,6, 12 drafts due in June
 - E. UAA and Goose Lake Bike Trail
 - F. Parks and Recreation Department Update
 - Teri Peters – Northeast Parks District Manager
 - G. Alaska Hispanic Business and Resource Directory
 - H. Local Government Forum hosted by Alaska Common Ground
 - May 17, 2007 10 – 5 at UAA

- IV. Assembly Report: Mr. Coffey and Mr. Traini

Mr. Coffey was not present.

Mr. Traini: discussed property tax relief, Muldoon mall, Walmart superstores, 4th Avenue Theater liquor license, the new Fire Station 4 at Tudor and MacInnis and the demolition of Clark Middle School.

- V. Legislative Reports (if any)

Berta Gardner emailed regarding ethics legislation.

- VI. APD Report: Sgt Denny Allen -- dallen@ci.anchorage.ak.us

Sgt Allen was not present.

- VII. AFD Report: Mike Davidson -- DavidsonMA@ci.anchorage.ak.us

AFD Report: Mike Davidson was not present.

- VIII. Federation of Community Councils Report
 - A. PM&E Project website – <http://munimaps.muni.org/PMEProjects/>

FCC representative was not present.

IX. Treasurer's report

Mel Langdon stated that the account balance is \$153.45.

Heather thanked Mel for updating the website.

X. Unfinished Business

A. Jacobson Park Trail Improvements

Last month members expressed concerns about the proposed trail improvements leading to paved trail. The RPCC voted in January 2006 to support an unpaved trail. A Rasmuson Foundation grant was received in August 2006. A boy scout, Zach Klutz was recruited to conduct the improvements. There was discussion about the width of the current trail; the proposed clearing will be 2 feet on either side of the current.

Question: Are there any ADA regulations/issues?

Jim Wright: Municipal exemption court ruling

Question: Is this going thru parkland or wetland?

Heather: It may not be not class A wetlands.

Member: It may be class B wetlands.

Heather: Zach Klutz received approval from the Corps of Engineers.

The parks engineer and designer said it could be 5 feet wide.

There was a presentation by the Friends of Jacobson Park.

Heather: The Parks Department approved the project and solicited approval from the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Behr: stated that any interference within the area adversely affects the wetlands.

Mr. Wright: The law is uncertain on the question: Is Jacobson Park is subject to the neighborhood covenants? The legal opinion obtained cannot be cited as legal authority. He spoke with the municipality today; they have not improved the park in 23 years and do not plan future improvements.

Mr. Gingras: Friends of Jacobson Park expressed concerns that homeless people reside there during the summer and that increased access to the area will increase the use by the homeless population. This is an enforcement issue.

Ed Volk: I have lived here since 1969. The only access to the wetlands is a path made by people going from Princeton to 36th. Any gravel that is brought in will be taken up by the wetlands. This is a bog/swamp; a moose and a calf are in there now. Suggested that it be fenced off.

Bob Behr: stated that the attorney's opinion was that any improvements would be a violation of the covenants. The city has said that they will pave it if ADA requires it.

Larry Levine: Moved to rescind existing resolution regarding Jacobson Park trail improvements passed January 2006. Roberta Lytle seconded.

Resident: Express hope that we can come to agreement that would consider both sides.

Resident: ways to deal with side issues like homeless reports to police

Dick Sheasley: I enjoy the park at all times of the year. If we do improve it, we may make the problems more prevalent due to easier access. I will support the motion to rescind.

Resident: leave it in its rustic state.

Mel Langdon: A more durable trail may preserve the narrow trail.

Larry Levine: why is this different that the improvements proposed by the Lubavich Center?

Jim Wright: Boy Scout trail improvements were approved; it is a question of proportion.

Resident: The trail approved in January 2006 was desired by a different group of people.

Peter: The Lubavich Center design team tried to keep the Jacobson Park improvements a separate issue.

Steve Shephard: I now live in Rogers Park. I moved from Valley of the Moon.

Question: Will improving the trails increase the number of homeless?

Heather: Increasing the number of people into the park can increase the surveillance.

Call for the question.

Vote to rescind the resolution to support improvements. 20 in favor. 17 opposed.

Motion to rescind fails due to lack of 2/3's majority.

Rich Gingras moved that The RPCC recommend that the Jacobson Park trail width increase be limited to 1'6". A friendly amendment was suggested that the width be to

minimum ADA standards. Since no one in the group was certain about these standards, this amendment was not included. Another friendly amendment was the recommended with not exceed 5' with no buffers. The following resolution passed by a vote of 34 to zero: **The Rogers Park Community Council recommends the Jacobson Park improvements for a trail width not to exceed five feet with no buffers.**

B. Municipal Land Use Code Enforcement

Heather: Last month code enforcement officers left information on junk trash and junk cars and proposed that door hangers be used to notify residents. These would be an educational notice to correct violations prior to formal complaint.

Other concerns raised included properties that are zoned R-1 which prohibits a duplex.

Rich Gingras moved that we not endorse code enforcement officers coming into the neighborhoods, except in response to formal complaints. Paul Marmora seconded.

Another resident: Would like to see code enforcement.

Resident: I was here last month. Code enforcement asked us to identify the issues that we want to see addressed.

Call for the question. Motion passed 22 to 10.

Bonnie Marmora moved to not endorse code enforcement officers to come into College Village, except in response to formal complaints. Jim Wright seconded. Motion failed. 12 opposed 16 in favor.

Gary Brell moved to endorse code enforcement to come into all neighborhoods. Eric Zink seconded. 17 in favor 9 opposed.

XI. New Business

A. Annual Survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=871303804946>

The Rogers Park Community Council complies with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and is an equal opportunity employer. Reasonable accommodations will be made available to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. Please contact Deborah Bauer, Community Councils Center, 907-277-1977, no later than 10 days prior to the meeting date to make any necessary arrangements.