

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 pm. Pledge of Allegiance.

A sub-group from the Bartlett High School Choir, the Bear-a-Tones, sang the National Anthem and another song to celebrate the opening of the community center.

Board Members Present: Josh Green, Troy Carlock, Steve Sommerfeld, Bob Reupke, Peggy Robinson

Board Members Absent: Dean Syta, John Floyd, Bobbie Scott

Approval: Previous Minutes: Minutes of November 16, 2006 approved unanimously.

Approval: Agenda: Peggy requested the addition of P&Z Case 2007-036 regarding the Muldoon Community Assembly request for snow storage to the agenda. She also requested a discussion of Title 21 change for Natural Resource Extraction in B-3 lots larger than 5 acres. Both have comments due before the next NECC meeting. Agenda with additions approved unanimously and added at the end of the agenda.

Treasurers Report: Bob Reupke reported that we currently have a balance of \$766.62. We received a donation of \$100.00 Jan 7th and \$5.00 Jan 18th.

Executive Board Report: Peggy Robinson presented the executive board report

- A task force has been formed to examine the needs of the community for a new fire station &/or upgrades to the existing Fire Station #6. The task force will also work with Jim Vignola, Senior Fire Captain at Station #6 to determine what will be best for the community and work into the Fire Department's plans as well. The executive board did, however, approve the Legislative/CIP request for funding a study to determine the needs of the current Station #6.
- The executive board acted upon liquor license renewals and requests. Two renewals, Muldoon Pizza and JJ's Sports Center were approved unanimously. A new application from Café Polonia for a beer and wine license for their Polish restaurant was approved as unanimously as well.

Representatives Reports: (in no particular order)

- **Senator Bettye Davis (Report presented by Sen. Davis' aide Phyllis)**
 - During the legislative session, she can be reached at 907-465-3822 or 800-465-3822
 - She is Chairman of the Health, Education & Social Services (HESS) this session along with being on the Joint Armed Services Committee and the Labor & Workforce Development Committee.
- **Senator Bill Wielechowski (Legislative call-in)**
 - Bill can be reached at 907-465-2435 or 800-465-2435, email sen.bill.wielechowski@legis.state.ak.us
 - 55 Bills have been pre-filed on the Senate floor for consideration this session.
 - He is Co-Chairman of the Joint Armed Services Committee, and a member of the Natural Resources, Judiciary, and Transportation Committees.
- **Representative Bob Roses (Legislative call-in)**
 - Bob can be reached at 907-465-4939 or 800-465-4939, email rep.bob.roses@legis.state.ak.us
 - 101 Bills have been pre-filed in the House for consideration this session.
 - He is Chairman of the Veterans and Military Affairs Committee, Vice-chair of HESS, Vice-chair of State of Affairs Committee, and member of Natural Resources, Ways & Means, Ethics, and Finance Committees.
- **Representatives Dahlstrom and Crawford and Senator Dyson:**
 - No report. Not present.
- **Representative Max Gruenberg:**
 - No report. He had a meeting conflict.
- **Anchorage Assembly Members Paul Bauer, Debbie Ossiander, Bill Starr:**
 - Not present

- **Anchorage Assembly Member Ken Stout (presented in person):**
 - Ethics bill was finally passed with a unanimous vote of the assembly.
 - The assembly appointed Bill Starr to replace Anna Fairclough on the assembly.
 - They are working on a Special Needs Ordinance for people who are physically unable to get to a polling place.
 - The request for \$350,000 for planning the remodel &/or re-structuring of Fire Station #6 has been added to the Legislative Request Package going to the Legislature.

Community Activity Reports: (in no particular order)

- **Anchorage Fire Department – Patterson Station, 267-5006**
 - Not present.
- **Community Patrols** – Aaron explained that the community patrol was status quo; still desperately in need of volunteers. They only have three members for the entire Nunaka Valley Patrol. There have been 5 or 6 break-ins in recent past and he cautioned everyone to be on guard and when you leave home, leave a light on as a deterrents.

Please contact the following individuals with questions, or to volunteer for the Community Patrols.

