

Turnagain Community Council  
Meeting Minutes May 3, 2007

Mark Wiggin, TCC President, called the meeting to order.

I. *Announcements*

Mark Wiggins announced that Pam Jennings had joined the TCC board after the resignation of Deborah O'Leary.

The Lyn Ary TREErific Tree Planting to honor Bob Durst is scheduled for May 23 and 24. Please contact Cathy Gleason to volunteer to help with planting and other enhancements.

TCC recycle pick up is this Saturday; set out aluminum cans by 10:00 a.m.

Mark Wiggin circulated a sign-up for the Lyn Ary Park Committee.

II. *Legislative Report.*

Rep. Lindsay Holmes gave the Legislative report from Juneau. She reported on the Alaska Gasline Incentive Act briefings and status, the first draft of the capital budget and status of early education funding. She stated there was debate over municipal revenue sharing and that the Ethics bill has moved into Sen. Judiciary. She was asked about the Scoflaw bill to allow municipalities to seize cars of individuals with large sums of unpaid traffic tickets and its status in the House Judiciary Committee. She was also asked about the status of discretionary funding and she stated the amount available had yet to be determined.

III. *Further Announcements.*

Laura Zetler from the Turnagain PTA thanked the TCC for its donation to the Turnagain Elementary School Ice Rink.

Gloria Manni discussed a state legislative proposal to fund enhanced use of DNA testing and DNA sampling from anyone arrested. She noted the recent success of DNA testing in finding a suspect for the murder of Bonnie Craig and proposed calling this the Bonnie Craig law. She urged members to contact their state representatives to support the proposal.

IV. *Airport Construction Projects and Master Plan.*

Linda Bustemante, Anchorage Airport Community Liaison, reported on the A and B concourse construction to make seismic improvements. There will be a reduced number of lanes in the Penn Air/ERA pick-up area. She encouraged people to park in the DOT

parking lot and then call the traveler on a cell phone to avoid multiple trips or parking in the pick-up area.

The Airport is constructing a third commercial lane at the North Terminal. The parking garage will be opening up more space when the new rental car garage comes on line in July.

The smoking shelters have been moved to the median outside the airport buildings.

The airport will be doing firefighting training, so there will be large black smoke coming from the airport training area from noon to six ending on Saturday.

The Alaska Aviation Trade Show is this weekend and all are invited to attend.

A new directory of businesses on Lake Hood is now available.

The shuttles between terminals will also take you to the Aviation Museum.

The airport is doing a revegetation project on Airport Drive near the Echo Parking. Hydroseeding has been done along the road and evergreens are planned for the utility area. Wetland rehabilitation has been done in accordance with Corps wetland fill requirements. An on-site meeting will be set up with Cathy Gleason and the airport to go over details.

Mark Wiggin asked about the status of the AGLAD Borrow source permits and was told that Lee Nunn has a couple of things to do before he receives the permit.

Rich Wilson gave a presentation on the Airport Master Plan revision underway. He said that the forecasting is completed by type of aircraft. The possible impact is another runway parallel to runway 32 and additional cargo aircraft parking and aprons. The phase being worked on now is defining facility requirements and alternative means to meet those requirements. He offered to go through the details of the alternatives with the TCC. He stated that the forecast included a 600% aircraft tonnage increase in cargo flights and increased take-offs and landings. In 2007 there were 330,000 takeoffs or landings. The projection in 2027 is 530,000. This forecast has been accepted by the FAA.

Dan Gleason asked about an overpass at International Airport Road and Postmark Drive. Rich Wilson said that the traffic volume needed to increase to justify that project and that DOT would determine if and when that project would take place, but it would be several years from now before federal funding would be available.

Rich Wilson was asked by Mark Wiggin about aircraft noise. Rich Wilson stated that aircraft noise in flight is a function of the type of aircraft. The new stage 2 and stage 3 aircraft produce much less noise. When asked about ground noise, Rich Wilson

explained that the Airport was requiring ground power sources for all new cargo parking areas instead of mobile generators which are noisier.

Cathy Gleason expressed concerns about the quantity of noise increasing although the decible peaks may be less. She also stated that she had concerns about air quality impacts on those neighborhoods bordering the airport. Rich Wilson responded that the master plan and environmental impact statement will address environmental and health issues.

Cathy Gleason asked whether the forecasts of cargo traffic was based on unconstrained forecasts or constained forecasts that considered things like neighborhood impacts, lack of ground facilities, and environmental impacts, such as wetland fills and air quality. Rich Wilson explained the forecasts were based on unconstrained growth and that the master plan translates those needs against the constraints for a reasonable projection. The master plan and the Environmental Impact Statement Analysis for majority facility development would consider the constraints.

