

Minutes of Midtown Community Council (MTCC) Meeting

May 11, 2016 noon

Wells Fargo Bank Museum (Northern Lights and C Street)

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Vice President, Chris Bond. Due to the agenda topics of marijuana cultivation, testing, and sales, there were 35 people who signed in. About 20 were members; it was unclear on the sign-in sheet whether some people actually qualified for membership and voting. Due to the agenda and meeting notice not being sent out until that morning, it was announced that no voting would occur at this meeting.

Assembly member Elvi Gray-Jackson reported on the 1st quarter budget revisions just approved. These included start-up costs for vote-by-mail, homeless initiatives, a code enforcement officer, and 4-A's housing for 13 clients. They set the mill levy.

Assembly member Dick Traini reported that he and Elvi, along with others, were meeting with the owner of the derelict Northern Lights Hotel this afternoon to discuss its removal.

Senator Gardner's staff person, Katie Binggeman, gave a brief update on the legislative budget status. The motor fuel tax increase may go through next week.

Representative Drummond's staff person, Kristin Kranendonk, encouraged people to give public testimony at the LIO Building that evening.

New Business: Marijuana businesses

Brian Coyle, owner of AK Green Labs, gave a presentation about his marijuana testing lab to be located at 2509 Fairbanks Street. The testing is to improve safety of the products; to test for contamination. It will be a drop-off service with an enclosed area in the back of the warehouse. It is not expected to have regularly more than 10 visits per day, so parking should not be a problem. Neighboring businesses are either neutral or supportive. There will be security videos and lighting. Brian Horner, the building owner, is looking forward to having a good tenant. A straw vote was taken and the vast majority had no objection.

Will Schneider, owner of Catalyst Cannabis Company, presented about his cultivation facility to be at 5001 Eagle Street, behind Enstar Gas on International Airport Road. It will not be open to the public. They will have security fencing, cameras and lights. He is not ready to give the 21 day required notice to neighbors, but wanted to come now to introduce himself and his business.

Jamie and Troy Millhouse, owners of AKGLD, LLC, presented next. They were joined by their consultant, Theresa Collins of TC Consultants. They own Trend Setters at 407 E. Northern Lights. This business will be also on the adjacent property they own on at 2612 Eagle Street. They will

open both a cultivation facility and a retail store. They will have high security, video guards, lots of parking, and good ventilation. Consumption on site or in the public is not allowed. They will be developing a Neighborhood Responsibility Plan and engagement schedule, including attending community council meetings quarterly.

The meeting was extended for 15 minutes, until 1:15.

Smadar Warden, owner of Alaska Sense LLC, is proposing both cultivation and sales at 521 W. Tudor Road. His business will occupy the entire building and the existing tenants on the first floor are moving. He provided their 21-day notice to the neighbors, some of whom attended the meeting. Daniel Clift, his architect, made the presentation and provided an informational handout. They will comply with all local and state regulations, including ventilation to prevent any odor from escaping.

Dr. Monique L. Child of 603 W. Tudor expressed concern over the proximity of this facility to her pediatric clinic on Tudor. She was encouraged to bring a resolution to the next meeting regarding this issue, as it does not fit into the minimum distance requirement.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20pm.

Minutes taken by Peggy Robinson

Note 1: Peggy Robinson and Chris Bond will prepare draft resolutions for each of the businesses, based on the templates available from the Federation of Community Councils. These will be available with the agendas, emailed out a week before the meeting, to everyone whose email list is on the sign-in sheet, as well as the rest of the email list. Members will be able to vote on them as advisory votes to the Assembly.

Note 2: Alaska voters approved the legalization of marijuana for adults 21 and older, the Marijuana Control Board at the state level has enacted guidelines for each type of business, and the Anchorage Assembly has passed an Ordinance with local laws regarding distances, hearing and notice requirements, etc. The presentations to the community council are to discuss the specific details of the business that may affect the community that have not already been decided by the above laws and regulations, such as hours of operation, security, prevention of disruptive customers, and community engagement.