

# Meeting Minutes

Date: November 17, 2005

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Mid-Hillside Community Council (MHCC) past President John Weddleton at 7:05 pm. Approximately 16 people were present.

MHCC Board Members present were: Laurie Hogan, Mark Miner, Linda Perkins, Lance Powell, and John Weddleton

Hillside East Community Council (HECC) Board Members present were: Jennifer Johnston, Jan Edwards, Bjarne Holm

## **Introductions and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Janice Tower from the Bicentennial Park Trails Advisory Committee was introduced and informed both councils of an AK State Parks Recreation Trails Program Grant they are applying for that would fund additional signage at local parks. Signs would contain name of trail, directions and have appropriate icons. Janice asked both councils for a letter of support. For MHCC John Weddleton motioned, Laurie Hogan seconded. For HECC Jennifer Johnston motioned, Jan Edwards seconded. Both councils agreed to support grant with a letter. The project is scheduled to be complete by June 4, 2006 for National Trails Day.

Other introductions were for guest speakers Shawna Popovici, MOA Parks and Recreation Department Representative. Mike Goodwin, State Parks Superintendent.

**President's Report** – No report

**Assembly Report** – Chris Birch attended and gave Mike Goodwin and the State Parks Department a compliment on their hard work. Chris discussed the \$300,000 hillside district plan and reported \$6million in revenue from the Anchorage Waste and Water Utilities' contested rate increases (revenue sharing) Mayor Begich said this would bring property tax relief. Concerning the long range transportation plan, Mayor Begich brought forward 85 amendments the assembly brought 50. Chris Birch made the following five: move upgrade to Birch/Huffman up, Goldenview south extension (fire exit), 162<sup>nd</sup> issues of traffic, Elmore extending to Rabbit Creek, and Peninsula Drive to reroute gravel trucks. Chris discussed the \$ for the Knick Arm Bridge project would stay in program but bridge would not be built. Large Animal Ordinance is being addressed by Debbie Ossiander & Janice Shamberg. There is a parking issue with Assisted Living Homes in residential areas when there are visitors.

**State Legislative Report**- Janice Shamberg attended and gave the latest information regarding the Large Animal Ordinance. Accessory Structure limitations have been removed. Lot coverage according to the underlying zoning district which is current code shall be used, 30% for R-6. Current zoning setbacks are acceptable and they are looking into why some have 100 foot setbacks (R-9,R-10 & R-11). One acre minimum lot size will be a requirement which will not force non-conforming lots to get Conditional Use Permits. Conditional use permit for non-conforming users will be no charge within one year.

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Janice asked for \$300,000 for Capitol Improvements all for the Hillside District Plan which was approved.

## **Old and New Business-**

Large Animal Ordinance: Linda discussed the S Version of the Large Animal Ordinance and recommendations by the Animal Control Advisory Board: Minor and incidental boarding and training of large domestic animals should be recognized as a permitted accessory use to home occupations, 25 foot setbacks for all zones, one acre rule remove and the number of animals should be based on a logical and scientific basis, current code requires an Animal Facility License be obtained when owning 3 or more of one species or 7 combined species under Title 17 (Animal Control), Title 15 (Waste Management) and a recommendation that Horse Property owners obtain an Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation Plan.

For MHCC John Weddleton motioned, Laurie Hogan seconded. For HECC Jennifer Johnston motioned, Bjarne Holm seconded. Lacking a quorum, we reformed as a committee and came to a consensus to accept changes.

## **Presentations-**

Mike Goodwin discussed changes in leadership and his new position as Chugach State Park Superintendent. Mike stated that there are a lot of capital improvement requests in such as road improvements for Glen Alps and Upper Rabbit Valley area starting in September. Several members from both HECC & MHCC stated their displeasure about the widening of the Silver Fern Single Track Multi Use trail at the Upper Huffman Trail Head. Mike discussed the different trail users and the reasons for the project. Jennifer Johnston shared that there is an access trail called Grandview in Bear Valley for those who like to hike narrow trails. Mike shared that the State Park budget is currently stagnant as it has a “huge” deficit. Only 45% of the State Parks bill is paid by the state. Mike discussed the moose hunt in Anchorage and referred complaints to the Department of Fish and Game. Linda Perkins stated that there is a new organization called the Alaska Moose Federation that is looking into transplanting the moose instead of hunting them on the hillside. To learn more the website is [www.growmoremoose.com](http://www.growmoremoose.com)

Shawna Popovici, Park manager for central and southeast districts presented Hilltop Chalet summer program run by Parks and Recreation Department. She will be located at the Hilltop Chalet and asked the group for program ideas. Please email her at [popovici1@muni.org](mailto:popovici1@muni.org) with suggestions. Shawna introduced the Clean and Green and Safe and Secure Campaign that will be ready for public review in January 06'. Forsythe Park improvements such as re-routing trail around school property, removing old fitness trail equipment and adding more dog sanitation stations. There was a suggestion from the floor to add signs about dogs being on leashes, removing no horse signs at the

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Southeast trail head and Southwest corner since this trail is a connector from Rockridge to Birch and is not being used as a fitness trail and adding emergency phones or other contacts for emergencies. Janice asked about Section 16 having signage clearly showing which trails are ski only, multi use, skijoring, etc. for horse trails versus ski trails. Shawna will inform Jeff Dillon of the suggestions from both HECC & MHCC members.

Our friendly Hillside Fire Department reminded use to check our fire alarms and be sure to have a Carbon Monoxide Detector in you home on each floor. E nstar will not respond to your alarm unless it is life or death. T he fire department will respond, the home owner is responsible for calling in for repairs.

**Meeting Adjourned-** 9:45pm

***Next Meeting: December 15***