

## Spenard Community Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 7th, 2016

Jed Smith SCC President opened meeting 7:08

Welcomed all members and attendees, self introduction from attendees new to this council.

Introduction of officers, IP-G, Jay Stenge V-P, Peggy Auth, treasurer.

Opened floor to brief neighborhood related announcements:

Colin Hodges from People Mover reminded the group of the upcoming proposed changes and the public comment period that is now open. Cloudberry Canibis announced intentions to open at 3307 Spenard Rd. Yardicopia is working on a neighborhood community gardening project on public lands. Food Bank of Alaska is hosting "Neighborhood Gift" at the Sullivan Arena and is accepting donations. Representative from Mia Costello announced Ms. Costello will be hosting a Saturday Sundae event at Taste Freez on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. One Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, and she also announced that there will be a discussion at UAA on SB91.

Agenda for this meeting and minutes from November meeting were approved.

Assembly report – Tim Steele. Last meeting there was a discussion about changing taxi cab ordinances; expanding taxis to increase access, i.e. Eagle River and South Anchorage. Six marijuana applications were reviewed. The budget has been decided and regular actions are now taking place. Sales tax measure discussed; if it is to be approved, it will have to be on a ballot. More police officers will be coming onto the force.

Airport report – John Johanson. Update for December is now available online. Reminder for the public to stay off vacant plane bases at Lake Hood. New sushi restaurant has opened near gate C6. There could be a possible modification to the Lake Hood regulations for parked planes; public comment will be open until the end of the month. Ask that people either park or wait at the cell phone lot when picking up passengers at the airport to reduce long lines at Arrivals. There will be music in the terminals throughout the holidays.

Legislative report – Berta Gardner and Harriet Drummond. There is anticipated rewrite of SB91 spearheaded by Senator Coghill. Presented an award to honor Steve Heimel for his work in journalism in Alaska.

Mayors Office report – New portal for reporting homeless camps throughout Anchorage is now available online; plea for landlords to consider vouchers to help homeless displaced in order for them to get housing. If filing a report for a camp, one can put in their email address and will get reports back from the portal. They can report either active camps, which will be sent to APD or trash/debris, which will be sent to Parks and Rec. Dept. Photos can be added to reports. Downtown foot patrol has started and there is talk that officers may be placed in parks and trails during the summer months. Legal clinic in Mt. View is happening on MLK Day and there is a request to see if Spenard would be interested in hosting a similar event; contact Bar Association if so.

Presentation by the University of Alaska Anchorage technical writing student group called, Project Help. The four students each focused on different preparedness measures for natural hazards including: earthquakes, wildfires, and extreme weather events. One student also presented on overall neighborhood preparedness. Presentations included tips on what should be in an emergency kit and actions that can be taken to prevent further disasters during an emergency.

At 8:05 attendees were asked to breakup into small groups to discuss specific topics that were of interest to them. The topics focused on transportation, public safety, land use and development and special event planning. Groups were asked to discuss their thoughts and concerns, but also provide possible solutions/further actions that could be enacted. After 15 minutes, attendees again broke apart and went to a different group if they so chose. After the groups disbanded, highlights from each group were quickly shared:

- Transportation: more buses; clean sidewalks; major roadway problems, i.e. Minnesota Blvd.
- Public Safety: possibility of discussing what it takes to set up a neighborhood watch; hope is to bring in APD to discuss neighborhood watches and community policing
- Special Events Planning: Fish Creek event that took place in Sept – talk to make it annual; starting a community garden; discussion of bonds to help bring such events to the neighborhood
- Land Use and Development: Possible wetland development, either as community gardens or public green spaces; future Spenard construction projects to happen in the summer; need for affordable and accountable public housing

Meeting adjourned at 8:58