

Basher Community Council Meeting  
Scenic Park Elementary School  
Thursday, April 17, 2003  
6:45 pm – 8:45 pm

Meeting called to order by Vice President Tom Mader at 6:45 pm

Motion by Joyce Wojciehowski to approve March 5, 2003 meeting minutes passes without objection.

Presentation from Anchorage Fire Department: Michelle Weston York, Forester, AFD and Jennifer Krugh, student conservation service

Update on Station 14: Will be finalized in November, 2003 and operational in January of 2004.

Ms. Weston York requested a Basher community representative to sit on the "1 Percent for Art" board, which will convene for possibly 4 meetings.

Wild fire evacuation plan: referred to insert that ran in Daily News a few weeks ago.

- Be prepared to take 4P's: Pets, Papers, Pills and Photos
- Need plan for children and seniors in home. Arrange meeting place. If there is an evacuation, children in school do not need to be picked up. They will be brought directly to shelter. You will be notified of their whereabouts by automated dialing on all emergency contact numbers you have left with the school.
- Refusal to evacuate – will be asked to sign a form indicating whom to contact.
- Please leave orderly, officers will let you through checkpoint and will tell you what shelter to go to. They want everyone to **check in at a shelter, even if you plan to stay elsewhere** so that there is a record of your safety.
- Model estimate that it will take 10 minutes for 280 vehicles to get through.

Fire Evacuation Drill on May 31, 2003 in Stuckagain Heights: Police will go door to door to do evacuation. Encouraged residents to actually practice doing evacuation (optional). AFD will conduct structural triage. They estimate it will take approx 3 hour (10 am -1:00 ish).

Q: Effort to clear dead trees? There is some effort, more info on that next time.

Q: If road blocked? You will need to "shelter in place." Defensible place around home becomes the most important thing.

Q: What about emergency access through military lands? Issue has never been resolved. Michelle indicated a willingness to bring it back up as an issue.

Q: Will there be slash pile removal this year? No. Will do cost share program for defensible space. If can set up one day or weekend for entire community, could do a slash pile pick-up. Basher should contact Michelle with a date to see if slash pick-up can be arranged.

Fire Wise evaluation available June-August. Call 267-5085 to schedule.

AFD is coordinating a tree watering event to water spruce that were planted two years ago. Will get a date at the beginning of June.

**Rick Sinnott on Bear/Garbage Control.**

Stuckagain is in middle of bear habitat.

If have problems with a bear, or observe a collared bear, please call him.

Anchorage Bear Committee has been meeting to create a plan to minimize problems, maximize benefits. Are contemplating creating a demonstration community with which they can work to develop specific strategies, then use as model for rest of city. Stuckagain is a possibility for this.

Anchorage Refuse will be tagging garbage pilfered by bears.

Advised residents to stop feeding birds during daylight savings time.

It is against state law to feed a bear accidentally! Can impose \$100 fine for letting bears get into garbage (if they constantly let this happen).  
Doesn't recommend composting in bear territory, although electric fencing helps.

**Presentation of Information from Roger Cremo Regarding Tuxedni Park West Subdivision.**

Location: 52 acres, access by Atelier Drive and Tundra Loop. Bounded by Bicentennial park, military, and other homes. 15 lots proposed.

Q: Size? 2 - 7 acres. Average 3.5 acres.

Q: Timing? Hopefully platting will be approved in June. Plan to complete lot preparation work within 18 months of platting approval. Will work from 7am to 7pm.

Q: Will Atelier be improved? Will most likely improve some of it.

Q: Can Tundra loop be used only as auxiliary road, perhaps with gate? City requires access be provided. Would not object to gating, but would be surprised if city allowed it since it's already dedicated. Would be willing let city know that community members are concerned.

Q: Will access to park be maintained? There will be no obstructions.

Q: Bike trail along road? This would be tough to do. Grade of hill on curve will be 5%.

