

Turnagain Community Council Minutes
November 3, 2005

Cathy Gleason, Vice-President, lead the meeting since President Mark Wiggin was out of town.

The September 2005 minutes were approved.

1. *Announcements.*

Cathy Gleason made the following announcements.

November 8 will be the final hearing on the Municipal Budget and the update to the Anchorage Bowl Parks Plan.

December 12, there will be a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission on an amendment to Title 21 concerning grandfathering in of nonconforming Commercial Signs.

An article concerning the Turnagain Slide Area development and Geotechnical Advisory Commission opinions appeared in the Anchorage Daily News. Breck Tostevin noted that Brooks and Associates have created a website of information concerning the Marston Turnagain Slide Area development. There will be a committee meeting the week of Nov. 13th. Final meeting details will be sent by e-mail to committee members.

2. *Assembly Report by Pamela Jennings.*

Assembly changes to Long-Range Transportation Plan took focus from transit and attractiveness.

Parks Plan Update focuses on parks, greenbelts, recreation facilities and values of natural resource areas.

Dan Sullivan has proposed an amendment to the Sign Ordinance to grandfather big pole signs that were to be replaced in 3 years under the original ordinance. Comments received concerning pollution associated with the draining of Lake Hood into Fish Creek to lower the lake level for weed control.

Cathy Gleason thanked Pamela Jennings for incorporating the West Anchorage District Plan into the LRTP and eliminating the center turn lane on the proposed upgrade to West Northern Lights from Nathaniel Court to Postmark Drive.

3. *Community Policing.*

APD Sgt. Cindi Stanton reported getting a couple of calls from Turnagain residents regarding drug deals and passed the info. on to the appropriate department. She also discussed the School Resource Officer Program. Currently, the city provides funding for two officers per high school, who also serve the middle and elementary schools that feed into those high schools. The Assembly is debating whether the Anchorage School District should provide the program funding. She also spoke about trailhead break-ins and recommended keeping items out of view in cars and locking automobiles.

4. *Turnagain Elementary Ice Rink.*

The Turnagain Elementary PTA thanked TCC for contributing \$500 to the Elementary School Ice Rink project. Alpine Service was contracted to flood the rink in a couple of weeks. You can reserve ice time on the rink on the Municipal Parks website.

5. *Parks and Recreation.*

Doe Anderson, Northwest -District Park Representative, spoke about the *Clean & Green Program* and Parks and Rec. initiatives in our area and around the city. The Clean & Green program includes painting bollards and picnic tables and removing trash and invasive weeds. Lyn Ary Park was done last summer, but she would like to see the installation of a picnic shelter at the park as well. Balto Seppala Park may be done next summer. The Parks Dept. is looking at moving the skateboard facility at the park along Minnesota to another area and putting in tennis courts. Doe also spoke about the Anchorage Parks Foundation, which can receive dedicated donations for specific parks or park programs.

6. *West High/Romig Renovation Project.*

Mike Price (Anchorage School District) and Tim Steele (Anchorage School Board) spoke about the West High/Romig Renovations Project. TCC appointed Pamela Jennings as its representative to the working group. First step of the project is an assessment study to examine how each site is used, current unmet needs, and future needs. It also compares facilities with other schools today vs. educational specifications. A Traffic Impact Analysis is currently being done and should be completed by the end of 2005. A November 30, 2005, meeting will look at a final draft of the Assessment Study. First quarter of 2006 the District will select a design team. The April 2006 bond will fund conceptual design. In fall of 2006, we will see the Conceptual Master Plan. In 2007, design and construction will start and will be phased in over time.. Mary Cary, Project Manager, spoke about results of survey after the fall workshop. 70 people attended the workshop and filled out a survey on what they liked best about the

schools and what they want to see improved or changed. A nonprofit corporation is forming to provide funding to renovate the West High Theatre as a community asset.

7. *2006 Officer/Board Elections.* Unanimous vote approved the 2006 officers and directors of the TCC. Mark Wiggin, President. Cathy Gleason, Vice-President. Breck Tostevin, Secretary/Treasurer. Bob Durst and Deborah O’Leary, Board of Directors.

8. *Chilligan Drive.*

As a follow-up to the October meeting, John O’Hara of Re/Max Properties discussed two property owners’ desire to develop Turnagain Slide area parcels on Chilligan Drive off of Clay Products Drive. So far, the Muni has indicated they would deny building permits for these parcels because road access does not conform to Muni. standards. An ordinance passed by the Assembly in 1984 states that any development in the Turnagain Slide Area has to conform to Municipal standards, including access road infrastructure. In 2002, an amendment to this ordinance, which would have allowed the Muni to approve development on a case-by-case basis, was tabled. The property owners are trying to get the Assembly to readdress the amendment to AO 78-84 and sought the TCC’s support. After discussion, the TCC postponed action on the proposal in light of the pending Marston Slide area development and how it might be affected by any amendment to the 1984 ordinance, TCC also wants to review of any previous Council position taken on the ordinance amendment.

9. *Municipal Zoning Enforcement.*

Rich Fern, Municipality Zoning Enforcement Officer who covers the west side of the city, spoke to the Council. Residents can call just one number — 343-4141 — as a referral point on all code enforcement issues. He reminded TCC of the “Rust in Peace” Program that can remove vehicles from private property.

Meeting adjourned 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by TCC Secretary/Treasurer Breck Tostevin