



GOVERNMENT HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
C/O Community Councils Center • 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99503

Bob French, President
Donna Rymut, Vice President
Stephanie Kesler, Secretary-Treasurer
Brit Szmoniak, FCC Representative
Mavis Hancock, At-Large Board Members
Stephanie Kesler, Past President

Meeting Minutes
GHCC December 15, 2011
Submitted by Stephanie Kesler

Introductions

October Minutes:

- Steve Ribuffo corrected Port Expansion info to reference dry & wet barge docks, and clarified the new focus as worked out with the Muni is to finish the expansion at the North End..
- Correct Tony Smith to Toby Smith
- Heather Beatty stated that mid February would be the last time to contact Leg. on our priorities.
- Minutes approved Lenny Herzog moved, Stephanie Kesler seconded

President French mentioned that GHCC members might want to visit <http://communitycouncils.org> and check their email notification parameters. Some folks appear to have inadvertently opted out of receiving email updates.

Legislative and Assembly Updates:

Toby Smith, aide to Representative Les Gara

- Getting ready for the session. Heading down in mid-January
- Donating laptops to foster kids has been highly successful, so continuing the program.

Heather Beatty, aide to Senator Ellis

- Getting ready to go Juneau. Office will be open right after in New Year's.
- Governor released the budget on 12/15. Senator Ellis and staff spent the afternoon going through the budget
- Governor proposed a Ports and Bond package for over \$350M. Port of Anchorage has \$200M of the proposed bond.
- Oil taxes will be a big issue. Johnny is concerned about HB 110.
- Please contact Johnny's office by mid-January regarding Government Hill Community Council Capital Improvement Program initiatives.
- Bob French stated that the on-ramps/off-ramps near Browns' Point are not in good shape - potholes, etc.

Heather Aronno wife of John Aronno, aide to Patrick Flynn:

- Assembly passed the budget and approved the ASD \$59M bond issue which will appear on April ballot
- Assembly overrode Mayor's veto cutting the two full time Parks and Rec positions to seasonal.
- The Fireworks ordinance - will be revisited again within the next year.
- The next Assembly meeting is 1/17/2012

Federation of Community Councils –

- No update this month.

Alaska Railroad: Tim Sullivan

- Published budget report to State, which will be online shortly.
- Engine idling and other items complaint phone number: 907-265-2300
- Tim Sullivan's phone number: 907-265-2357
- Lenny Herzog asked about light rail or faster rail to Eagle River and the Valley. Tim stated that the Railroad is very supportive of it. Lots of things need to come together such as a regional transportation authority.
- Bob French asked: how much is in the Governor's proposed budget for the Point McKenzie RR. Tim hasn't had a chance to look at the Governor's budget.

Port: Steve Ribuffo

- Steve thanked everyone for taking post cards and writing to the Secretary of the Navy for doing the commissioning ceremony of the USS Anchorage here next September. Seem to be making progress. Got a phone call from the Navy this morning asking if Port could make certain dates work.

Greg Miller (Crowley) and Steve Fernandez (Flint Hills):

- Fireworks
 - They are very concerned about fireworks directly aimed towards the Tank Farm.
 - Asking the residents to keep an eye out and prevent folks from firing fireworks into the tank farm zone.
- Crowley
 - Crowley bought the Chevron tank farm this past summer. They've done a lot of demo work: 5 tanks, removed the old loading racks.
 - In spring, they will start a liner project. Will try to be good neighbors and not make too much noise
 - Invite residents down for a tour.
 - Lenny Herzog commented that the lights are still quite bright and shine directly into their home. Can't leave the curtains open.
- Flint Hills
 - Steve Fernandez offered to coordinate a visit from the Flint Hills folks so they can see from the resident's perspective
 - 257-3114 - Steve's phone number

Anchorage Police Department: Officer Soto

- Appreciates the opportunity to come up a meet with us.
- He's a SWAT team leader. Part of their duties is to do Academy training.
- Do reality-based training - bring the Academy class down to port and RR for training. Involves shooting blanks - sound like real gunshots. Also sirens.
- The dates: March 12, 13. Mon and Tuesday. 19th and 20th. Will coordinate with the port. Ships come in on Tuesdays.
- Cell #: 907 331-8931, Business 786-8900

Neighborhood Plan Update: Joni Wilm

- December 3rd was first public workshop
- That week the focus group also met
- Great turnout and good comments.
- Joni has now been working on summarizing all the comments from the public workshops.
- Issues in red and opportunities in blue
- The next set of meetings and workshops: February 9th-11th
- Purpose will be to take the ideas and focus on them and make them more detailed.
- Consultants will then distill ideas in preparation for open house in July
- KABATA involvement:
 - KABATA states that communication is important to them
 - Compiled into one summary report – the Neighborhood Plan Advisory committee will review it. Then written component will go to KABATA, so it can be incorporated into the RFP, so that the 3 P3 finalists can include them in their bids.
 - Then when consultant is here in Feb. will communicate to KABATA, AMATS, FHWA, Port and RR. Feb 9, 10, 11
 - RFP requires that P3 go through context sensitive design to determine actual mitigations.
 - Lenny Herzog - KABATA is driven to build the bridge. The neighborhood has been after thought
- The website and Facebook pages:
 - Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Government-Hill-Neighborhood-Plan/293153897370905>
 - Web site: <http://www.anchorageghnp.com/GHNP/Home.html>

Historic Preservation Plan - Joni Wilm

- Flyer summarizing handout and plan
- Their workshops were in October. Their summary of that session will come out the end of this week.
- The National Park Service is very interested - they would like to come to the January GHCC meeting do a presentation on Section 106.
- The next Technical Advisory meeting will be January 5th
- Bob asked about the Oral History Plan: BGES has submitted a draft report to Kristine
- Joni extended a special thank you to Steve Ribuffo and the Port for their support
- All the information will be on the website soon

Knik Arm Crossing – Bob French:

- Presentation: Knik Arm Crossing and the 2035 MTP
 - Bob - The attached slide deck has been presented to multiple community councils
 - Additional comments on the slide deck:
 - Bob French: KABATA doesn't have a bridge design. They don't have a plan. They don't have a partner. And yet they're buying up businesses and homes - spending 15 M of state money.
 - Tesoro has received a letter stating that they need to be out of the property by mid-July - Tim responded that any sale of railroad land must be legislatively approved.
- Resolution regarding the Knik Arm Crossing and the 2035 MTP:

- Discussed the text of the resolution:
- Lenny Herzog moved and it was seconded to accept the resolution with the amended wording – see attachment
- Unanimous approval

Nominating Committee

Proposed Slate:

- Bob French: President
- Donna Rymut: Vice President
- Stephanie Kesler: Secretary

At Large:

- Mavis Hancock
- Several other at large positions available
- Business community - write a letter to the Port and RR
- Joni suggested Chris Brown of ATT

Slate will be voted on at January meeting

Neighborhood Concerns

- Heather Beatty: \$110 M for Port McKenzie RR spur in General Obligation bond package
- Lenny thank the GHCC officers for their good work

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM