

**Northeast Community Council
General Meeting Minutes
Aug. 21, 2014**

Call to order: 7:01 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

President's Introductions: Lorne Bretz, Kristi Wood, Rick Irwin, David Bretz, Carla McConnell, Dave Ulmer

Agenda and June 19, 2014 Minutes Approved

Treasurer's Report: McConnell is still in the process of transferring from Holubik. President reported \$2000 contributed from Walmart to support the Spirit of Muldoon Picnic

Executive Board Report. There was no Executive Board meeting.

Other Announcements : The Spirit of Muldoon Picnic will be held in the Walmart Parking Lot due to the fact that a permit was unobtainable for the usual site at the proposed Muldoon Town Square Park.

Legislative and Assembly Reports:

Senator Wielechowski's Staffer : Proposition 1 effort, book drive collected over 3000 books for children's literacy and gave them away. The Senator showed up later and reported that he testified against the Enstar rate increase, and that he worked with JBER on the noise issue and Bolin St. flooding. He was disappointed with the oil tax vote, but noted that there

were guarantees for more production. He also reported that JBER is downsizing by 800 Army personnel.

Assembly Person Peterson reported that it will be difficult to make future Council Meetings due to Assembly scheduling. The AO 37 repeal effort did not get the 8 votes to prevent a veto so it will be on the ballot in Nov. A new assembly ad-hoc committee to deal with alcohol and substance abuse has been organized. A question about the Red Nose Inn was asked. He reported 25% of the people that moved in have stopped drinking. A couple have died there of natural causes. A question was asked about a drug problem behind Begich Middle School from 9 pm to midnight back by the track and an open discussion followed. The president suggested that the community call the police and then provide the case numbers to the Council for follow-up.

Assembly Person Demboski thanked the Council for inviting her and noted that she represents an area around Turpin St. Her cell is 301-9179. McConnell asked about an effort to identify what store sells what alcohol bottles. Demboski explained the concept and said Assembly Person Traini is working on that.

Representative LeDoux reported that Forth and Bolin has been fully funded with money from the Legislature and the Municipality. She is going door to door now to reach her constituents.

Representative Pruitt's Staffer reported that he is out of town but he has been doing ride alongs with Municipal road folks looking at roads. Contact his office at 269-0100 if you have

road or drainage issues.

Representative Gruenberg's staffer: Max serves on the Council of State Governments which looks at model legislation from across the country that might work for Alaska as well. He is collecting potential legislation for himself to introduce as he goes door to door. Emergency room data systems and Enstar rate hikes. He is also working on the gas line.

Old Business:

1. Creekside Holdings LLC, has submitted an application for a retail structure with drive thru, in the B-3 SL (general business) district with special limitations. Kristi Wood presenting said there is a plat next to Walgreens with special limitations on it that came from this Council that was passed by the assembly to restrict drive thrus to increase walkability in the town center. The site is a 20 year lease for a low volume Starbucks drive thru. Phillips said she authored the ordinance and the idea was to restrict traffic in the area because of the school. Wood said, the folks that own the property have a tenant that wants a drive thru and at least it will not be a high volume drive thru and that future developments in the area must come before the Council. McConnell was unclear on what the difference was between a high and low volume drive thru. Wood answered that there is not expected to be as much traffic and there is a lot of seating in the shop.

2. East Anchorage District Plan (EADP): Kristi Wood presenting said the Planning and Zoning Comm. had their work session in July, and in August they voted unanimously to

pass the plan with no major changes including anything related to our proposed park at the old Green House Property so we are in a good position now. P&Z drafted up a resolution of recommendations that also goes to the assembly that says they support the small area master plan process for the proposed park. The Council is hoping to make the old Green House Property a park through this process. The next step is for it to go to the Assembly and if it passes there we can start the planning process. Wood also talked about the EADP calling for a special study rezoning the properties behind the businesses on Muldoon so the business district can be expanded. A question was asked about Range View Trailer Court and would it be turned into a mall. It was explained that it has to go through a planning process first. Representative LeDoux asked what will happen to the people that live there? There was no answer.

3. Road Project Updates: Josh Cross and Carla Smith Consultant Managers for two DOT Projects presented.

Project One. About a year ago DOT came and talked about the signalization project for the Muldoon and Glenn overpass. The plans were completed and sent out for bid and there were no bidders so we decided to combine the project with another project to see if we can get bids that way.

