

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Oceanview/Old Seward Community Council will take place on Wednesday April 9 in the Salvation Army Church on the corner of DeArmoun and Old Seward Highway starting at 7:00 PM.

We have a full agenda comprising two interesting presentations and important Community Council business to conduct.

Steve Beardsley will present the AWARE program. Steve is a resident of Oceanview and is an active member of the Council. He retired from the School District as a teacher and is now working for the Municipality. The purpose of the AWARE program is to prepare the Anchorage community in the event of a regional disaster and is particularly appropriate during these times of terrorist alerts.

Rick Sinnot from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game will talk to us about fish and game management. Again, an appropriate subject since we are no doubt dusting off our fishing tackle from winter storage and getting ready for the great Alaska summer.

Two important items of business include the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which identifies the Municipality capital projects planned for 2004 through 2008. This is an annual process where the Community Councils provide an overall priority ranking of all capital projects in the Oceanview/Old Seward area and suggest additional projects.

We also want to approve the Council bylaws, which we never seem to be able to finalize.

REPORTS FROM ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES JANICE SHAMBERG AND DICK TREMAINE

As of the writing of this newsletter, we do not know the outcome of the election propositions. There are two propositions that will affect the governance of Anchorage. Proposition 2 will require run-off elections for Mayor if the winning candidate fails to receive 45% of the vote. The proposition will reduce the vote from the existing requirement of 50% plus one to 45%. Proposition 18 will form eleven election districts with one Assembly representative for each district.

So we would like to hear our Assembly representative's views on the outcome of Proposition 2 and 18. We are also interested to know how our representatives feel about the School Board budget, which was recently approved by the Assembly.

Community Council meetings are one way we have to be informed about local issues, so ask any questions you have for Janice and Dick.

REPORTS FROM THE LEGISLATURE

We will conduct a teleconference with our legislators in Juneau—Senators Stevens and Bunde, and Representative McGuire, which we were unable to conduct during March due to scheduling, conflicts. We are interested in the status of the following bills:

- SB 23 concerned with the use of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge.
- SB 71 concerned with the amount of money that can be spent on enhancements for transportation projects.
- HB 48 concerned with the use of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge.
- HB 86 concerned with injunctions against permitted projects.
- What is the purpose of TRAAK? Can this function be disbanded without impacting critical state services?
- Lastly, how is the legislature responding to the Governor's invitation to develop their ideas for balancing the budget?

If you have questions for our legislators, ask them during this teleconference.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee held a meeting on March 27 and discussed these topics:

Community Council Issues

At the March Community Council meeting we discussed issues of concern to the Council and to what extent did the Council want to get involved. The consensus of the discussion is summarized below:

- We will stay informed on the development of any multiple housing projects.
- We will be alert to the enforcement of zoning and building permit regulations.
- We will participate in the public process involving school boundaries.
- We will be receptive to concerns expressed by Homeowner's Associations within the Council area.
- We will outreach to the congregations of the three churches in the Council area--the Salvation Army Church where we hold our meetings, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church at Oceanview and Old Seward Highway, and Chapel by the Sea Non-denominational Church overlooking Turnagain Arm
- We will participate in the public input to the area-wide transportation projects such as the New Seward Highway expansion, Debarr Street extension and the East Anchorage Transportation Study.
- We will be active participants in projects that affect the Council area such as the Chugach Electric Intertie, double tracking the Alaska Railroad, and the Coastal Trail.
- We will encourage joint planning with neighboring Community Councils on what we want South Anchorage to be in 2020.

This reads like a pretty job description for the Community Council.

NEXT MEETING

The last meeting of the Spring 2003 series of Community council meetings is scheduled for May 14.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NEWSLETTER

We are being asked by the Federation of Community Councils to encourage the distribution of the newsletter in electronic format and save money on mailings through the Postal Service. Every month the FCC mails the newsletter to 1015 homeowners at a cost of about 20 cents each. Only 96 homeowners, or roughly 10%, receive the newsletter electronically. In an attempt to encourage greater use of E-mail delivery, we are asking that you reply to the FCC either by E-mailing councils@alaska.net or returning the attached form to the FCC.

YES...

I would like to receive the newsletter by **email** at this email address:

OR

I don't have an e-mail address but would like to continue receiving the newsletter by U. S. Mail.
The address on the label of this newsletter will be used unless you advise FCC of any address corrections.

Mail this to the address on the return section below or email councils@alaska.net

If you do not wish to continue to receive the newsletter, simply do not return this form.

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