

Tudor Area Community Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 2, 2017

First Church of God at MacInnes & Tudor

Deanne Tuckerman, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting, October 5, 2017, were approved, after amendment by Ms. Wick to clarify bus service along E. 36th Ave. There is no bus service along E. 36 Ave. between Lake Otis Pkwy. and LaTouche St. Approval moved by Ms. Wick and seconded by Mr. Tuott.

Assembly Report: Assemblyman Traini said that the Assembly is working on the 2018 budget. Any light at Tudor Rd. and MacInnes St. will have to be added to a bond issue. The intersection was not plumbed for a traffic light, and the DOT&PF's plan to incorporate the underground work with the addition of new medians along Tudor fell apart with the current State funding shortfalls.

For people who want to restore bus service recently cut without raising fares, the Muni will need an additional \$671,000 to fund them.

Mr. Traini said that he has proposed a 10¢ per gallon gasoline tax within the Muni., with funds to be returned to property tax payers. Commercial properties will be excluded from the tax rebate. Ms. Tuckerman noted that renters and others similarly situated will not benefit from the rebate as landlords will not pass the tax rebate on to the renters, but will retain it for themselves.

Mr. Traini said that the mayor wanted to borrow the funds to make a front-end contribution to bolster the police and firemen s' retirement fund. Both Ms. Wick and Ms. Tuckerman felt that the money should come from tax revenues rather than from up-front borrowing. Mr. Traini said that the State was going to pushing more and more obligations onto the Muni. and other boroughs and cities, so that local money will be very tight. And of course no one knows what the Feds are going to do.

Assymn. Rivera was unable to attend the meeting.

Legislative Report: Senator Gardner's representative, Ms. Harris, told the group that the Senate was fairly quiet and was holding finance meetings in Anchorage. They are following the House finance bill to see what is happening there. Ms. Harris mentioned the drama about SB91's results and said that the Senate will incorporate some of the Criminal Justice Commission's recommendations into SB54.

Mr. Tom Adkinsen, Representative Josephson's representative, said that this special session was like a Dostoevsky novel, all crime and punishment. Representative Josephson, who was the only vote in the House against SB91, is reading SB54. Andy is not for full repeal of SB91 but he feels that SB54 needs a bit of firming up in order to make a better bill. There has been and will be no House vote on revenue measures without corresponding Senate actions.

School Board: The school board representative, Kathleen Plunkett, handed out the latest ASD flyer. She said that graduation rate has increased to 81.4%. The School Board will propose \$54 million in new bonds this year, but the total bond amount will be less than the

\$56.8 million of debt that will be retired this year. Ms. Plunkett noted that three schools did have any fire suppression sprinklers at all, and that other schools had some sprinklers but did not have complete sprinkler coverage.

Ms. Plunkett said that the seismic event resistance at the East High School gym looks like the seismic event resistance of the gym at Romig Middle School. Romig's gym was closed several years ago due to structural engineering concerns about failure under severe seismic conditions. There are also many roofs that need refurbishment or replacement, and HVAC equipment is also a concern at many schools.

Mr. Traini wanted to know how many students the District was short from ASD's projections. Ms. Plunkett said that the District had 600 fewer students than projected, and would lose between \$500,000 and \$1 million reimbursement from the State. She also said that special needs students were bringing in more money so that the loss was not as severe as originally projected. She also noted that all school districts in Alaska had lost students or were below projections, and she attributed the reduction in student enrollees to the poor economy.

There was discussion about the article written by ASD Board member Dave Donley, that was published by the Anchorage Daily News recently, which called for a recalculation of the cost basis used in the State's figuring of the student reimbursement rate. It turns out that Anchorage is no longer the lowest cost area in the state. The State's calculations are based on old studies that indicated that Anchorage was the lowest cost area. Mr. Donley and others are calling for the Institute of Social and Economic Research at the University of Alaska Anchorage to perform a new cost basis study. Funding for the study has yet to be identified.

Thank you, Ms. Plunkett! We really enjoyed your report.

FCC Report: Our FCC representative, Jake Tuckerman was not present due to illness. The chair said that his notes were available tonight if anyone would like to read them. Mr. Traini, who attends most FCC meetings, said that there were no barn burner issues. The marijuana industry representatives were there to say that "marijuana was not evil".

Speakers: Ms. E.J. Johnson from University Place condominiums was not here tonight to report on the results of her organizing efforts.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ms. Wick noted the presence of police cars on her street several days in a row, an unusual occurrence. She also noted that the police RAID reports reported an assault at MacInnes and Winterset.

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