

Russian Jack Park Community Council November 9, 2005, Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for October were approved.

Treasurer's Report - Accepted. Balance is \$5062 for the tot park, \$1062.90 for the Community Patrol, \$19,129.15 for the Weed 'n' Seed program.

APD Report - Sgt. Cindi Stanton

1. Nuisance abatement efforts have resulted in one family in South Anchorage being evicted by the landlord for being a police nuisance.
2. [After an extended discussion on jaywalkers] - be alert to pedestrians in cross-walks.

Assembly - Ken Stout

1. The coastal trail was reduced in priority because it would have used all federal trail money for the next ten years. The proposed path would have taken too much private property.
2. There was an effort to shift some of the costs of the flowers to bed tax money (Anchorage Convention & Visitors' Bureau) since this is a large tourist draw, but this was not possible because the ACVB is helping to pay for the convention center.
3. The school resource officers program needs more local money because the federal funding is for only four years and is dropping with each year. The question is whether the school budget or general fund will pay for this necessary service.
4. Re-doing the intersection of Lake Otis and Tudor was postponed to wait on the construction of the Bragaw and Dowling extensions, which would then provide an alternate route while Tudor and Lake Otis was worked. One million dollars was appropriated for design studies.

Northeast Park District - Teri Peters

A program manager will be hired to work with the schools. One major goal is to provide programs for the kids during the winter.

Legislative Report - Gretchen Guess.

Gasline contract will have a 30 - 60 day public comment period. The legislature has to approve or disapprove the contract without any changes.

Sharon Cissna

The U-Med planning meeting went well - a good turnout and many topics relating to the future of the U-Med district and its place in the future of Anchorage and Alaska were discussed.

Cook Inlet Housing - Carol Gore and Jeff Judd

1. Eight 4-plexes have been gutted and rebuilt.
2. 76 single-family homes have been demolished and replaced with some duplexes and the rest single-family homes. About half of the homes have been sold, and the rest are rentals. Sales and rentals are for low-income families.
3. Cook Inlet Housing is the largest owner of senior housing in Anchorage.

Anchorage Gang Problem - Msgt Rick Jenkins and Sgt Joel Ainsworthy

1. Defined in Alaska Statutes 11.80.900 - any group that gets together for crime.
2. Lucky that no innocent bystanders have been hit during gang shootings.
3. Anchorage has presence of LA, Chicago, Mexican, Russian and White Supremacist gangs.
4. Seeing the same trend of gang development that Jacksonville, FL, did.

5. Warning signs - graffiti, assaults, shots fired, violent crimes, drive-by shootings.
In 2003, 13-20 years old group spiked for property crimes, weapons, and violent crimes.
About ½ of the crime in Anchorage is committed by those under 21 years of age.

6. Anchorage gangs are not well-defined, tend to be amorphous and have weak leadership
Anchorage is experiencing more gang-on-gang activity.

Gang types:

- Predatory (LA type) - uncommon
- Scavenger (impulse) - very common with unpredictable behavior
- Territorial (juvenile) - somewhat common
- Asian (low profile) - uncommon, though they prey on their ethnic communities
- Social (associates) - common, often with the complicity of the parents

Early signs:

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| New nickname | New friends | Class problems | Change of dress / hair |
| Unexplained money | Drug abuse | Fights | Graffiti |
| Fear of police | Gang sympathy | “Don’t mess with ...” | Threats |
| Sudden attitude change about previous likes | | | |
| Hand signs | Tattoos | Firearms | Photos of gang members |

Benefits of Gang Membership:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| Sense of belonging | Identity | Loyalty | |
| Enforced with: | Rewards | Strict rules | Punishments |

They learn how to be gang members from mentors (especially siblings), the internet, gangsta rap music and some very violent video games (Crime Life, Grand Theft Auto).

7. Parents - know your child’s friends’ parents
Talk to your children every day, and check their rooms often
Know their TV shows, movies, music and video games.
8. Kathleen presented a certificate of appreciation for the Army National Guard support at the picnic.

Weed ‘N’ Seed - Tim Sullivan

1. W&S supports the school resource officers (police in the schools) and is partnered with the communities in schools.
2. Office is at 1569 Bragaw Street.

Next Meeting - January 11, 2005, at Williwaw Elementary School.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.