

Minutes of the Tudor Area Community Council
Sept. 3, 2009
First Church of God, Tudor and MacInnes

President Sheli Dodson called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. The council is meeting at a new meeting place, the First Church of God at 4317 MacInnes Street. Our thanks to Pastor Steven Myers for providing the space to meet within our council area. There were ten members and four guests present. People introduced themselves. The council approved the minutes for the May 7, 2009, meeting without objection.

Speakers:

Assembly: Assemblywoman Elvi Gray-Jackson discussed next year's budget and likely fiscal problems. She intends to introduce a resolution to allow public involvement in the budget revision process. New mayor Dan Sullivan and his staff see additional revenue shortfalls in the coming year. The anticipated shortfalls have caused the administration to go into cost-cutting mode. Elvi also said that she would work on the homeless camping issue. Jeff Wooten from Campbell Park Community Council was at the meeting to push a program called "Take Back Our Park", or T-BOP, which is intended to take back Campbell Park from illegal campers and vagrants. (Elvi's assembly report is attached.)

Legislative Report: Noah Hanson, State Rep. Berta Gardner's aide, worked on illegal camper issues this summer, saying that some of the "homeless" are not in fact homeless. He rode with the Anchorage Police Dept.'s CAP team this summer. Although enforcement is a municipal responsibility, Rep. Gardner has been interested in the possibility of establishing a legal camp area like Veterans Ridge Park at Reeves and Commercial Drive. There were comments from council members. Max Hensley, State Sen. Ellis' aide, said that public inebriates have been a major project for Sen. Ellis this summer. He described several efforts now under way, including a secure facility at Clithroe Center on Point Woronzof. "Curing" public inebriates is not an easy problem.

FCC Report: Sheli Dodson described the last FCC meeting. Jeff Friedman reported on School Board activities. One topic he mentioned affecting parents was Zangle, the school district's new participative software for students, teachers, and parents. The FCC received its third quarter funding. The FCC faces many expenses, and using the U.S. Postal Service is expensive for them. Sheli noted "Constant Contact", the new software the FCC is using for e-mail addresses and data.

Old Business:

There were reports that Bob Kniefel, the Muni traffic engineer, says that the light at E.36th Ave. and MacInnes St. will be installed "this fall". (There was no overt laughter at the assertion.)

New Business:

The council was notified of the proposed renewal of the liquor license for the Golden Lion Hotel. There was no discussion.

The meeting location has been changed to be closer to council members. Deanne Tuckerman moved that the council meet at this location as long as it is available. Hilary Wick seconded the motion. There was no objection.

There was a brief discussion of a possible joint meeting with Campbell Park. The issue was tabled for further discussion.

Sheli described the kinds of projects that could be presented to the Neighborhoods USA meeting when it is held in Anchorage in 2011. She also enthusiastically described the 2009 meeting held in Spokane.

Steve Aufrecht said that the boardwalk within the Louise McDowell Sanctuary has been completed.

The council adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

The president asks that we register our e-mail addresses with the Federation of Community Councils' new e-mail list manager at <http://www.communitycouncils.org/>. Use of the new e-mail list manager will cut down on the labor-intensive process of having the office manager enter each e-mail address by hand.

<p>Tudor Area Community Council We want to hear from you! Contact me at: Tudor Area Community Council Sheli Dodson, Chair PO Box 230808 Anchorage, AK 99523 (907) 227-4036 or sheli@gci.net Put Tudor Community Council in the subject line</p>	<p>Contact Info Anchorage Police Dept. Comm. Center (Dispatcher): 786-8900 Emergency: 911 Code Violation Hotline 343-4141</p>
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*Assemblywoman Elvi Gray-Jackson
Assembly Notes for Tudor Community Council
September 3, 2009*

Mayor's \$9 Million Budget Shortfall – Assembly involvement and public hearing – it is my intent to bring forward a resolution/ordinance addressing this issue.

Charter Section 13.06 and Municipal Code 6.10.085 – Mayor must report revenue shortfalls – Assembly has the responsibility to increase or decrease expenditures -

Administration is reverting back to an annual budget instead of biennial. This is not a Code requirement therefore, does not need a change.

2010 Budget - The Assembly received preliminary information required by Code. Mayor's budget must be presented to the Assembly –120 days before the end of the year.

The public hearing schedule for the budgets will be posted on-line at www.muni.org

Wheelchair Accessible Park. Anchorage does not currently have an accessible park. The City has some funding to make this happen but additional funds are needed. Several parents have come forward and are willing to help raise funds to make this happen. A Fundraiser Kickoff event held on August 13th with support from Representative Garner and Senator Ellis. Design will begin sometime next year along with construction in 2011. The site that is available is in Cuddy Park. Donations can be made at www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org. (case sensitive)

Homeless ordinance – Public Safety Committee meeting will be held on September 9th – City Hall, Room 155 to discuss possible revisions to the ordinance. Meeting is, as always, open to the public.

TBOP (Take Back Our Parks). Because of growing and long-term frustration with homeless inebriates in Campbell Park off of Tudor and Folker a Committee has been formed to address the issue and find ways to improve the quality of life for the residents of this area. The Committee consists of members from the community, police, ARBRA, Rescue Mission, and others. For more information, contact Jeff Wooten, Chair (444-1811).

Veteran's Ridge – I spent one afternoon with Ed O'Neill walking through this homeless area. This was my second visit to a homeless area. It was an eye opening experience and I realized, through a conversation with a person who has been homeless living outside for 18 years, he would really like to become a part of society but feels this is his only hope.

Police Ride-Along – I have committed to doing a police-ride-along once a quarter (time permitting). I believe that our elected officials should, at least once, do a ride-along to see just what is occurring – first-hand – within our community in terms of public safety.

Paramedic Ride-Along – I took my first Ride-a-long this summer. Another eye opening experience seeing exactly what our public safety officers do within the community and what it takes to save lives. Kudos to all of our public safety employees.