Project Two. The DOT monitors roads throughout the Central Region and has identified Muldoon Road as a high crash region. Roads that are similar have about a 1.8 crash rate but Muldoon is over 4. We are looking at putting channelization mediums in to stop some of the cross over collisions and other accidents. Raised medians basically

from the new constructed signal for Walmart all the way up to Boundary Ave. Special turn lanes for Old Harbor and East Forth allowing left turns in but not out. Flyers were handed out. The presenter stated that comments and concerns are welcomed. Contact info in the flyers. Open House tentatively planned for October. This project is funded by the Highway Safety Improvement Program. Muldoon Road ranks number one for the highest crash rates, even higher than the Parks Hwy. going through Wasilla. Angle crashes at Old Harbor and head on in the merge lane all along the business district were mentioned. Schliterler asked about the property between Thai Village and the intersection to Walmart. It is zoned residential. Another person asked that the Open House that is planned on this project be advertised on the NECC list serve. Ann Brooks is helping the team with public outreach. She says some businesses that have full access now may only have right in right out access when the project is done. Assembly Person Peterson recounted the effort for traffic calming on Debarr Rd. and how it created problems with people trying to do u-turns and so on. People on Debarr felt like they were not involved in the process he said.

New Business:

1. NECC bylaws amendment to conform with the new requirements due to changes in the Anchorage Municipal Code pertaining to Community Councils. A copy of the proposed bylaws was posted on the NECC website. (8 page document). The President is the Chair of the Bylaws Comm. Two hard copies were available at the meeting. The bylaws have been merged with the new codes by the Bylaw Comm. with major changes noted, to be voted on by the Council for acceptance. Section 5 b. refereed to removals,

resignations, and vacancies. It changed the process of filling vacancies on the Executive Board from presidential appointment with approval of the Executive Board to election by the General Council. Also the process of removing an Executive Board Member was mentioned. Those were some of the "major changes" the President noted. After that a variety of people discussed numerous aspects of the old and new bylaws including having the boundaries of the council area stated, how the Nominating Comm. and Audit Comm. are chosen. And that the bylaws take precedence over Robert's Rules of Order Revised, but if something is not clearly stated in the bylaws then Robert's Rules of Order are followed. Other questions were raised about how many people sign NECC checks, and other issues. The president asked for people to submit ideas in written form to the Bylaws Comm. so they can be considered for future votes.

Motion made by Norm Schliterler and seconded by Rick Irwin.

The NECC accepts the bylaws as presented.

Motion did not pass due to a two thirds majority vote needed for bylaws votes.

Yeas: 10 Nays:8 Abstain: 1

McConnell pointed out that in the past they voted for each change in the bylaws one at a time not many changes at once. Many felt that more hard copies of the bylaws and changes needed to be provided by the council at the meeting before votes should be taken. Kevin McGee had additional suggestions that the president said would be taken up in October.

2. AWWU PRV (Pressure Reducing Valve) Vault Project

(Peck Ave.) Todd Carol and Trevor Trasky- CRW Design Engineering Group presented. Upgrading a vault on Peck to serve larger flows to customers. A dry well to serve the sump will also be installed. Very limited interruption in traffic in 2015. Ground water is leaking in. There will be no change in water pressure once it is put in. Minimal impact. An information pamphlet was left.

3. Conditional Use Application- Alcohol for Ronnie 4, Inc. dab Casa Mexican Restaurant 720 Muldoon Rd. Acting Alcohol Comm. Chair McConnell. Club 210 is no more. The owner of Ronnie Sushi has bought it and is petitioning for a beer and wine license only. What happens to the original alcohol license is unclear. Hearing is Sept 9th. You can send comments to the MOA.

Community Activity Reports and other announcements. The Spirit of Muldoon Picnic is still looking for volunteers. The Picnic will be Saturday Sept. 13. Monday Aug. 25 Womens' Equality Day Event. at the YWCA 324 East 5th. Official Womens' Equality Day is Aug. 26. Bob Reupke reported from the FCC that food will be provided to some schools in the form of box meals and People Mover Bus passes will be issued to some teachers and students. Alaska Waste rates are going up. Phillips reported the Blood Bank needs O Negative.

Adjourned.