

Rabbit Creek Community Council Board Meeting, January 9, 2003,
Rabbit Creek Community Church (Snowshoe Lane)

Call to Order: The annual general membership meeting was opened at 7:05pm by Dianne Holmes. Other Board members present were Josh Peirce, Jess Grunblatt, Nancy Pease, Carol Fries, Vivian Mendenhall, and Greg Ross.

Treasurer's Report: There was no report.

Minutes for December meeting were approved (Motion by Carol/Josh).

Announcements:

- Meeting for New Seward Highway upgrade on Jan 22nd. Audience comment suggested looking at the DeArmoun intersection in light of possible traffic impacts from student travel for the new high school.
- Heritage Land Bank work plan is out and should be checked against last year's for changes for our area.
- Request to reimburse president for supplies and photocopies. Motion by Josh/Carol. Passed.
- Request to pay post office box fee. Motion by Carol/Josh. Passed
- Dianne requested help in getting a head start on the CIP for '03 in hopes of getting projects higher on various lists like AMATS. Megan Poulson will help.

Persons to be heard not on the agenda: none

Committee and Neighborhood Reports:

Tom Thomson reported that in the Potter Creek area the Potter Glen development has been shut down for the winter. Regarding the GCI/MHT land—it comes under the Potter Cr master planning area.

Assembly & Legislative Report: Dick Tremaine gave a short update on the long overdue rezone of Section 36 to parks. It is not zoned 'dedicated' park land but that can and should be done at a later date. Regarding funding for the Hillside District Plan—it was put into the CIP but there is no operating capital for it although AWWU has some funds set aside to fund their portion of the plan. Perhaps some matching funds can be obtained from Juneau?

Senator Con Bunde and Rep. Mike Hawker spoke on statewide issues and requested we give them our e-mail addresses if we wish to get on their lists. Con's toll free number in Juneau is 800-892-4843. Mike's number is 907-465-4949. His e-mail is rep.mike.hawker@legis.state.ak.us.

Regarding financial matters, Con said Alaskans generate \$5,000 in revenue but take \$6,000 per person in services. One member of the audience requested that the budget not be balanced on the backs of poor children by cutting medical care.

Con replied to one question on whether he reads his e-mails from outside his district by saying he does unless it rude, but he may not answer it all. He said the best way to communicate is by phone, e-mail and letter. He tends to put POMs as a lower priority.

Regarding questions on the State's role, if any, in the South Coastal Trail extension—Con replied, "Since the [south extension of the] coastal trail isn't proposed to cross the Refuge, I don't see that Legislators have any role . . . I won't oppose the trail. Given our economic situation, I won't be quick to write a check for it either."

There was a discussion on education funding.

New Business:

Elections were held for Board positions. Nominations were opened; receiving none from the floor, the nominations were closed. Nancy Pease led a short forum for the nominees who had previously agreed to run. They were given a few minutes to answer a few questions about their back ground and interest in running for the Board. The members then marked their ballots for the candidates who'd agreed to run for the 2-year positions. While the ballots were being counted by Scott Sell and Greg Ross, the audience continued discussing statewide issues with Con and Mike.

Elected to four 2-year terms were: Susanne Comellas, Carol Fries, Ky Holland, and Vivian Mendenhall.

The remaining names on the ballot were voted on for the three 1-year positions. Elected were: Jess Grunblatt, Josh Peirce, and Walt Wrede. Jo Utic is the alternate in case a one-year position becomes vacant; Josh Peirce ran for a 2-yr position and is first alternate should one become available.

Goldenvue Park Variances (S-11008 & 11028): The Board voted on the developer's time extension request previously, but was not aware of the variances that are due to be heard before Platting Feb 5th. The Board discussed the four requested variances from information on the application form. The requested variances are for curbs/gutters, storm drainage facilities (drain inlets and manholes), street lighting, and longer cul-de-sac.

After discussion and input from the audience, Ted Pease moved and _____ seconded a motion to deny the variance requests except for lighting but with the condition that the lights have a downward-focusing shield in keeping with neighborhood approval. Passed.

Discussion on the motion centered around the fact that variances aren't for the convenience of the developer and are meant to be an exception rather than the rule. Drainage is a problem in the area and in the adjoining South Park subdivision and granting the variance would only compound the problem. Granting a longer cul de sac would not be in keeping with the *2020 Plan* which promotes compatible zoning for adjoining subdivisions; perimeter lots should provide a transition between adjoining neighborhoods.

RCCC's letter should include a question or statement about allowing developers to proceed with additional phases when code violations have not been cleared up.

Meeting adjourned about 9:20 pm.