

# Rogers Park Community Council Minutes, January 14, 2013

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- I. Call to Order: 7:05 by Janet Bidwell, 13 members present, 18 at the end of the meeting
- II. Review & Approval of December 10th Minutes: A quorum of 15 members wasn't present
- III. Assembly Reports
  - A. Elvi Gray-Jackson

Mayor's Omnibus ordinance modifying existing and including additional fees, fines, and penalties to include bus fares was repealed and a resolution was passed to balance the budget with funds from the MOA Trust Fund Reserve in lieu of increasing fees, etc. - \$2.6M

Assembly approved the final reapportionment map at the December 18th meeting. For the most part, everything remains the same – one exception – District 4 (Traini and Gray-Jackson) loses Eastridge and gains a trailer park in South Anchorage.

Assembly member Birch introduced two ordinances at the December 4th meeting – one that would ask the voters at the April 2, 2013 election to amend the Anchorage Home Rule Charter to require eleven single member Assembly Districts and provide for 3 year terms – the other would ask the voters to amend the Charter to require an eleven member school board elected by district with seats and election districts corresponding to the Assembly seats and election districts. After a public hearing held on December 18th, the Assembly failed to approve both ordinances.

An ordinance submitted by Mr. Flynn to ask the voters to amend the Charter to change language from two year terms – if Single Districts occur – to three year terms was approved at the December 18th meeting. Note: A Ballot Proposition asking the voters to amend the Charter requires eight votes of the Assembly.

Assembly member Gray-Jackson and Traini brought forward an amendment to the Legislative Program at the December 18th meeting to include \$2.6M for Resurfacing Alleys. – Amendment passed unanimously.

Bond Propositions for April 2, 2013 Election will be introduced at January 15th meeting with Public Hearing on January 29th.

- o Anchorage Roads and Drainage - \$20,425,000
- o Anchorage Parks and Recreation - \$2,500,000
- o Public Transportation - \$525,000
- o Emergency Medical Services/Public Safety- \$2,195,000

Title 21 –Continued Public Hearing on Provisionally Adopted with Amendments Proposed by the Administration

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Downtown Bar Closing Hour – from premises licensed for service and consumption – Currently 2:30 amending to close at 1:30. Likely there will be some amendments to this.

U-Med District Plan – re-appropriating \$1,000,000 to the State from the ARDSA Capital Improvement Fund.

Alley Committee – Mr. Traini and I held a meeting on January 4th with representatives from Street Maintenance, Code Enforcement, ML&P, AWWU, Public Works Director and Municipal Manager. Meeting was well attended with some very good dialog with an emphasis on an educational effort to neighbors. Follow-up meeting on Friday, January 18th – 1:00 – 2:00 (City Hall Assembly Conference Room) with Chugach Electric, ACS, GCI, ML&P, Public Works Director to discuss issues and undergrounding. A request will be made to Utilities asking that Alley undergrounding be moved up on the list.

B. Dick Traini

The purpose of next alley meeting is to get everyone on the same page. SWS can't call on wires, only homeowners. First thing for tomorrow will be placement of new person on the Assembly for Harriet's seat. Whoever gets six votes first will be appointed. No public testimony, just based on resumes. Title 21 starting – got the big packets in a box, four large binders. Pat Flynn his bar ordinance is only for bars that only have 125 seats thinks that is problematic, had a work session recently.

IV. Legislative Reports: No reports.

V. Presentation, Discussion & Updates

A. Iris Matthews, Alley Refuse Collection

Things are moving along. Dick and Elvi have been very helpful in bringing attention to this issue. Called a meeting with all of the Muni dept. heads, even the Municipal Manager showed up. SWS is very pleased with the progress so far. We will be meeting with ML&P and other utilities next on the wire issues. The Task Force is working well, everyone seems pleased, and the big focus from SWS/Code Enforcement, etc. seems to be on education campaign to let people know what their responsibilities are.

B. Dave Evans –Northern Access to UMed Funding.

Dave spoke about that the Legislative package had \$20 million for new road, the Assembly is to vote if there is time to transfer \$1 million grant from state, back to State for environmental work on the road. RPCC has passed several resolutions opposing the UMED District North Access Project.

Dave proposed a new resolution (attached). Second by Bob Churchill. 13 aye, 0 nay, 4 abstention.

c. Mike Davidson, Senior Capt. for Fire Station 4,

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Nothing to report, thanks to our support went to some apparatus closures won't happen thanks to your support. Roads are icy, will get icier – lots of overflow on rivers and lakes right now – if you have kids/grandkids, please be very careful. It is a bad time of year to be playing around ice, creeks, etc.

