

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 pm.

Board Members Present: Peggy Robinson, Ron Rivas, Bob Reupke, Mary Pedlow, Clinton J. Hodges III , Charlie Fahl, Dean Syta, Troy Carlock (arrived 8:30)

Board Members Absent: Steve Sommerfeld

Approval: Previous Minutes: Minutes of August 16, 2007 approved unanimously.

Approval: Agenda: Agenda approved unanimously after adding an item from Pete Peterson to the Community Action Reports and item #11 to Business: Potential closure of Bartlett Pool.

Treasurers Report: The checking account balance is \$632.71. There was one expenditure in the amount of \$31.68 for copying for the Town Center Committee. Peggy Robinson added that ML&P was considering a \$1000 +/- donation to NECC for improvements in the meeting room, such as whiteboards and additional chair racks.

Audit Report: Ron Rivas reported on his and Clinton Hodges' audit: Everything was in order. A written report will be submitted later.

Executive Board Report: District Plan Funding Request sent to the Assembly

Representatives Reports:

- **Representative Bob Roses**
 - Education Task Force has been meeting. They have agreed on a 5-year plan, but lack the votes for "Forward Funding", which is languishing in the Finance Committee. The HESS Committee is considering separating out education as a separate committee. \$500M has been put in the Education Fund, so contribution to CBR has been accordingly reduced. Rep. Roses felt the Governor's budget vetoes were unfair. He will be visiting Pebble Mine site next week.

- **Senator Bettye Davis** (Tom Obermeyer, Legislative Aide)
 - Vetoes in her district amounted to \$540K with \$460K funded.
 - Reported on the SCHIP program and concern that the President may veto it because he believes it has more money then needed.

- **Senator Bill Wielechowski**
 - Most attention is on PPT and upcoming special session in October. Sits on Resource Committee, which will be involved in the PPT issue.
 - Toured the Pebble Mine site. Concerned about potential conflicts with salmon fishing and modest revenues to the State. Legislative Research has been contacted for more info on projected revenues to the State. Concern that State does not get their fair share. Regarding charges of "bribes"; reported that people have received "per-diem" allowances of \$200/day to attend meetings, e.g.. Reported meeting with Northern Dynasty people, but not anyone with the Anglo-American company. Bill was surprised to learn that the Pebble Mine project would require as much energy as is used by all of Anchorage. The obvious concern was where the needed energy for the mine would come from.
 - APOC statue of limitations. Now 1 year, use to be 5 yrs. Working with others to increase it to 4 years.
 - Book Drive for children ends on Sunday 23rd.

- **Representatives Gruenberg, Dahlstrom, Crawford and Senator Dyson not present**

- **Anchorage Assembly Member Selkregg**
 - Reported on her situation in the Assembly, lacking votes for money to support comprehensive planning in NECC, Scenic Park, and Russian Jack area. She encouraged us to contact the other Assembly members in support of this issue.
 - Sheila also encouraged NECC members to attend Assembly meetings; often Assembly changes ordinances as seems best to them, etc, whereas even one representative from NECC might temper such changes.
 - The IM issue has been postponed; referred to committee.

- **Anchorage Assembly Members Bauer, Ossiander, Starr not present**

Community Activity Reports:

- **Northeast Community Center** – Bob Reupke
 - Bob reported that they were hiring a part-time person to control the youth, some of whom have been creating problems in the hallways of the Center. He also noted that there were still 3 vacancies on the Community Center Board and encouraged people to consider filling those vacancies. Meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at the Center.
- **Federation of Community Councils**—Bob Reupke
 - The Federation met yesterday, but did not have a quorum (nor in July either). Bob described a flyer on CIP information and a survey on the Internet regarding the Federation that has had 308 responses.
 - Mayor's office has requested input to their web site concerning changes to roads.
 - Chris Tuck is the new liaison between the Anchorage School Board and the Federation.
 - Assembly person Dan Sullivan met with the Federation board and updated them on his initiative before the Assembly regarding changes in the election process which he is advocating: 1) Change Mayor voting such that 50% (currently 45%) plus one of the votes would be necessary to elect a mayor; otherwise a round off election with the top two candidates; 2) single assembly member districts; and 3) single school board member districts. Sullivan said he would like to give us a presentation if we invite him.
 - Anchorage police will be adding 3 more community liaisons. Also, there will be an academy in November; there are 35 candidates. They expect a 60% success ratio.
- **Clean Elections**—Pete Peterson
 - Pete had a petition to support clean elections and invited council members to sign it during the meeting.
- **No other representatives of other community activities were present**

BUSINESS:

