

Basher Community Council  
Scenic Park Elementary  
May 27, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by President Matt Moore

**Anchorage Road Coalition**

Frank McCory: presented information on the formation of an ad hoc committee of representatives from about 7 community councils. Major concern being addressed by this group is to get community input on road projects before the design phase. Projects should be defined and goals spelled out before dollars are spent on design. Plans should consider safety, affect on property values and cost benefit. His data indicate that wider road are not necessarily safer, nor do they necessarily improve traffic flow.

Mr. McCory is asking for community councils to pass resolution in support of Context Sensitive Solutions. He reported that 27 Community Councils have passed it so far.

Chris Kulberg made a motion to accept resolution in support of context sensitive solutions.  
Motion passed

**Anchorage Trail Watch**

Sam O'Conner made a presentation on the Anchorage Trail Watch program, a volunteer effort being conducted entirely through donations..

Overview: Safety issues on trail system brought about the volunteer trail watch program. There are now about 150 volunteers out on the trails reporting problems. Volunteers for the program go through an application process and a four- hour training. He reported that there are two levels of volunteers. Trail watchers volunteer when and where convenient. Trail ambassadors commit to a schedule of at least 2-3 hours in a certain week and must have a cell phone.

The volunteers in the program are not responsible for any enforcement, they simply observe and report such things as unsafe conditions (such as cracks, litter, vandalism) and suspicious activity. Hopefully presence will act as preventive measure and will reduce problems.

To join, apply online at the Muni website: [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org), follow links to trail watch

The trail watch program covers all trails that the municipality maintains, including both paved and unpaved. The head quarters are to be at the old police substation at Westchester lagoon. Staffing will be available 7 days a week, during peak trail hours, for first aid, bike repairs, and beverages. Proceeds for sales of beverages to go to nonprofits offering youth programs.

**Other Park Issues**

Roger Shaw with Scenic Foothills Community Council, expressed concerns about paint ballers leaving a lot of trash, color pollution in the park, as well as expressed concern about safety issues

and the legality of air guns within the park system. Further, when paint ballers are engaging in their activity, other users are excluded from the trail system. M. Shaw reported that this issue will be brought to the assembly, and encouraged anyone seeing activity that appears to be a problem, to call the mayor's office, APD and parks and rec.

### **Hillside Area District Plan – MOA**

Matt Moore reported that the Basher community council has been invited to join with several other councils and the Hillside Area Landowners Association in developing a Hillside District Plan to cover whole hillside, to be subdivided by individual neighborhood based plans. Matt reported that the group got positive encouragement after a meeting that included several assembly members.

Under this umbrella, Basher could develop its own specific plan. A set of commonalities would apply to all neighborhoods – but we'd have freedom to pick and chose components we want. An advantage would be access to funding and expertise we might not have on our own, and commonalities would give us the strength of a larger organization when contentious planning issues come up in the future.

Some negatives to joining this group could be the difficult of gaining consensus on a final plan with many subgroups having different interests and goals. Further, there was concern expressed that event he generalities may not apply to us. Several Basher residents expressed past experiences with municipal departments such as planning and zoning, which view Stuckagain as being very distinct from Hillside.

Matt presented sample draft resolution supporting the development of the hillside district plan that would encourage the development of a memorandum of understanding with the municipality on the development of the plan. Some elements of the MOU include establishing HALO as the coordinating and fundraising organization, establishing a working committee that would include as voting members representatives from 8 community councils, 2 developers and one from HALO. A planner would be appointed as a consultant. To see a copy of the draft resolution, visit [www.kyholland.com/hdp](http://www.kyholland.com/hdp)

There was concern expressed over including developers as voting members. The thought was that this gave the development community too much power and that they should serve in an advisory capacity.

Juliet motioned to invite 2 of the other community councils that have already adopted this resolution to make a presentation on their perception of the benefits. Motion passes. Issue tabled.

When asked, Matt added that we would have no financial obligation – of no money was raised by HALO, no planner would be hired to start the process.

A motion to accept the draft resolution was made, seconded and passed with majority approval.

## **Other items of business**

Jim Wojo asked about the status of traffic enforcement on Baxter/Campbell Airstrip Road. Matt responded that he has talked with the traffic department, they sound interested, but haven't done anything yet.

Bruce Talbot reported on the status of the Fort Richardson Fence.

The proposal has been revised to be a split rail fence around perimeter. He added that the environmental assessment now available on web, and that concerns are minor at this point. There are still some high security fence areas, but through Muldoon and Stuckagain will be the 40 inch fence to delineate boundary, deter off road vehicles, and protect safety of civilians during training. Within Stuckagain, there shall be a 30 foot clearing along fence – but this clearing width is being disputed. The proposed fence will include gaps for pedestrians and locked gates for security vehicles. The army is looking for input on where gates will be. Users will apply and receive a card that will need to be carried while on Fort Richardson. Users will be able to call into an automated system to find out where access is safe, and at that point will be asked to enter a unique pin number before entry and upon exit. People walking near fence line will probably not have to enter pin number. Comment period until June 19.

Draft resolution in support of the new proposal presented. Amended by Matt Moore. Dirk Sisson moved, Joe Wojo seconded, motion passed with majority approval.

Bob Gruenewig provided an update on LRSA activities:

Draining work will begin on the main road immediately after Mayor's race in mid June.

Oil is now being applied to the Basher roads.

Big hill project will stop at current place where wrap stops. Will depend on how much money left. Asphalt will be applied to big hill where graft stops. Want to lower big hill from there up if have enough money.

Bob reported that Dave Keddington will be responsible for ordering and following up on missing road signs.

LRSA was thanked for their roadwork.

Juliet reported that she sent a letter regarding the mayors race encouraging better traffic/parking enforcement as well as requesting better clean up of litter than occurred in previous events.

LRSA thanked for road work.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:05**