Question on fire extinguishers – What kind do you need for small household fires. Answer: They are rated A-E. Usually at the store rated A-C. That's really the best one – size 5. D is rare, don't want to use water based one.

Mike also reminded folks about pipes freezing, especially while on vacation. Can be very catastrophic – need to have someone checking on your house, turn on faucets every day. You can also shut off your water if your boiler doesn't run on it.

Question: What about leaving water on a slow trickle? Answer: That also works, sometimes drain freezes. Still a good idea if someone comes by every day and turns on all the faucets, can notice if there is a problem.

d. Presentation by Helen Nienhauser: Title 21 review

This is our land use code – our current code is 30-40 years old, badly outdated. Under Mystrom, Anchorage went through Anchorage 2020 planning an award-winning process. RPCC has land use committee, worked through the whole process and RPCC enthusiastically endorsed Anchorage 2020 plan. It wasn't perfect but was very good. Muni began process of developing new land use code, the law to implement Anchorage 2020. Invited public participation, hired consultants – took 8 years. Result was provisionally adopted Title 21, for two years. Then the provisionally adopted plan was reviewed by Coffey, he met with groups, but no public participation. The latest version is widely viewed as pro-developer. Many of his recommendations were put into Title 21, planning and zoning made many changes, assembly now has heavily amended version before them. RPCC has passed resolutions in support of original Title 21. Helen thinks we need a large turnout, to convince assembly that we still want the plan that represents Anchorage 2020.

Doubs anyone has read the document, just became available.

Assembly members prefer specific amendments but this may not be realistic. We can ask Assembly members to adopt original Title 21. Can tell them what your view of livability is...landscaping, sun, walkability, bikability, etc. Be there by 6:15 but come when you can. Please come and help passed out handouts from Anchorage Citizens Coalition.

Janet: Asked for permission to speak on behalf of RPCC. Bob Moved, Jeanne, Second. 15 aye, no opposed, 1 abstention.

D. Andy Clary – Assembly candidate

He introduced himself, said he has been on Muni budget advisory committee. He also ran three years ago. Here just to hear about issues in the neighborhoods

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E. Update from Janet on Midtown Traffic Relief – There is still no movement on design, etc. Nino's was purchased. If they do an overpass, what that will look like....

F. Cell tower update by Jeanne Ostnes.

Council has put up a couple resolutions against it. It's on planning and zoning website. 6:30 Monday, Feb. 4th, public hearing on the cell tower. ML& P poles 29.5" tall; tower will be twice as high. Hope to have conversations with Verizon and others. Need to have conversation as a community about these towers; they are starting to pop up all over. Encourage people to come on the 4th and support – if you can't attend, you can go to case number 2013-004 and you can comment on the website – not easy to find. Call Janet if you have problems, same link as before.

Janet commented that most cell towers are in industrial areas, one in Spenard. None are as close to residential as this one. Dick – there is a tower at Boniface & Debarr – and it is very ugly. Janet, want them in commercial areas, but not residential. Jeannie – university did say they would take it if they could camouflage it. Dave – doesn't anchorage have ordinance re: co-location whenever possible, doesn't seem to be working based on what you see

Question re: Title 21 wondering if there is anything on Cell towers in provisionally adopted Title 21. Elvi/Dick – not sure, don't think so.

G. Sound Barrier updates:

\$1.1 Million request, Phase III Seward to Lake Otis. Just an update for those who are interested.

Question: Does that complete the missing links? Answer: Yes.

VI. Treasurer's Report – Cheryl Forrest

The Statement hasn't come yet but probably about where we were last time.

VII. FCC Report – Bob Churchill

Bob reported that they didn't have a quorum so no business conducted. Still need a secretary, the Chair resigned over the liability issue, he has not been replaced yet. It is moving ahead slowly.

IX. Public Comments

Stephanie Clary – friends are hosting a movie viewing of the movie called Nefarious re: Human Trafficking. The movie discusses US law enforcement with Human Trafficking and its importance to combating it. Anchorage was ranked in the movie re: bribery, etc. Talk about countries without issues; don't have law enforcement that will look the other ways. One of first four cases listed in document in the movie is Anchorage, AK – b/c Anchorage has had issues. Will be a gathering of law enforcement other agencies – if you are interested in the movie, Google "Nefarious." Friday, Feb. 8th at Change point. 7:00 p.m. Free of charge, no one under 16 please.

Announcement: Kristine Bunnell will come next month and speak about the U-MED district plan.