

# **Minutes from the Rogers Park Community Council Meeting of April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Rogers Park Elementary School Library**

## **Board Members Attending:**

Iris Matthews, President

Travis Smith, Vice-President (absent)

Jim Wright, Secretary (absent); Marilyn Pillifant volunteer substitute  
Treasurer (vacant)

Janet Bidwell, Past President

Bob Churchill, FCC representative (absent)

## **I. Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm. Members were asked to sign in to establish a quorum. There was a quorum of 15 members present to conduct business.

## **II. Community Council Business**

The council voted to approve the March minutes with the amended name spelling of Marilyn Houser. The vote was 14 yeas, 1 abstention.

There was no FCC report as Bob Churchill was absent

Iris commented that the February minutes remain unfound.

Station 4 firefighters were here to say thank you for the passing of the bond measure to replace engine and ambulance. They cautioned about safety on and with melting ice on lakes and ponds. Continued to talk about the dry conditions on the hillside, which is cause for some anxiety. They stated that commercially bought fire pits were okay to use, but owner made need to be checked out and Okayed by the fire department. Captain Harris, the new chief of station 4 was present and introduced.

## **III. Assembly Report**

Assembly members Elvi Gray-Jackson and Dick Traini were present to give their report and update. The following are notes from their report.

- **The Assembly held two Work Sessions on February 13<sup>th</sup> to receive a report on two SAP Audits (City's Financial and Human Resource Enterprise Plan). One was contracted by the Administration and the other contracted by the Assembly. Both contractors reported many issues with the implementation of the**

project. The Assembly's contractor provided recommendations on how to resolve the issues and informed the Assembly that the project is salvageable but at a cost. An additional Work Session was held on February 27<sup>th</sup>. The Assembly's Auditor provided 120 recommendations to remedy the issues and the Administration accepted all but 11. The Administration has also requested an additional \$8.4M through a loan to continue with the implementation. At the March 24<sup>th</sup> Assembly meeting, the Assembly approved a \$1M loan. The Administration is scheduling a Work Sessions with the Assembly on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:-00 - -4:00 p.m. and prior to the Assembly approving any additional funding.

- The Administration is proposing to reorganize the Public Works and Community Development departments. The ordinance will be heard at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- AO 2014-101(S) Adopting the Chugach Access Plan, submitted by Assembly Members Evans and Johnston, was approved by the Assembly at its March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting – 7-4.
- The 2015-2016 Anchorage School District budget in the amount of \$784,243,730 was approved at the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting – 8-3. Preliminary property taxes - \$241,627,624. If the BSA is reduced, the property tax contribution would be reduced by \$3.2M which equates to a reduction in the ASD budget.
- 2015 Bond Propositions:
  - Proposition 1 – Capital Improvements for the Anchorage School District - \$59.3M
  - Proposition 2 – Area wide Emergency Medical Services, Public Safety and Public Transportation - \$6,760,000
  - **Proposition 3 – Area wide Facilities Capital Improvements - \$6,760,000 - Failed**
  - Proposition 4 – Anchorage Parks and Recreation Service Area Capital Improvements - \$2,750,000
  - Proposition 5 – Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area - \$17,030,000

○ **Proposition 6 – Anchorage Fire Service Area Fire Protections - \$1,800,000**

- **At the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Assembly will approve a resolution recognizing April 24<sup>th</sup> as “Standing against Racism Day.”**
- **At the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Assembly will also approve a resolution recognizing April 2015 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.**

*Next Assembly Meeting: April 14, 2015*

*There was additional conversation about the possibility of SWS being sold, Marilyn Pillifant asked why it was being considered for sale, Dick Traini stated he was unclear about that since SWS was profitable for the city and provided a positive cash flow. There will be public testimony on this issue taken at the April 28<sup>th</sup> Assembly meeting. Other conversation centered on Mayor Sullivan’s proposal for the stadium at East High School. Also there is nothing scheduled on the Assembly agenda for Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the Uber ride share issue.*

#### **IV. Legislative Reports**

There were no legislative reports as it is near the end of the session and Legislators are pretty busy at this point.

#### **V. Presentations and Discussion**

A presentation by Les Sheppard and Tim Potter spoke about their plan/vision to build a tennis facility for additional tennis courts at Goose Lake Park. The location of this proposed facility is across from UAA Drive on the north side of Northern Lights and west of the pedestrian bridge that crosses from Goose Lake. Mr. Shepard spoke about ground quality study he commissioned. The test site showed sand/gravel to 22 feet then blue clay. Mr. Sheppard stated, “there’ll be no environmental impact – I want to stress that”. Other points covered were the facility would be close to schools (UAA, East High, Wendler, and various elementary schools). Les’ foundation (Cathleen Sheppard Foundation, Inc./ bda Alaska Tennis) would manage, maintain and operate this facility with no public monies.

Iris stated she had talked with the Parks & Rec Commission to find out where this project was in the process and was told that it was very exploratory and that this is in the very beginning stages of meeting with Community Councils.

Following Les Sheppard's presentation, Steve Cleary, RPCC member presented a resolution against the tennis project development. David Evans 2<sup>nd</sup>. Conversation occurred and a vote subsequently was taken. There were 10 yeas for the resolution against the project, 3 nays and 4 abstentions.

The next item of business was a resolution offered by David Evans relating to continued alley service of trash pick up in the event of the sale of Solid Waste Services. After some discussion, the resolution passed with 13 yeas, 0 nays and 3 abstentions

A final presentation was given by Thomas Pease, a Government Hill Community Council member who came to talk about bear proofing containers for trash pick up. He noted the current situation with the 5 bears roaming through Government Hill. He then shared the GHCC resolution requesting SWS to provide residents with bear-proof containers to minimize future problems with garbage-conditioned bears.

## **VI. Other Business & Announcements**

Iris received a letter from MLP discussing the project to bury power lines along Bannister. Some work has begun with survey teams in the area.

She reminded members of the MOA Community Garden Survey that is online and if interested in taking it, ought to do so.

Iris reminded members of the upcoming RPCC officer elections to be conducted at our next meeting in May. The May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will be our last meeting before the summer break.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47pm