- **1) MULDOON COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY (MCA) SNOW STORAGE SITE PLAN AMENDMENT:** Dale Fick of Muldoon Community Assembly church presented their proposal to shift the site of their snow storage from their exit ramp to the north onto 11th to the southwest corner of their parking lot, adjacent to the corner of Ermine and 12th. There was a lively discussion regarding this with different views as to the direction of the water flow when the snow melts; MCA felt it would drain to the east, causing no impacts on the adjoining neighborhood, while others felt it would drain south onto 12th and then west onto Ermine. In addition, there was an issue of the drains only being “dry wells”, thus overflowing during spring break up. Mr. Fick stated that their proposal would save them approximately \$10K; the cost of moving snow off site last winter. Concerns were raised about the danger to children who might play in the snow piles that might be contaminated from vehicle effluents. On the other hand, concern was raised about the carbon costs of moving snow off site, and that children play on snow piles in cul-de-sacs all over town.

A MOTION: NECC September 20, 2007 Resolution 1:

The NECC does not support the amendment to the MCA site plan to allow snow storage on their parking lot at 12th and Ermine.

THE VOTE: 7 in favor, 4 opposed, 7 abstaining. Passed

- **2) GRIME FIGHTERS CAR WASH; REZONE VACANT LAND AT 10TH & MULDOON, EAST SIDE, FROM RESIDENTIAL TO B-3.** Burt Bomhoff, owner of 5 lots at the site presented his plan for the car wash, similar to a Grime Fighters car wash near Costco. He stated it was in compliance with the 2020 plan, and the general criteria for town centers contained therein. In response to questions he stated that the traffic to the car wash would range up to 1 car per minute; there was a 20 ft buffer next to the residential land to the east; the property had not sold zoned as R3 due to the noise and traffic of Muldoon Rd (disputed); he was planning to clean up the North Fork of Chester Creek which flows along his property; he would approach noise at the site similar to that which he done at the Costco site—namely, a “nip it in the bud” approach with an attendant at the site even in the evening less busy hours if necessary and utilization of video and cooperation with the police; and users of his car wash could exit south on the north-south alley to 11th & Muldoon and turn left (to head south) because there will be a light there after it is moved from 12th & Muldoon in conjunction with the Wal-Mart development.

A MOTION: NECC September 20, 2007 Resolution 2:

The NECC supports the proposed rezone from R-3 to B-3 for commercial development of Sunny Acres, Block 1, as it is compatible with the 2020 Plan for the Muldoon Road area. This rezone should subject improvements to a site plan review.

THE VOTE: 15 in favor, 4 opposed, 2 abstaining. Passed

- **3) ALCOHOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEARINGS FOR RENEWALS OF LIQUOR LICENSES FOR 2008-09: AMERICAN LEGION POST 29, FRED MEYERS-MULDOON, HACIENDA MEXICAN RESTAURANT, HOLIDAY WINE & SPIRITS #631, MACS/ICONS LOUNGE, LAST FRONTIER BAR, HOW HOW RESTAURANT, VFW POST 9978, AND WHALER BAR & GRILL.** Clinton Hodges, chair of the committee presented this item. He stated that some problems outside a couple of the above establishments including a shooting outside one of them - it had been determined by the police to not be related to those establishments. Some concern was voiced regarding trash in the woods north of Fred Meyers related to their liquor store clientele, as well as the availability of high alcohol content mouth wash. Clinton explained that these issues had been brought to Fred Meyer's attention, and they were being addressed (or had been). The Alcohol Committee recommended approving the renewal of the liquor licenses for all of the establishments named above.

A MOTION: NECC September 20, 2007 Resolution 3:

The NECC approves the Alcohol Committee's recommendations.

THE VOTE: 14 in favor, 4 opposed, 3 abstaining. Passed

- **4) TITLE 21 PROPOSED CHANGES. CHAPTERS 4, 5, & 6.** [NECC September 20, 2007 Resolution 4] Due to the unavailability of Glenn Clary the Title 21 Committee Chairman, Peggy Robinson presented a summary of the substantial changes in these chapters of Title 21 [handouts of these changes were available at the meeting]. Chapter 4 changes were accepted without objection. Chapter 5 changes were supported or not as follows: a) outdoor keeping of animals: NECC recommended without objection allowing rabbits and chicken hens; b) Connex shipping trailers were disapproved by a vote of **10 for, 4 against, and 6 abstaining**; c) Cloth garages should not be prohibited by a vote of **1 for [prohibition], 12 against, and 5 abstaining**; d) & e) outdoor storage of inoperative vehicles and use of travel trailers as residences over 90 days in a calendar year were both supported without objections, as long as the travel trailer prohibition would not affect the Golden Nugget Camper Park; and f) the prohibition of more than 9 one-day garage sales per year per dwelling unit was supported without objection. There were no comments regarding chapter 6.
- **5) HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL SITE NOTIFICATION.** Discussion and action on this item was postponed.
- **6) WAL-MART UPDATE. P&Z COMMISSION DECISION.** Peggy Robinson reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission had approved the platting by a vote of 7-0, and the site plan by a vote of 6-1. The Commission did add to the site plan some landscaping in the large parking lots (every 100 yards).
- **7) DON JOSE'S UPDATE. ASSEMBLY ACTION.** Peggy reported that the Assembly had approved only Beer & Wine for this restaurant. Also, they stipulated that they have to maintain the landscaping between the establishment and Old Harbor Road to the north.
- **8) CIRI HIGHWAY LANDSCAPE VARIANCE UPDATE & ZBEA DECISION.** While the NECC board at their meeting on the 6th had approved this item, it was back to the full council due to issues raised by the MOA staff at the ZBEA hearing/meeting. Tim Potter, DOWL Engineers, (consultant to CIRI) gave a brief presentation. There ensued a lively and emotionally laden discussion with high volume commentary. Issues were related to the flagging of the trees to be removed, the sizes of the replacement spruce, whether or not mechanical equipment (vehicles) could be used which would allow larger replacement trees, etc. Also at issue was whether or not there had been timely and visible posting of the notice of hearing of this item.

