

North Star community council 4/13/15

No minutes from last mtg?

Sam –

A group from Rogers park (?) approached him who were interested in forming a working group regarding the homeless around Chester Creek. Also included: APD, Parks and Rec, ACLU, as well as bordering community councils.

Marcus absent, arrived later (see below).

Secretary absent

Treasurer – switching banks to Denali CU, has not made switch but will be doing that.

Susan: Member at Large – Loussac book sale coming up. Remodel is really different.

Eric Croft was there – had to leave to watch his kid at Choir Festival. Sam acknowledged his winning the assembly seat.

Dick Traini (chair of assembly, been serving for 17 years).

- Talked about process of Assembly changeover: Last votes are being counted. Friday final count.

- School bond remained no. Will be revisited/reworked in November.

Possibly taking school busses out.

- Q: Did North Star school have anything on bond? Surveillance cameras.

- Idea: merge city budget with maintenance for schools. Change from bonding.

- 2017 vote by mail will be used. Money being appropriated.

- Marijuana tax – trying to get business owners who want to sell to come in and talk to assembly.

- Mtg 19th swearing in, certification of election. Reorganize assembly. 6 votes chair, 6 votes vice chair. Secret ballot.

Ira Perman gave information about a house that had lots of junk, police calls. Went to court. Judge Aaron Marsten declared nuisance, owner/occupant was given 30 days to vacate for a year, clean it up. If not, city cleans it and charges owner. 7945 Ascot.

House on Aurora has been cleaned up (in front). Ira Perman helped get the process going. Gal living next door (who was at CC meeting, reporting) helped out also. Backyard is still full of stuff. Police have visited also regarding roommates drug activity (who have moved out?). Man and sister inherited, sister lives out of state. Man disabled, but working on it continuing to clear out. He also has other folks helping out.

Kelly Findlay (Person from condo association 816 W 23rd Ave) asked about crime activity. Dick Traini reported cars being stolen from car lots. Lots of crime. Heroin

paraphernalia on stairs leading to school. Reminder to call non-emergency police regarding issues like this. Pile of garbage dumped the other day near gardens. Kelly thanked Ira for getting neighborhood watch started in area, said it has helped with keeping the condos filled.

Creek cleanup May 12-16th Info: AWC anchoragewaterways.org

Marcus Wilson - Saturday April 30th School District "Super Sweeper" – folks coming to clean up the school grounds. Also community garage sale 10-3 same day at North Star. Cost \$25 1 table, \$40 for 2 tables. Can we donate to school to sell? Probably yes :) Run by PTA.

Encouragement to share things like this on Next Door website.

Dick Traini – new report. 464 police officers are the amount recommended to have in force for a city our size. Force needs to be rebuilt. New chief of police, morale is improving.

Nancy Burke is "on loan" for homeless coordinator.

Prop 8 will have impact on funding. It was not written by city attorney, it was written by prop 8 folks, so confusing.

Marcus Wilson - Last day of school 19th of May. Not sure about future of testing. Explained how testing breakdown affected the school. He was glad they decided to stop the testing because it affected the kids negatively, data was going to be skewed. State has to decide what to do. State is suing Kansas University (the testing company).

New Biz:

Presentation: Colin: transit planner at People Mover talking about "Anchorage Talks Transit" Thursday May 5th 6:30 pm at Anchorage Museum.

Kickoff event to gather information about public transit by People Mover. People Mover is about due to find out people's needs/priorities. Balance budget and figure out how to cover what people need.

-Frequency vs coverage. Sometimes lots of ground, but not frequently.

-Transfers vs straight routes.

Also will be putting out interactive web survey generated at end of event. Will be distributed through website, mayors office contacts, refugee immigration services, community councils, Health and Human Services, Transit website. Identified 4 languages that will be translated - also provided on tablets. Will return to community councils and ask more questions (through the end of spring).

Format for event: keynote speaker framing issues. Then discussion with panel, question/answer, mingle and Q/A with transit employees.

Elections in May: Nominations occur during the meeting. Bylaws are updated, but not turned into the state yet.

Land Use meeting: April 22nd Friday at Spenard Rec Center 4-7. Designing a map of land use. Want to take more current info and incorporate all of the different types of development, in addition to Title 21 laws recently passed. This will help to determine how land use will be done in the future. To provide input to the planners. Put info to assembly. Opportunity to get voice heard.

Capitol improvement project survey:

Homework: rank in order of importance. Our council's job is to send our vote for 1 project in each category.

Wish list to determine for capitol projects. None were funded last year in state gvt. Looks like same this year. Valuable because it will help the city make decisions about scheduling projects.

Delegate for Dems was here – introduced herself, asked if anyone wanted to contact her she is on Ak Dems website (forgot to ask name, sorry).

Old Biz

Flooding: seems to not be a problem right now. Creek reported seems low.

Spenard Rd upgrade: Business community is interested in project. 150 members for it now. Folks who are against are selling/leaving slowly. Down to 4-5 against. Controversy is regarding road being skinnier to accommodate bike lanes, losing business frontage. Plan: this summer 65% plan, fall 90%, make acquisitions, change curbs, award bids in spring, construct spring/summer of 2017. Will be done in chunks, positive incentives for finishing early. Q: what about snow removal? Now, state does it, piles snow on sidewalk. If bike lane, it can be piled on bike lane as storage.

Cannibis legalization: Robert Regis from Weedco in Alaska Business corporation. Has selected hours: 11-7. Have not found good data on revenue. There is a fact book with information about business. Putting finishing touches on lease. State board has slowed down on regulations. Adding a bonding requirement 50% state tax on cultivation. If retailer accepts without proof of tax being paid, it will be passed on to retailer. Pending in legislature. No applications will be completed until laws are passed. State dividing from processors, cultivators, retailers. 19th board can determine if app is complete. June/July issuing app to growers, etc. He is hoping to be open December 2016.

Issues for business: HS students walking by: film on glass so that business can't be seen through window. Coming to council meeting to get feedback from community.

Mark: Spenard Farmers Market will be opening 14th (or 21st) of May through Oct 1st. 21 Saturdays. New revised board. Bear Tooth owners met with market and are happy to have them there. Written contract, charging \$1 rent. Using a connex in parking lot for summer to store things. More live music. Paying musicians.

New operators of Chilkoots comprised of employees. Not anticipating many events that will conflict. Children's lending library in wagon.

Ended at 8:36 pm.