

# NECC

**Northeast Community Council**

**Minutes – July 15, 2010**

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Call to Order: 7:05 PM

**Board Members Present:** Kevin Smestad, Stuart Grenier, Bob Reupke, David Ulmer, Ainslie Phillips, Selina Metoyer, Gabrielle LeDoux

**Board Members Absent:** Carla Hadley, Genevieve Holubik

## **Introduction of the Board**

**Approval of July Meeting Agenda:** The Board President explained that the NECC was meeting in July due to the influx of budget money. NECC does not normally meet in July.

The Board President added an agenda item to give an award for APD Officer Jean Mills to be presented after the Executive Report. The motion was made and seconded to approve the new agenda with the amendment. The amended agenda was accepted.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** June 2010 minutes were put forth for approval. A motion was made and seconded for approval of the minutes which was accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** The balance in the NECC checking account is \$647.44. Donations of \$18.00 were received in June. There were no expenditures in June. There are \$203.11 in remaining funds out of the \$1,200.00 donation by Municipal Light & Power (ML&P). The NECC is a non-profit organization and receives no funds from the State of Alaska or Municipality of Anchorage. NECC has provided a donation jar at the meeting and gladly accepts and appreciates all donations.

A motion was made by Ainsley Phillips requesting the use of funds from the ML&P money to buy two new American flags on poles to be put out on Muldoon and Debarr to replace the two that disappeared. The motion was seconded and a vote was put to the council: 8 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining. Motion passes.

**Executive Report:** None.

## **Business:**

1. Kevin Smestad announced that the NECC has created an award to honor community service. The first recipient was Officer Jean Mills. Officer Mills thanked the community and stated that it has been an honor to serve in the Muldoon area.

## **Representative Reports:**

**Assembly Person Debbie Ossiander** announced a plan to contract out a company to conduct neighborhood meetings to get community input regarding the city budget. The meeting will

have a short presentation to describe the city's fiscal situation, and then alternatives to meet the budget challenge will be presented and discussed by the community participants. Ms. Ossiander encourages community participation and feedback regarding the meetings.

Ms. Ossiander also addressed the mandatory ID check for carry-out liquor stores. She explained that Assembly Person Bill Star felt it was unfair to target only one store. She stated that the assembly would address this on the July 27th Assembly meeting.

Ms. Ossiander stated that the ethics code is being scrutinized in order to have a procedure where municipal goods and services can be used for non-municipal services (such as MDA's Fill-the-Boot).

Ms. Ossiander reported that Title 21 is still in the works. The next big issue will be wind towers. The ordinance will be heard in mid-August by the Assembly. Title 21 is also addressing large developments, including churches that are adjacent to residential areas.

**Assembly Person Paul Honeman** announced that there is a temporary restraining order granted by the Superior Court as a result of assembly action against the homeless trespassing. The ACLU and the Assembly are engaged in a lawsuit regarding the amount of days notice that the city must give to the homeless before they can remove their items that are in homeless camps.

Mr. Honeman also reported that the Public Safety Committee met before the Assembly and is considering an ordinance where if you get more than eight police service calls to a residence (excluding violent or domestic crimes) in a certain period of time, you will be fined by the city. Another issue before the Assembly is the prohibition of skateboarding in certain areas of town where vandalism has occurred.

**Senator Bill Wielechowski** reported on the Conoco-Phillips extension for their export license. He supports this under the conditions that local needs be met first due to a future impending shortage.

A representative from **Senator Betty Davis's** office reported that the Clinical Trials Bill was successfully completed and has passed in the Senate. Other successful bills were the Nurse's Overtime bill and several educational bills. The disappointment for the session was the veto by the Governor of the Denali Kid Care budget. There is a hearing with the Senate on August 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss Denali Kid Care and how the national health care reform will affect it.

**Representative Max Gruenberg** reported that citizens can go to his newsletter available on-line to see updates on what he is working on in the legislature. He reiterated again the progress on Corporate Ethics bill and the Animal Cruelty bill. He is working on a bill that will control the use of hand-held cell phones while driving. He has also drafted a bill that requires that State provide information to voters when a large-dollar bond is being voted on. He has submitted an Anti-Trust bill that did not make it out of the first committee. He is attempting to get that moved since this will be the first update of the Anti-Trust regulations in two decades.

The Mayor's office and his legislative liaison will be accompanying Rep. Gruenberg on looking at neighborhoods that need street humps.

Rep. Gruenberg reported that the intersection of Caribou and Boniface may not get a stop light due to the traffic flow from the highway. He is working with the Municipality to get this remedied.

Rep. Gruenberg will be supporting legislation to extend the legislative session back to 120 days and he stated that legislative procedures are being brought up to date.

