

Fairview Community Council
August 9, 2007
General Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting commenced at 7:05 PM

Introductions of those in attendance

Presidents Report: Darrel Hess attended the groundbreaking ceremony of the Bragaw/Glenn Hwy interchange. He also attended the dedication of the new Begich Middle School and the new Salvation Army Safe Center. He reported that Fairview Elementary School had met its Adequate Yearly Progress goals.

Darrel said that he is one of the sponsors of the initiative that would place a 10% wholesale alcohol tax on the ballot.

Secretary Report: There was no Secretary report for July.

Treasury Report: June 15th – July 16th

Begin Balance	\$5,497.94
Deposits	549.99
Debits	1,074.63
End Balance	4,973.30

A.P.D. Report: Sgt Denny Allen was on vacation. Darrel reported that there will be a meeting with Stephanie Wheeler of HSS and the Faith Based Ministries and the churches that are involved in food distribution at 13th & Gambell.

Assembly Report: Allan Tesche said the assembly was considering a dog waste ordinance for city ball fields and parks. A question was asked if there were existing dog parks in Anchorage. He said there were 6 and one proposed for the 17th and E St. area.

He reported that developer Marc Marlow was seeking a tax break to re open a power plant at Ship Creek. This 130-180 MW plant would be a quarter billion dollar investment.

Allan is working with Fairview residents to sponsor the 10% wholesale alcohol tax initiative. The monies would go to A.P.D and agencies that work with public inebriates. He said that the Salvation Army had recently closed its Pt. Woronzoff Detox facility. Resident Ron Aleva said it was important that Anchorage does not become an attractor of chronic inebriates from throughout the state. An audience member stated that people must want to be sober and that a tax would have no impact. Another member asked about Ed O'Neil's program that cleans up homeless camps. Allan said the group was doing a good job but that more efforts were needed. A question was asked about the native corporations doing more about the chronic inebriates and homeless problem and Allan said it would be helpful if they did more.

Legislative Report: A staff member from Sen. Ellis's office said there would be a special session of the legislature in October on the oil tax question.

On the PENCO issue, Rep. Gara is drafting a letter asking that residents participate in the upcoming public hearings.

There is pending legislation requiring all residents to have health insurance. A question was asked if people would be fined if they did not participate. A question was asked if people would be fined if they did not have insurance. That is not the intent of the legislation.

Guest Speaker: Arnold Harder- 16th Ave Terrace. Members were invited to a public hearing slated for Aug. 16th at the Senior Center to see the final recommendations for the construction project. He thought the public would like the plans for the project.

Guest Speaker: Ron Aleva spoke against the proposed PENCO hazardous liquid waste treatment facility. He said that PENCO had not do "due diligence" at the project site. He said the risk factors were too high for several reasons. The site is in a seismic zone 5, there is an excessive slope to the property, the area was being redeveloped away from industrial use and that pedestrian volumes are heavy.

Among his other concerns and points: The largest transmission lines in the city come from the ML&P facility across the street and there has been arcing of power causing a fire. There is daylight water on the site. The technology is unproven but if successful the operation would be expanded and outside waste might be imported to the state. He said the facility should be moved out of populated areas, possibly to the regional landfill area. He said that it was not a good land use decision and the company didn't carry enough liability insurance.

He said there were inebriates in the area that could cause a truck accident, leading to a spill. He said that the project would not benefit Fairview and urged the Council to take a position against the project.

A member of the audience asked if alternative locations had been considered by PENCO. Ron said that they had not really evaluated alternative sites. A representative from PENCO in the audience asked that people come to their meeting at the Sheraton next week to learn more about the sites location and business plan. There was a general discussion of the project including some concerns about water contamination and the possible impact on Beans Café and Brother Francis Shelter. Some wondered why such a facility should be located inside the city.

The PENCO representative said that the ground water monitoring is complete and in operation. He said there would be a public meeting on Sept. 6th and that the engineering design would be presented and technical concerns would be addressed. He encourage people to attend the meeting to make sure they had all of the correct information before making a resolution.

Darrel Hess made a request that the Neighborhood Plan committee members go to next week's meeting. He tasked the Executive Board and NHBD Plan committee to address the issue since the public meeting will occur before the next Council meeting. He asked the committee to confirm the facts of the case and address statements of concern by PENCO representative.

Community Concerns: a member asked about the many dead branches on spruce trees on 15th Ave.

The PENCO representative again said they would address neighborhood concerns at the upcoming public presentation.

Meeting Adjourned approx 8:30 PM

Minutes submitted by Allen Kemplen and Harry Deuber