- Aaron Pascar, Nunaka Valley Patrol, 223-4630
- Michelle Daugherty, Northeast Patrol, 748-7800
- Other phone numbers of interest:

Junk cars - 729-7878	Graffiti Busters - 343-4663
Streetlights - 263-5483	Potholes - 343-6363
- No one from the Northeast Patrol was present to give a report.
- Peggy reported on how funding from State Grants for the patrols will be accounted for in future. The Federation of Community Councils will disperse the funds based on requests from the patrols that have been approved by the Community Councils. The Federation will be the grant manager, and the councils will not handle those funds through their books.
- **Northeast Community Center** – Bob Reupke
 - Their grand opening of the “new” center was held on December 18th, 2006.
 - He is working with the landlord to try and resolve the noise issues in the meeting room where the NECC meets. The NECC Board will discuss this issue at their February meeting.
 - The phone line just became operational today.
- **Weed and Seed-** Tim Sullivan
 - No report. Not present.
- **Road Construction Updates**
 - Turpin Signage – A brief report was to be presented by Terry Cummings. However, she will make a presentation when it is on the February Council Meeting agenda. People are encouraged to drive Turpin and compare the signage to Beaver Road.
- **Federation of Community Councils** – Bob Reupke
 - Bob mentioned that an AWWU rate increase is imminent. A rate increase for a single-family home of +/- \$60.00 will soon be implemented. This is to cover the costs of wage increases & the funding of the PERS (public employees retirement system) for the utility.
 - School bonds in the amount of \$85 million will be on the ballot in April. \$65 million will be for Clark Middle School reconstruction and \$20 million will be for other miscellaneous improvements.
 - Reminded everyone that the continuation of Town Hall meetings will be starting again in February and March.
- **Title 21 Committee** – Glenn Clary
 - Not present and no report
- **Anchorage Police Department – Sergeant Stanton**
 - Officer Stanton reported that 15 new police recruits are now on the streets with their field-training officers.
 - Calls in the NECC area are averaging in excess of 1000 calls per month. 20% of those calls are officer initiated. A more detailed report can be obtained from Sgt Stanton.

- **MOA Parks and Recreation – Teri Peters, Northeast Parks Manager**
 - Her report is recorded below in the business section of the minutes.
- **Elmendorf Air Force Base – Bill Day, Public Affairs**
 - Not present – no report
- **Anchorage School District**
 - No report

BUSINESS:

- **Traffic Calming Presentation: HDL Dennis Linnell:** The presentation is not on 6th & Oklahoma and 6th & Creekside, as indicated on the agenda. Another firm is handling that project. He presented on the installation of raised crosswalks on 8th & 9th Avenue between Turpin and Edward Streets. They will be constructed this summer to make drivers more aware that there is a pedestrian walkway there. The raised crosswalks will be about 3" high that will be ramped on either side. The colored crosswalks will be about 10' in wide, which would include the ramps. This will help calm traffic on those streets.
- **NE Park Update: Teri Peters, NE Regional Manager:** The parks in the area are seeing a lot of usage throughout the year. Russian Jack Park has seen high usage. As an example, there were 300+ people that attended a Martin Luther King function at the park this year.
 - They are also promoting the use of helmets for winter sports at the park. Doyon Drilling donated 13 helmets to the cause. The park has also partnered with Ptarmigan and Muldoon Elementary Schools for after school programs that will also include cross-country ski lessons for the participants.
 - Selkregg Chalet is being utilized as well for a number of different functions. There will be a Sports Swap at the Chalet on Sunday, Jan 28th.
 - Cheney Lake Park has been adopted by Camp Shalom for clean up. They did it last year and have volunteered to continue this year. There will be a Smores & Skate at Cheney Lake on Saturday, Jan 20th, sponsored by ConocoPhillips.
 - Ira Walker park cleanup was a huge success this year. The cleanup was aided by about 20 youths from the neighborhood that volunteered to pitch in and help. The King Career Center was responsible for brushing and thinning a wooded area adjacent to the park. Park clean-ups are being planned for next summer, but there needs to be neighborhood volunteers to work with others that P&R bring in.
- **Liquor License Renewal – The Cabin Tavern:** No police report was available to the committee so there was no formal recommendation, although committee members reported having no concerns. No comments or concerns were voiced from those in attendance at the meeting.
- **Browman Development requests for sign and highway screening variances: Tim Potter, DOWL Engineers, and Greg Johnson, CIRI:** February 12th and 14th are the dates for their presentations to the Muni for their variance. Tim explained the highway screening requirements in relationship with the sign ordinance and the big-box ordinance restrictions. The current ordinance requires a 30' buffer along the highway that leaves the natural vegetation as is. The development would be hidden from view if the buffer were to remain as is. This explains the reasoning behind their original request for a 60' sign that would allow it to be seen above the existing vegetation. At a special meeting on December 14, 2006, the NECC Executive Council declined to support the 60' sign variance request. Consequently, the developers are seeking a variance to selectively trim and thin the existing vegetation in the 30' buffer zone and add up to two signs in that buffer that would adhere to the current sign ordinance. Tim indicated that the owners of the development are comfortable with the concept of thinning and landscaping the buffer zone and using two smaller signs. It was pointed out during the course of the presentation that a new architectural feature has been added to the structure that is a 58' glass tower on the southwest corner of the building. There was some discussion about the pros and cons of thinning the buffer and the sign placement within the buffered zone. A motion was made as follows:

“The NE Community Council does not support the requested variance in height from the current MOA sign ordinance for the proposed Browman Development.

Instead, the NE Community Council supports the selective thinning and clearing of the trees and vegetation along the Glenn Highway frontage in conformance with a publicly reviewed clearing plan. This would allow visibility into the retail center, and is appropriate given the 3000-foot highway frontage and the proximity of

the highway overpass. Additionally, the NE Community Council believes it may be appropriate to grant the option of locating up to 2 signs within the highway screening easement."

There was a motion made to split the motion in order to consider the sign portion of the motion separately from the vegetative clearing portion of the motion.

The vote to split the motion failed: 8 in favor, 12 opposed, 2 abstaining

The motion as stated above passed: 13 in favor, 7 against, 1 abstaining

A motion for reconsideration was made and failed with 3 voting for and 14 against.

- **Grass Creek Development Site Plan Review: Jeff Judd CIHA:** Jeff Judd gave a presentation on the development. He pointed out which lots were reserved for commercial development. Tract 10 has been sold to a commercial developer as well. He shared information regarding water and sewer upgrades, housing density, and the mix between affordable housing units and what he referred to as "market rate units". There will be 26 buildings (90 units), primarily 3 & 4-plexes 2 stories high. Units will be structured as "rent to own" units. They are obligated to rent the units for 15 years. Occupants would build equity during this rental period.

Terry Cummings gave a brief report from the Town Center Committee. A list of questions for the developers was passed out as well. This list was given to Jeff Judd on the afternoon of Jan 17th. Consequently, he didn't have time to address all of those questions and concerns. Terri indicated that the committee could not support the development without having their list of concerns answered.

Jeff then proceeded to answer the questions as well as he could. He will address the rest of the questions and provide written answers to them. He then fielded questions and concerns that, many of which are on the questionnaire provided by the committee.

Discussion continued until 10:00 pm at which time a motion was made to extend the meeting to 10:15 pm. It was noted that agenda items #6 The Muldoon Assembly snow storage and #7 Natural Resources extraction will be acted upon by the board at the executive board meeting on Feb 1st if this passed. The motion passed: 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstaining.

A motion was made and seconded to support the CIHA site plan for a mixed-use development as presented. Due to the time, an additional motion to extend the meeting for another 10 minutes for further discussion. The motion passed: 11 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstaining.

Additional discussion covered concerns about the project but it was the general consensus that CIHA has had a good track record in the past and most felt confident that this would be a good project.

A vote was taken on the motion to support the development. Josh Green moved "*The NECC supports Cook Inlet Housing Authority's Grass Creek site plan as presented at the meeting tonight.*" The motion passed: 14 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstaining.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS:

- No time

ADJOURNMENT: 10:27 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Steve Sommerfeld Co-Secretary

Other Important Notes and Announcements:

1. Presentations and subjects are timed. Brevity is important. Please wait to be recognized by the Chair.
2. Please sign in when attending meetings. If possible, choose to be notified by E-mail. Send E-mail to councils@ak.net if you'd like to receive Council information by E-mail.
3. The NECC now has a web page maintained by the Federation of Community Councils. Minutes for the meetings, other NECC documents, and NECC contact information are online on this site at www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/23.html.
4. We are a non-profit organization and receive no funds from the State or Municipality. Our treasurer would be happy to receive your donation.
5. Revised bylaws as approved by the members at the September 15th, 2005 meeting are available at the NECC website listed above, and at the meeting.