#### **Community Activities Reports:**

Cheney Lake is having their clean-up day on Saturday July 17th.

Russian Jack Springs Park will be having a workshop for citizens that want input on planning for the north side of the park. A mailing was provided to residents that are within a mile of the park regarding this workshop.

#### **Business (cont.):**

2. NECC President Kevin Smestad explained the changes to the NECC bylaw clarifications. The bylaws were distributed to the meeting attendees with the changes highlighted in yellow. A summary of the changes are:
  - The word "emailing" was added to Section 2 "Meetings", sub-section F. (Line 76)
  - Sub-section L was added to Section 2 to define a quorum at the Executive Board Meetings. (Line 95)
  - Sub-section G was added to Section 3 "Voting" to state that each business within community boundaries has one vote and defines what the business must provide in order to exercise that vote. (Line 116)

Ainslie Philips noted that Sub-section G should have read "each eligible business/organization". The President noted that the change would be made to the wording. Stuart Grenier wanted the President to recognize that the bylaws do not address how many votes a person that lives in the community and also also owns a business should get. The President recognized that more research should be done and that it will be addressed again next month. The President also asked for suggestions from the community regarding the bylaws.

3. Tim Kosednar briefed the council on Frisbee Golf in local parks. He stated that he will help set up a Frisbee Golf course in any of the small parks if the community is interested. He is currently working on a 9 hole course addition at Russian Jack Springs Park called the "Back Nine" on the South side of Debarr Road. He has set up a temporary course there and is inviting the community to come by and check out the Back Nine. He will come back to the NECC and report on how it went and ask for a resolution supporting a one-year trial install of the course. He will still have to run it through MOA Parks & Recreation. He stated that the park trees and foliage will not be altered to develop the course.

4. Representatives from the Community Council went around with MOA representatives to review locations on a list from MOA that are slated for improvement. The list is generated by the MOA on what they think we need as a community. The representative provided MOA with recommendations.
5. John Sims from Enstar briefed the council on the new Enstar Gas Supply Agreement. The agreement is a result of surveys from customers. Enstar is talking to all community councils about changes coming in 2011. One thing different from the past agreement is that there are now two tiers. This is a two year term gas supply contract for a small amount of gas. It has a firm price range with a ceiling and a floor that producers say they need to produce gas in this region.

**A Resolution: NECC July 15, 2010, Concerning the LNG Export License.**

The US Department of Energy not approved the Nikiski LNG Export License until;

1. All local natural gas needs are met;
2. All exported natural gas shall be replace via new exploration;
3. The LNG plan agrees to meet local needs in case of an emergency.

**A vote of the motion of the Resolution: 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstained. The motion passes.**

6. The President asked for volunteers for the North East Community Council Action Plan. Interested volunteers should contact a board member.
7. Representative Peterson recapped the Town Hall Meeting. Local representatives from the police department, fire department, community patrol, and politics were there to provide answers to questions from the public. Suggestions by participants at the meeting were noted and cataloged. Any questions regarding the meeting can be directed to your local representative.
8. Kevin Smestad reported that the Mayor has still not agreed to put up speed humps. Kevin has asked to meet with the mayor regarding this issue but has not yet received a response.
9. Resolutions were proposed regarding the 2010-090 Brown Jug ID Issue:

**A Resolution: NECC July 15, 2010, Concerning Case 2010-090 in Regards to the Assembly Amending a Conditional Use for an Alcoholic Beverage Package Store at Brown Jug Located at Tikahtnu Commons.**

The NECC requests that the requirement of checking all IDs for the Tikahtnu Brown Jug be left as is.

**A vote of the motion of the Resolution: 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstained. The motion passes.**

**A Resolution: NECC July 15, 2010, Concerning an Upcoming Referendum that may Come Before the Assembly Regarding ID Checks for Carry-out Liquor Purchases.**

The NECC supports the referendum that has been proposed to require a legal State ID or passport for all carry-out alcohol purchases and to fill loop holes in the use of passports which may include checking with a list of names of restricted people.

**A vote of the motion of the Resolution: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 6 abstained. The motion passes.**

The NECC has requested that citizens come before the Assembly on July 27<sup>th</sup> to testify regarding this issue.

10. Regarding Fire Station #6 update, Steve Sommerfeld did not show up to the council meeting but forwarded an email to the Board that originated from Deputy Fire Chief Michelle Weston where she stated that the fire station will be located on the land directly East from its current location between there and Begich Middle School. It was suggested that the NECC meet with the fire department to assure that the plans that were developed in 2004 are still valid and carried through. It was suggested that a fire department representative be invited again next month to answer questions.

**Community Concerns:**

It was brought up that Civics has been dropped from some Anchorage high school curriculums.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.