With time running out, a motion was made and seconded to extend the meeting until 10:15.

A MOTION: NECC September 20, 2007 Motion 4:

The NECC extends the meeting until 10:15.

THE VOTE: 14 in favor, 5 opposed, Passed [14 exceeds 2/3rds of 19]

In accord with NECC Bylaws, a vote was requested as to whether the council concurred with the board action at their September 6th meeting, namely, their approval of the following Resolution: "*The NECC Board of Directors moves to approve the cutting by hand of the flagged trees in the Highway Screen Buffer that are dead and almost dead, and approves the use of the alternate landscape plans in the two cleared buffer areas shown on the site plan. These alternate landscape plans include a combination of birch that would be a minimum of 12-15 feet tall and of white spruce to be a minimum of 4-5 feet tall, to be planted by hand in a more natural configuration than is the standard.*" **That vote was 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstaining.**

A MOTION: NECC September 20, 2007 Resolution 5:

The NECC confirms the Executive Board's decision to approve CIRI'S landscape variance request regarding highway screening.

THE VOTE: 9 in favor, 7 opposed, 3 abstaining. Passed.

- **9) ALASKA GREENHOUSE PROPERTY UPDATE.** Peggy gave a brief update. In her meeting with MOA last month she learned that staff is working on the issue of the 12 acres of parkland on the east end of the property. There will be no access by vehicles to the parkland from the south, only from the north. There will be foot and bike access from the south. Specifics of what is included in the park depend on whether Debarr Avenue east of Muldoon is connected to Boston Street, as direct access will allow larger traffic movement. Parks and Recreation will start planning in the park in the spring and contact NECC for joint work with our committee. MOA intends to sell the middle section of the property as soon as possible, but the value of the land also depends on whether Debarr Avenue is cut through. Also, consultants are working on plans for creek realignment on the west end of the property, so as to connect to the realigned section on the west side of Muldoon Road. Once the creek work is done, the property will be re-platted and sold. The Administration promised the Assembly that they would sell the land and repay the money used to purchase it ASAP.
- **10) BEGICH MIDDLE SCHOOL PROPERTY EAST OF FIRE STATION AND NORTH OF THE PLAY FIELD AND TRACK.** Robinson and Reupke met with MOA regarding this property, earlier understood to be 5 acres, with NECC in line to receive 4 acres with which to build a dedicated Community Center. MOA had previously asserted that the fire station needed about 1 additional acre. It now is understood that there is only 2.6 acres total. The MOA has higher priorities for rebuild/remodel of other fire stations, so they are not planning on doing anything major with Station 6 for a number of years. They may temporarily use this extra land for laying out hoses and other activities. They will remain flexible in regards to whether to rebuild at their current site and use this additional 2.6 acres, or move to a different site. With the lease for the community center being in 5-year increments, we agreed that our timeline would be 9-10 years (2016) as a goal for having both open.
- **11) BARTLETT POOL CLOSURE.** This item was discussed during Assembly woman Sheila Selkregg's report to the council. While Selkregg and many council members support keeping the pool open for community use, the larger issue of the city budget and the wishes of the majority vis-à-vis the Assembly needs to be recognized. Attendance of NECC members at upcoming Assembly meetings with Bartlett Pool/Budget on the agenda is highly recommended.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS:

- No time.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:15 PM

Respectfully submitted: Charlie Fahl, Asst. Secretary

Other Important Notes and Announcements:

1. Presentations and subjects are timed. Brevity is important. Please wait to be recognized by the Chair.
2. Please sign in when attending meetings. If possible, choose to be notified by E-mail. Send E-mail to info@communitycouncils.org if you'd like to receive Council information by E-mail.