Merle Akers asked about the General Aviation Master Plan and increased flights to the east seem to get lower. Expressed concerns about student aviators doing touch and goes at late hours. Concern was expressed that Echo Parking quadrupled the noise over last few years. Rich Wilson explained that the Echo Parking moved locations of aircraft parking but did not increase the amount of aircraft in the system. Concerns were expressed about increased wheeled plan use of the Lake Hood strip and the strip/Lake Hood development. Rich Wilson suggested Merle talk to the Andy at Lake Hood.

#### *V. Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.*

Pat Redmond discussed the TCC Board's comments on the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan's portions in our area. This comment letter is available on the TCC Website. The Pedestrian Plan goes to the Planning & Zoning Commission on May 7 and will be before the Assembly for approval in June.

#### *VI. West Northern Lights Road Project.*

Stephanie with DOWL Engineer gave a presentation on the completion of the project. Remaining work includes decorative concrete, fence in front of Turnagain Elementary, repairing landscaping damaged during the winter, and adjustments to signal lights. A soft spot on Aero Avenue that is cracking will be repaired. The Turnagain sign taken out by a vehicle accident will be replaced soon.

Cathy Gleason expressed concerns of the use of a brick pattern instead of the scallop pattern in the concrete work and the mint green instead of a dark sage green. She also believes that landscaping needs to be supplemented. Don McIntyre said there was a need for light shields on the street lights that are shining into the backyards of houses along Northern Lights.

Questions were also asked whether the new fences were going to be sealed to protect the wood; the response was no.

Pamela Jennings asked how they were going to prevent maintenance from taking out the landscaping each winter. Stephanie stated that it was the State DOT that damaged the landscaping and the city needs to work on a resolution.

Dianna Durst expressed concern over the position of the median on Northern Lights with respect to those turning left off of McKenzie Drive. In the winter the median had been hit and run over by cars turning left from McKenzie Drive. The median can't be seen with the snow and the ice and the distance is too close to the turn.

Others expressed concern about drainage in some parts of the road during breakup at Westwood and Westwind and at the cross-walk in front of the school. DOWL's response was they will have to take a look at the drainage and see what can be done.

#### VII. *Westchester Lagoon Project.*

Cathy Gleason stated that the Community Advisory Committee met last night. On May 9 will be a public hearing on the landscaping for the project. The city will put in stakes as to where the tide will go to see what trees will be affected; it is estimated about 100 trees will die. Cathy stated that a lot of the trees on the railroad embankment will die because of saltwater intrusion. As a result the berm will be more visible. They discussed whether the dead trees will be removed. While a decision has not been made yet, probably some will be removed and some will remain to provide wildlife habitat.

#### VIII. *Community Policing.*

Sgt Denny Allen reported to the TCC on the large number of bicycle/car accidents and the importance of the helmet law. With respect to Lyn Ary Park problems, he advised that fires are illegal on the beach and if you see them report them to the police. Some members expressed concerns over being put on hold for 20 minutes by police dispatch. He said that at peak times dispatch can have these problems.

Concerns were expressed about delays in police response to a driver doing donuts during the day in the parking lot across from Balto Seppala Park. Sgt Allen encouraged creating a Neighborhood Watch, and taking photos and license plate numbers to address this kind of activity. Concerns were raised about speeding on Milky Way. Appreciation was expressed for the patrols for speeders. The police typically do not publicize or release details regarding suicides, as happened at Didlika Park recently.

#### IX. *Capitol Improvement Projects.*

The Municipality has provided TCC with a list of Capital Improvement Projects and asked for TCC input on their ranking. The TCC Board will prepare a proposed ranking of the projects for discussion and action at our June Meeting.

## X. Lyn Ary Park Concerns.

Mark Wiggin discussed recent concerns over fires, late night partying, the connex installed by Anchorage West Little League, and issues involved in the Marston/Foraker Development raising the need to reinstitute the Lyn Ary Committee formed in 1999 by a TCC resolution.

Blythe Marston raised the 1999 TCC Resolution and the need to reinstitute the Committee. She expressed concern over the impacts the proposed extension of Foraker Dr. would have on the pedestrian trail. She said that the connex is also an issue since the Title 21 draft prohibits connex structures in residential districts.

Mark Wiggin discussed the draft 35% design for the Marston/Foraker Project that is out for comment. Brad Dunker from Parks & Recreation stated that some of the parking is in the road right-of-way, but didn't think the ballfields will be affected. Parks and Rec. did review and submit comments to Project Management and stated they do want feedback from the community council. He is going to object to the loss of parking at the park.

There was a discussion of the use of the circle for parking at Susitna Court. Blythe Marston stated that the Municipality took no responsibility for the cost of building the circle so it was paid for by private property owners. She said that is why there is no parking and access to Lyn Ary Park at that location. Coaches from the Anchorage West Little League asked if they could use Susitna Court to unload gear to the ballfields during the baseball season from May 1 – July 4.

Mark Wiggin noted that the TCC would have a discussion of the Marston Foraker 35% Design at our June Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Breck Tostevin, Secretary