Q: What is right of way for road? 14' from center to curb.

**LRSA Presentation: The Mechanics of How it All Works and the Benefits, Bob Groeneweg:**

Q: What is a LRSA? Limited Road Service Area. Includes an elected Board and maintenance crew. Private contractor bids on road. Board calls shots, contractor to respond within established response time. LRSA given a budget, and muni pays the bills. Muni is taking care of park road at this time and has made grand promises for summer! \$120 K has been promised for drainage repairs.

Q: Why such a bad road this year? Poorly constructed roads and dynamics of this winter. If have problems, call pot hole number in phonebook.

Plan for doing some hard surfaces this summer. Need to dig out frost heaves (\$90-\$100K).

Will need a vote of the people to release park road to city so that they can take care of it. Under LRSA, we have no way to bond for road.

Michael Norman presented a resolution to urge city to put \$500,000 in road improvements in next parks and recreations bond. Timing is such that the proposal must be submitted by April 30. Second by Kathy Archie.

Q: If need 2.5 million, what good would 500,000 do? Could fix a portion of the road, and do it right. It is unrealistic that we'd ever get \$2.5 million in one shot for that park road. Jim Lambson at P&Z thought this was reasonable.

Discussion included comments that we'd need to actually "work" the bond issue next year, and perhaps seek some advertising support from Anchorage Tomorrow. Emphasis will need to be on improving access to park, not access to our neighborhood..

Motion passes on voice vote with no opposition (appendix A).

Request from member to put road issue on next community council meeting to begin development of a long term plan; perhaps formation of a road improvement committee. Estimated cost for repairs is a million per mile.

**Friends of Near Point - AF Update, Barbara Hood and Dirk Sisson:**

AF hearing was postponed until May 12. Two options are being pursued as follows:

- Short term: Continuing to pursue AF application and expand it as a community wide issue. Scenic Park CC has passed a resolution against; others are being approached to consider the same. Have met with assembly members and mayoral candidates. Encouraged residents to attend May 12 hearing.
- Long term: Development of plan for long-term use of land. Have met with owner Joe Henri to discuss options. One alternative could be purchase of land by community (160 acres now listed at \$2.5 million). This is a lengthy and complicated process, and they are meeting with the Nature Conservancy and, Greatlands Trust to seek support. If purchase becomes a viable option, then the community could potentially bond.

Joe Henri relayed his willingness to discuss alternatives, but is unsure of whom he should be discussing alternatives with. He proposed the following counter offer:

- In return for community supporting him for replacement of the one tower in neighborhood now he would create a binding perpetual covenant that would not allow any future towers to be established on that location.
- He would also propose to put in an estimated 300,000 gallon reservoir (dug into rock, lined, covered) and 8 inch pipe system with hydrants running length of Basher road. Cost not to exceed \$750K. This would be used to protect the community.

Q: Would there still be road leading up to tower? Not a road, just a trail.

Q: What would you do with the rest of the land? Do not have a plan.

Q: How would water get in reservoir? Find well near reservoir, or infiltration from other nearby sources.

Q: Who would pay for pipeline? Possibly could form an enrichment district, and bond.

Q: What elevation? 1500 feet.

Comment: Would create enormous pressure at bottom – would have to put in pressure reducing stations.

Q: Do figures include insurance cost savings to homeowners? No

Comment: Restrictive covenants would not preclude other development.

Friends of Near Point responded that they would still prefer to try to purchase the land. They believe tower would require a road, and there are always going to be concerns about how the rest of the land would be developed – even if only one tower is allowed to go in on that one location. Urged council members to continue focus on resolution passed at March meeting. Other options require more time.

Mr. Henri added that his counter offer is not indefinite and should be resolved before May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Issue was tabled for future discussion

**Clean Up Day May 10, 2003. Join us to pick up trash along road.**

Adjournment at 9:43

Submitted FCC  
11/3/03 IHR