

Basher Community Council Meeting
June 2, 2005
Baxter Elementary School

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm by President Matt Moore

Anchorage Police Department, Sergeant Cindi Stanton

Sergeant Stanton discussed her role as the designated APD liaison to community councils. Her regular work hours are Monday-Thursday, noon-10pm, year round. She can be contacted by phone at 786-2668 or by e-mail at cstanton@ci.anchorage.ak.us.

If the community council would like, she can provide statistics for the community on reported crimes.

When asked about repeat offences (such as off-roading through park and littering), Sergeant Stanton encouraged individuals to call the non emergency number for APD (786-8900) and report all incidences. It is important that callers provide as much identifying information as possible, as well as provide contact information in case APD needs to follow-up.

Neighborhood Watch Program

Jim Wojociehowski briefly discussed the benefits of the neighborhood watch program in his Farpoint neighborhood. While the programs tend to become inactive after some time, the initial information and preparation (such as recording serial numbers and etching license plate numbers on belongings) has been very beneficial.

Firewise Program, Sue Rodman

Ms. Rodman passed out Fire Season 2005 inserts that include information about the Firewise program, recommendations for protecting one's home, and important phone numbers. She provided the following information:

- Individuals can still get spruce burn permits which are only valid conditions permitting. Free Firewise home assessments are still available (application in insert).
- Forestry is still offering 70 percent reimbursement for tree removal around residences. There is about a 2-week turnaround.
- For those that cannot bear to remove trees, it is recommended that you keep limbs at least ten feet from house.
- Wood lots open again for brush.
- Chipper service will be offered in Stuckagain again; a date will be coordinated for mid to late July.
- Spruce bark beetles are reportedly on the decline, but as are endemic to the area, residents still need to be watchful of their spruce. It is recommended that the trees be watered, pruned in the fall, and when pruning leave "collar" from each pruned branch.
- Anchorage has contracted to have a helicopter dedicated to the municipal area this year.

When asked about the advertised fire retardants, Ms. Rodman indicated that while she does not know brand specific details, some do have hours to day- long effectiveness. Homeowners

should research each (gels and foams) and if inclined, select a method that fits their budget and lifestyle needs.

LRSA

The LRSA was commended for doing a good job. Some commented that it would be beneficial to have more advanced notice of road work.

Harry Haywood reported that most brush has been cleaned up for the year. Culverts and ditches are being fixed on Copper, Atilier and Montagne. Some areas (Copper) will be receiving upgraded road materials as some roads are significantly below standards. Oiling will continue throughout neighborhood.

Neighbors were encouraged to “be gentle” with Carl (road contractor) as there are few others qualified to do this job for us

LRSA Meetings are supposed to meet once a quarter; most work has been conducted by phone calls. Matt Moore offered to e-mail messages to the neighborhood providing LRSA related information.

Bylaws

The Anchorage Assembly is requiring certain changes to our community council bylaws (for the purposes of some uniformity across councils). Fourteen days advanced notice is required for this action. The Executive committee will work on the recommended amendments and will shoot for a late July meeting to adopt the changes.

Other Business

Matt indicated that he is scanning all of the historical documents for Basher Community Council and is placing them on the Federation website for viewing.

Comment that gravel road design standards are for 25 miles an hour, not 30 or 40 mph. Excessive speed causes dust and erosion.

There is no new information on either the status of the military fence or a secondary evacuation route for Stuckagain.

National parks trail day is Saturday, June 3. Neighbors were encouraged to volunteer time at 8:30 at the trailheads.

The issue of development of a parallel trail along Campbell Airstrip Road was brought up. Kincaid is slated to receive one and some are inquiring how we might receive a similar trail. Perhaps John Clary can be invited to next meeting to give suggestions on how getting something like that off the ground can be done.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12.