

North Star Community Council
April 13, 2011
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 7:18 to 8:50 p.m.

Location: North Star Elementary School Library, 605 West Fireweed Lane

Present: Matt Johnson, Andre Camara, Susan Miller, Vera Crews, Dick Traini, Mark Butler, Gordon Glaser, Bonnie Jack, Jeff Landry, Harriet Drummond, Alisa Jemmett, Ira Perman, Ernie Hall

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes and Agenda.** President Matt Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.. There was a sign-in sheet on a table near the entrance, along with copies of the agenda, minutes, and a few other handouts. The minutes of the council's last meeting (March 9, 2011) were approved with no objection (moved by Gordon Glaser). The only proposed change in the agenda was Andre Camara's request to add to Old Business some time for the officer's to sign the revised bylaws adopted at the March meeting.
2. **Officer Reports**
 - a. Matt Johnson, President, commented that he was pleased with the work Gordon Glaser was doing as one of our community council's representatives on the Spenard Road Redesign Task Force (which Ernie Hall and Harriet Drummond created).
 - b. Andre Camara, Vice President, had no report (other than that he'd just returned from Hawaii).
 - c. Barbara Pepek, Treasurer, was unable to be present, but had emailed a report to Matt indicating that our savings account contains \$446.65 (after adding a 9 cent dividend) and our checking account balance is \$207.25 (after adding a \$20 deposit). The total of the two accounts is \$653.99.
 - d. Susan Miller, Secretary, reported that the Loussac Library Spring Book Sale will be Saturday, May 7 from 10:00 to 4:00 (although members of the Friends of the Library get in an hour early) and Sunday, May 8 from noon to 4:00.
 - e. Gordon Glaser, Federation of Community Council Representative, reported that the NUSA Conference is coming up at the end of May and that there will be a tour of the North Star area.
3. **Legislative Reports**

None.
4. **Assembly Reports.**

- a. **Dick Traini** reported that he and Paul Honeman introduced an ordinance that will require ID checks for everyone purchasing alcohol everywhere that alcohol is sold. He said 67% of the voters in the April election supported the ID check requirement. He also said about 4,000 people in the state have a red stripe on their driver's licenses indicating there is a court order prohibiting them from purchasing alcohol. There will be a hearing on the proposed ordinance on April 26.
- b. **Harriet Drummond** reported that in March the assembly clarified how the base amount for the tax cap will be determined. She handed out and asked for comments on the Mayor's Summary of Proposed First Quarter 2011 Budget Amendments (which the mayor just issued today). She also mentioned that the assembly discussed the power purchase agreement issue – whether ML&P should purchase wind power from CIRI.
- c. **Ernie Hall** reported that three members of the assembly (Flynn, Honeman and Ossiander) introduced an ordinance to allow chickens in backyards (but not roosters). It would modify the current ordinance on this subject.

5. **Presentations.** None.

6. **Old and New Business.**

- a. C Street Community Garden Project. Susan Miller reported that the volunteers who got an Anchorage Park Foundation grant to put a new 8-foot chain link fence around the community garden at 19th and C will be removing the old fence on Saturday, May 7, beginning at 9:00 a.m. They will also lay down cardboard and new top soil over the quack-grass-infested western portion of the garden (which will hopefully kill the weeds and make that portion of the garden usable again). All volunteers interested in helping will be very welcome.
- b. Spenard Farmers Market. Mark Butler reported that he has been elected chairman of the market's board of directors this year. He also reported that one of the new vendors at this year's market will be the Western Alaska CDQ (Community Development Quota) from the Yukon Delta. Starting sometime in June they will bring village teenagers into town to learn to sell fish their villages have caught at the market. The market will open May 21- October 1. Next Thursday, April 21, there will be a fundraiser at Tap Root.
- c. Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) Conference. Mark Butler reminded us that this national conference will be held in Anchorage on May 25-28. He said Ira Perman has volunteered to have the dinner for visitors touring our neighborhood at his house. Mark still needs volunteers to help with the conference.
- d. Valley of the Moon Park Advisory Group. Mark reported that the next meeting of this group will be April 26 at 5:30 p.m. at the new picnic shelter in the park. (Note: this meeting was later postponed to May 10.) The group is made up of interested members of our community council and the South Addition

Community Council plus the city forester who wants to remove the Mayday trees (an invasive species) from the woods at the east end of the park. Mark said it is somewhat controversial because the woods provide a buffer to the C Street traffic noise.

- e. Spenard Road Redesign Task Force. Ernie Hall said the task force has had two meetings. Gordon Glaser has represented our council area at these meetings, but our other representative has missed both meetings. Matt agreed to contact that representative. Ernie distributed a copy of the results of the straw poll on design preferences for Spenard Road. Mark said he noticed that bread trucks are no longer blocking the sidewalk. Apparently there has been some code enforcement action in response to a citizen complaint.
- f. 2012 Capital Projects NSCC Priority List. Matt handed out a list of three categories of projects which our council is supposed to prioritize: (1) Project Management and Engineering (i.e., city) Projects, (2) State Road Projects, and (3) Parks and Recreation Projects. The deadline for submitting our priority list is June 1. Gordon Glaser made a motion that we discuss the projects now and postpone the vote on them until the May meeting. Mark Butler seconded the motion. There was no opposition. The discussion was very brief. Bonnie Jack requested that a link to the projects lists be put on the North Star Community Council website. It was also suggested that our council's votes on last year's projects lists be distributed with the agenda for the May meeting.
- g. Nomination of Officers. Bonnie Jack nominated Andre Camara for President. Mark Butler nominated Gordon Glaser for Vice President. Bonnie said seconds are not required for nominations.

Harriet suggested that the paragraphs of the new bylaws on voting be included on the May agenda.

7. Neighborhood Issues/Concerns.

Jeff Landry, a resident of Hillcrest Drive, said that despite opposition from his neighborhood, the mayor plans to rename Jeff's street by executive order. The comment period on this ended yesterday. Jeff asked what he needs to do to get a hearing before the assembly. He said 16 of the 18 homeowners on the street oppose the name change. Dick Traini asked Jeff to call the assembly clerk and that he could come to the talk to the assembly at 6 p.m. Harriet mentioned that the residents of her street had had a similar problem with the city's efforts to rename their street.

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 11, 2011.