

Rabbit Creek Community Council

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2005

<http://www.communitycouncils.org/rabbit>

Rabbit Creek Community Council * P.O. Box 112354 * Anchorage, AK 99511-2354

From the President

The last month has seen some important developments for our community. The Municipality and developers will be holding meetings in a couple weeks to discuss flooding of local roads that is believed to be associated with development that is disrupting and redirecting surface and subsurface natural water flow. We have more to learn, but I appreciate the recently attention by the Municipality to this concern affecting a couple different areas of our community. If you know of a local flood area that you believe is associated with recently development, please contact me.

Next, meetings are scheduled to work on parks planning. Please see the article below. These meetings are an essential opportunity for us to voice our interests and needs for parks and recreation support in SE Anchorage. Please attend.

Finally the Municipality has taken an important step in preparing for the start of the Hillside District Plan with a new ordinance that defines the process for developing district and plans. Approval of this ordinance in mid-March will take us a step closer to starting the HDP. Please take a moment and send a note to our assembly representatives or the Mayor supporting this ordinance and encourage them to support funding for the HDP in this years budget. Whether we plan for growth or not, it is happening. Please join me in supporting a process of planning for growth rather than paying to fix the problems later. Ky

Changes in Bylaws to be Voted On During the May Council Meeting

During the regular May meeting (May 12, 2005) the Rabbit Creek Community Council will vote on changes in our bylaws.

For a list of these changes, please contact Dianne Holmes at 345-1514.

Parks Planning to be held March 8

The Parks and Recreation Department is conducting a series of workshops in each of the five Park Districts in Anchorage. These workshops will gather public concerns, issues, ideas, and needs so that Parks and Recreation staff can better serve the community. In addition to the workshops, a community survey will be mailed to random Anchorage households and a series of stakeholder interviews will be conducted with local leaders in parks and recreation related services.

The southeast area workshop will be held at Spring Hill Elementary School March 8, 2005 6 PM to 8 PM .If you have any questions regarding the Issues Workshops, please contact Parks and Recreation at 343-4504 or email levt@muni.org.

PLANNING & ZONING 1st/2nd Mon, 6 PM

Loussac Library

Mar 14, S10752-2, 142nd, 2 lots into 2 different lots

Mar 14, 2004-021, Parks Plan Master Plan

Apr 4, 2005-039, Title 21 for neighborhood/district plans

Apr 4, 2003-143, Assisted Living Ordinance

PLATTING

Apr 6, S-11336-1 Potter Cr Sub, 3 tracts into 16 lots

Apr 6, S-10651 Plat amendments, Ahsland & Bluebell tracts of Goldenview Gate Subd.

Agenda Topics for the March 10th Meeting

7:00 pm Call to order, Introductions, Approval of Agenda

Treasurer's report

Minutes from February meeting

Legislative Report, if Bunde & Hawker are on

Comments from Floor ~ 10 minutes

Anchorage Tomorrow ~ April election bonds

Announcements ~ Halo candidates forum

Committee Reports:

Hillside District Plan

Trails and Access-Charlie/Jess

Neighborhood Association reports, INFO

LRSA reports, INFO

Federation of Community Councils Update,

Suzanne/Dianne (new bylaws)

Old Business

Potter Ridge ~ Revised proposed plat

Parks Plan and Community Meetings

New Business:

Glaciation/Hydrology

District Plan Ordinance

Spring Projects ~ Rabbit Cr. Green Belt, Flowers

CIP Priorities

Land Use Cases

9:00 pm Adjourn

Meetings are held at Rabbit Creek Community Church (Rabbit Creek and Snowshoe Lane), the second Thursday of each month, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m..

ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY Tuesdays, 6 PM Loussac Library

Mar 29, 2005-1, Community Council Bylaws

2005 Membership Form

Return to: Rabbit Creek Community Council, PO Box 112354, Anchorage, AK 99511

Dues (check one): ☐ \$3 /person or ☐ \$5 couple

Name(s) _____

Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Location of property or rental within RC area _____

E-mail _____

To receive the newsletter, circle the preferred format: **e-mail, U.S. Postage, none.**

2005 BOARD

President: Ky Holland 346-1729
kyholland@gci.net

Vice President: Wayne Skidmore
345-3268, wayneskid@msn.com

Secretary: Susanne Comellas

Treasurer: Donna Van Flein

Other Board Members

Charlie Barnwell

Dan Case

Carol Fries

Jess Grunblatt

Dianne Holmes 345-1514

Thom Janidlo

Mike Flister

Jerry Krieter, Alternate

HALO Candidates Forum March 22

HALO (Home And Landowners Organization, Inc.) and the Community Councils will be sponsoring a Candidates Forum on Tuesday, March 22nd. This event will be held at O'Malleys On The Green from 7 to 9 pm, and will be open to the public.

The evening will feature Assembly candidates Chris Birch and Dick Tremaine and School Board candidates Thomas Lamb, Mary Marks, Rod McCoy, Russell Mjolsnes and John Steiner. Every candidate will share brief opening statements before being asked questions submitted from the audience by the HALO moderator. Candidates will be given time for brief closing remarks. Ballot propositions, including the proposed museum expansion and proposed new civic and convention center, will be discussed. Representatives from both pro and con on each position will be present and will be available for questions.

Light refreshments donated by local businesses will be available throughout the evening. All area residents are encouraged to attend this HALO forum, ask questions of the candidates, and learn about the ballot propositions in this community event.

For more information, contact HALO President Chris Hamre at 561-1840 or Vice President Judy Morelein at 346-3784. If you are able to assist with arrangements for this event, please contact Katie Nolan at 333-2350.

Bylaws Changes to be Reviewed

In conjunction with a proposed city ordinance that would require common elements in all community council bylaws, the RCCC has been reviewing its bylaws. The Bylaws Committee recommends reviewing the issue of dues, the quorum needed to hold a general membership meeting, moving the annual meeting date to November, as well as clarifying a few imprecise points.

While RCCC's dues are minimal, \$3 per head, some Assembly members feel it is wrong to impose a 'poling tax' on membership voting rights. Council costs are not great, but donations alone have not covered costs in other councils who don't have dues. On the quorum issue, the meetings usually do not have the required 20% membership present to hold general meetings. We have suggested a change from a % to a flat figure of 15 members. There are pros and cons to each practice. The idea of holding the annual meeting in November, with the officers taking office in January, came from our current president. This method allows all who pay dues throughout the year to vote before the new fiscal year begins. The committee has also recommended other minor housekeeping changes.

All of the proposed changes will be reviewed at the upcoming meeting. Changes to the bylaws will be voted on during the regular May meeting.

Neighborhood and District Plan Ordinance Comes Before Planning & Zoning, April 4

While SE Anchorage residents have been pushing for completion of the Hillside District Plan before all the land is developed, the city code (Title 21) does not give legal status to neighborhood or district plans, even though they are mentioned throughout the *2020 Comprehensive Plan*. But a new ordinance will be heard before the Planning & Zoning Commission on April 4 that will change that. AO 2005-039 gives guidance for creating and adopting such plans as well as a well-defined timeline. Best yet is that the ordinance gives authority to councils or other Assembly-recognized organizations to sponsor the plans.

Of course the issue of funding is a separate consideration.

The ordinance is welcome news and the RCCC will be discussing its fine points and a few changes at the March meeting.

Links and Contacts

Assembly members for Rabbit Creek

Janice Shamberg, 343-4124, jcshamberg@gci.net

Dick Tremaine, 343-4122, tremained@ci.anchorage.ak.us

Zoning/Code Enforcement 343-8380

Private Dev/Subdiv, 343-8310

Planning Dept, Counter 343-7900

Platting Dept, 343-7900

State Legislature

Con Bunde, 800-892-4843;

Senator.Con.Bunde@legis.state.ak.us

Rep. Michael C. Hawker, 800-478-4950.

Rep.Mike.Hawker@legis.state.ak.us

LRSAs

South Goldenview: Brad Kutzer, 345-1712

Birchtree Elmore: Ed Bosco, 345-4530; Ted Pease 345-1235