

Basher Community Council
April 9, 2008
Scenic Park Elementary School

President Dave Keddington called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Bear Resistant Tipper Cart Demonstration Project

Rick Sinnot, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, presented information on the Bear Resistant Tipper Cart Demonstration Project. Stuckagain Heights has been selected as one of two demonstration sites for the summer of 2008. Upon request, Alaska Waste will deliver 96 gallon bear resistant tipper carts starting in May. The demonstration project will run through October. Funding from BP Exploration, the municipality and Alaska Waste will allow for the use of the tipper carts by residents of the neighborhood for no extra charge during this demonstration phase. After the demonstration is over, the cost of the tipper carts is an extra \$9 per month (reduced rate during winter months). Postcards announcing the program will be mailed to the neighborhood, and residents can subscribe to the program by emailing: bears@akwaste.com or call 563-3717. Include your name, address, and phone number.

It was suggested that residents wishing for smaller tipper carts (because of long steep driveways and or low trash volume due to recycling) contact Alaska Waste and encourage them to make this option available.

Basher Community Council Bylaws Amendments

Vice President Mary Rosenzweig presented a series of bylaws amendments that were first drafted in 2005 in response to updates to the municipal code related to community councils. Ted Trueblood moved, Dave Keddington seconded, adoption of the amended bylaws. Motion passed without opposition. The amended bylaws will be posted on the Basher community council website.

Election of Basher Community Council Officers

Dave Keddington nominated Dirk Sisson as Treasurer and Barb Luiten as Secretary for the Basher Community Council. Mary Norman and RJ Hall were nominated as members-at-large on the Basher Community Council Executive Committee. Hearing no other nominations, Pitta Penz moved. Jim Wojciehowski seconded, approval of these individuals for their respective seats. Motion passed without opposition.

Neighborhood Information Dissemination

Dave Keddington announced that an e-mail account has been established for the neighborhood at bashercc@gmail.com. Updates and information will be disseminated to the neighborhood through this account. He also encouraged members to start going to

www.communitycouncils.org to access the Basher Community Council webpage. Meeting minutes, agenda and other updates will be posted there.

Additional communications methods, such as phone trees, were discussed but not thought to be viable options at this time.

Campbell Airstrip Road issues

Bruce Talbot presented information from the Bicentennial Trails Committee. A trail plan for park use has been underway. Bruce has been encouraging improved safety for pedestrians on lower part of Campbell Airstrip road. Estimated as much as \$3-400K would be required just to do a study to figure out what is needed. A request has been made to Representative Mike Hawker to place this on his list of district financial requests. Mary Norman agreed to provide testimony in support of this issue at the next legislative finance committee hearing.

Dave Keddington announced that he has a meeting tentatively scheduled with Assembly persons Sheila Selkregg and Mike Gutierrez to discuss safety issue along Campbell Airstrip Road. A draft bike plan will be made available for public comment on April 28 at Wendler. Parallel tracks along Campbell Airstrip road are a part of this plan.

Members of the community were encouraged to present a united front on the issue of safety along Campbell Airstrip road.

East Side Plan

Development of an Eastside district plan was discussed briefly. A plan is needed to articulate our desires as it relates to Anchorage 2020 so that we are not always reacting in crisis mode. Senator Bill Wielechowski has included \$60 k in the state budget for development of an Eastside plan. This would match an additional \$60 from the municipality. Dave asked for volunteers interested in working on this plan to e-mail him at bashercc@gmail.com.

Park Issues

Janice Tower (also a member of far north bicentennial park advisory committee) presented information from the Alaska Trails and Single Track Advocates. The group's goal is to allow multi-users to make efficient use of park without getting in each other's way. Critical needs have been defined (signage). Another is to inventory trails. One identified deficiency is the need for more sustainable built single track. In developing a trail plan, they intend for use of existing trailheads – not new trail heads.

Ms. Tower shared a proposed trail map. The group is collaborating with Nordic ski group for multi use trail for access to Chugach perhaps through hillside ski area. The plans include no new bridges and no new stream or wetlands crossings. She showed examples of how trails are being built using Sweco equipment. They want to preserve as much as

possible. Finish crew would put things back where they need to be for proper drainage and aesthetics.

Ted Trueblood moved and Teri Mader seconded passage of a resolution in support of the single track plan as presented by Ms. Tower. Motion passed without opposition.

Dave Keddington discussed a letter he sent to the Department of Natural Resources Chugach Park Planning Group articulating community concerns about access to Chugach State Park. He presented a resolution reiterating the points of his letter – dispelling the myth that we were exclusionary about park access; expressing the need to have balance and to preserve sense of community. Ted Trueblood moved and Chuck Borg seconded passage of the resolution as presented. Motion passed without opposition.

Individuals interested in participating in development of a Chugach state park access plan were encouraged to e-mail Dave at bashercc@gmail.com.

LRSA Update

Bob Groeneweg updated the council members on road status. The LRSA is about \$9,000 over budget for the current year, primarily due to excessive ice removal in recent months. During the summer, the LRSA will continue with more wrapping and oiling. Main focus will to continue up Basher.

Council members encouraged the LRSA to go up to levy limit to allow for more frequent road grading and improvements. Mr. Groeneweg reminded neighbors that true road improvements will require significant funds from the state and cannot be undertaken by the LRSA. The LRSA is responsible for general maintenance, not capital improvement.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm