

# **TUDOR AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **Meeting Minutes**

February 7, 2019; 7:00pm

First Church of God at Tudor and MacInnes

**CALL TO ORDER:** Tod Butler, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:** J.R. Baldwin, Tod Butler, Erin Day, Kevin Frank, Mark Heinrichs, Sam Myers, Richard Newman, Ron Siebels, and Kristen Solana Walkinshaw.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING:**

The January 3, 2019 minutes were approved.

### **ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY REPORT:**

Felix Rivera attended, as did Dick Traini and his assistant Alisa Jemmett.

The Assembly is discussing an ordinance regarding flame retardants on toys and furniture; an ordinance imposing fines and fees for vagrant and nuisance properties that also includes multiple vehicles; and an ordinance that incentivizes affordable downtown housing development.

Homelessness is very much on the agenda also – the count that took place in April 2018 noted 1,092 individuals.

There are several redistricting proposals being considered for the Assembly Districts because the downtown district is inequitable. Expect more to come out about this in the future.

Dick is working on ordinances to prevent smoking and vaping in parks; and to restrict the purchase of cigarettes to those 21 and older.

On the April ballot will be a city alcohol tax of 5% that will generate \$13-15 million per year designated for alcohol-related programs. Also on the ballot is a change to the municipal charter that will allow code enforcement officers to have abandoned vehicles towed. Currently, only police officers are empowered to do this, which is costly and takes them away from more important things.

## **ALASKA LEGISLATURE REPORT:**

Josh Springer (who works for Senator Tom Begich) reported in the absence of Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson and Representative Andy Josephson. Negotiations continue to elect a Speaker of the House. The governor's proposed budget and recommended dramatic cuts in is going to be the primary issue in the near-term.

**SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:** School board member Alisha Hilde spoke of the \$59 million bond that will be on the April ballot and includes funding for repairing schools damaged by the earthquake.

**FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS REPORT:** Mark Heinrichs summarized the meeting of January 16, 2019.

**GUEST SPEAKERS:** Meg Zaletel introduced herself and discussed her candidacy for Anchorage Assembly – District 4 – Midtown.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The five acres of wetlands adjacent to the Career College are zoned R-4 and will be challenging to develop because of lack of access.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

*TACC elections* were held for Chair, Vice- Chair, and Secretary. Tod Butler was elected as Interim Chair, and Mark Heinrichs was elected Vice-Chair. There were no candidates for Secretary, and Mark Heinrichs agreed to continue to perform those functions and be the delegate to the FCC.

*Neighborhood Concerns:* Officer Damon Jackson from APD's Community Action Policing team came to the meeting to hear about and address concerns regarding the rental house at 1925 Salem Drive. Residents are concerned that this property was being used as a drug house, with all of the other attendant issues that go along with these risky behaviors – child welfare, noise, idling and abandoned vehicles, and property damage. Over a 2 ½ month period last year, there were over 75 visitors to the house. Neighbors praised APD for their quick and efficient responses to their calls and wanted to know if the landlord/owner was being fined for excessive calls. Officer Jackson explained how this program works – there must be eight qualified calls in a one-year period, and in this situation that did not occur until the end of the year. To get this report, you must either be the reportee or the property owner. The landlord/owner is afforded an opportunity to mitigate the fine through creating and implementing a corrective action plan, and they have 30 days to do this.

Neighbors to the property had contacted the owner regarding their concerns, yet the owner did nothing, and this was very frustrating. The house is now vacant, according to Officer Jackson, who applauded the efforts made by residents to involve the owner. Considerable discussion was had regarding other approaches to resolving problems such as these. Bringing these to the Community Council early on will get everyone working together sooner. There are also remedies available through civil law.

Some residents pointed out that there has been suspicious activity at David Green Park and that this may be some of the same people who were hanging around the rental house on Salem Drive. Officer Jackson said to call 311 when this is observed and officers will come by and check it out. He also mentioned that APD has a new program this year to have CAP officers to attend community council meetings and help with issues and concerns in the area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mark Heinrichs