

Fairview Community Council General Membership Meeting - March 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Fairview Community Council General Membership was held March 12, 2009 in the multipurpose room of the Fairview Community Recreation Center. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

President's Report – Sharon Chamard

The West High/Romig Middle School Renewal Master plan public forum will be held on March 19th from 6-7:30pm. The Fairview Oral History Project has wrapped up their taping. We are expecting a product sometime around mid-May in the form of a DVD.

The 13th and Gambell highway safety improvement project (HSIP) design team did not include, in the design recently submitted to the council for approval, key design elements discussed last year and thought by the council to have been included into the design, such as the gateway feature. This raises the possibility of forcing yet another delay in the project. As it is there still is a commitment from the city and our legislative team to move forward with the project this year. The delay might be minor and the discrepancy worked out.

Secretary's Report - Paul Benson

The minutes from the February General Membership meeting were reviewed by the council. A motion to accept the minutes was moved and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Chamard presented for Harry Deuber (excused)

Darrel Hess was invited to give a presentation on the audit he conducted of the council books on behalf of the council. The books were in order and he posted the results of the audit on the council website.

Beg Bal. 1/16/09	3296.76
Deposits	0.00
Debits	243.12
End Bal. 2/13/09	3053.64

Sharon Chamard reminded everyone if they had not yet paid their \$1 membership fee that they should do so.

Old Business

Darrel Hess gave a brief summary of the by-law amendments and supporting rationale for the proposed changes. A motion to accept all the by-laws amendments offered by Darrel was brought by Lorne Bailey and seconded by Sue Ann Hamilton- Bailey. Ron Alleva cautioned the group on the potential pitfalls associated with the concentration of power which the removal of term limits could enable. The motion passed 21 in favor with 1 opposed.

New Business

Election of the Council Board - Darrel Hess supervised the election of the board as he was not running for any office; Celeste Benson assisted in the collection and counting of ballots. The election for the officers preceded the election of at-large members. Any candidate who was not elected as an officer was able to then run for an at-large position. Since the agenda was quite full, the first presenter was allowed to speak while the results from the first ballot were being tabulated and then the second ballot was cast. The results from the second ballot were announced after allowing another presenter to speak. Prior to each round of voting the candidates were given the opportunity to briefly answer these three questions:

What do you like most about Fairview?

What do you see as Fairview's greatest opportunity?

If elected, what skill/talent/ability/knowledge do you possess that will benefit the council and the neighborhood?

For the purposes of recording the election results in the minutes, the chronological order in which they were presented at the meeting will be disregarded further and are as follows.

President--Sharon Chamard, Vice President--Allen Kemplen, Treasurer--Ron Alleva, Secretary--Michael Howard.

Those elected to the at-large positions were Paul Benson, Maria Carter, Dee Kennedy, Deborah Stojak, and Benita White.

Presentations

Parks and Recreation - Jeff Matthis reported to the membership on the upcoming public meetings to review and help plan improvements developed by the department to address issues relating to the condition of various neighborhood parks. These actions are the result of input from the public in the form of the park report cards and subsequent expert analyses brought in to follow up on comments made by the public on specific parks and evaluate options. In Fairview three parks were graded: Fairbanks Park, Fairview Park, and Fairview Lions Park. The public meetings are to review the list of suggested actions to be made in these parks so if membership wishes to have further input Jeff suggested they attend one of these forums. The meeting for our park district is to be held March 26 at 6:00 PM at Romig Middle School but attendance at any of these forums will provide an opportunity for input. Jeff made available informational handouts specific to the three parks in Fairview and listing the location, time, and dates of those public forums.

Anchorage Fire Department – Deputy Chief Michelle Weston spoke with the membership about new CPR techniques and offered membership the chance to receive training at one of our upcoming meetings. She asked that if members wishing to take part wear comfortable clothing. She also spoke to the group regarding propositions 6 and 7 and asked that the membership support these when they go to the polls.

School Bonds Yes – Tim Steele and Lou Theiss spoke with membership on the School Bonds (Prop. 1 and 2) and asked that we support these bonds.

Anchorage Tomorrow – Mary Rasmussen spoke to the group in support of Bond Props. 3, 4, 5, and 6. Michael Howard spoke on behalf of Prop. 4.

Committee Reports

Membership Development – Paul Benson reported on the potluck held in February and reminded the group that the committee meets on the first Monday of each month, in the Cafeteria of Sagaya City Market on 13th & I Street at 6 PM. Sharon Chamard reminded the group of the upcoming Mayoral Forum at the Senior Center focusing on the Downtown Historic Four Neighborhoods.

Public Safety – Sharon Chamard reported on the committees plans to expend unspent grant monies. These expenditures are to include an LCD projector, a workshop for landlord training and the remaining will go towards signs that state "I support Fairview Community Patrol". She also passed on the word from Gary Gilliam that the CAP team is still working in Fairview.

Revitalization – Allen Kemplen reported the meeting schedule of the committee; this schedule can be found on the Fairview website. On Friday the 13th at Nvision the committee is expecting a report on the Highway 2 Highway and will do some planning for a workshop on affordable housing to be held in the Fairview Community Recreation Center April 18th from 10-2 pm. This workshop is to help the neighborhood devise a policy on affordable housing that is consistent with neighborhood values while it addresses the need for affordable housing. Input has been solicited from the developers of affordable housing so that Fairview implements a plan which can be successfully incorporated into their models for development.

Also in the works is the second Fairview Main street workshop. This workshop will be held from 10-2 pm on April 4th at the Fairview Community Recreation Center and is intended to focus on land uses in the areas of Fairview north of 9th Ave. This meeting will solicit heavily the involvement from residents and businesses in that area as well as those from adjacent council areas of Mountain View and Downtown. The Anchorage Downtown Partnership has also been invited and is expected to participate. The Committee continues its efforts to work with the Department of Neighborhoods in building an outreach strategy for the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy and is developing comment cards and brochures to aid in the collection of additional community input.

Community Comments and Concerns

Darrel Hess announced the completion of many updates to the web site and brought up the discussion of placing a link to a wiki survey site where the neighborhood would have another means by which they can express their perspectives on issues of concern to the neighborhood.

Paul Benson noted his amazement with the hard work Darrel as done for the neighborhood. He wondered if this date might mark the end of an era in the history of the council as Mr. Hess steps back from his long and outstanding role as a Fairview Board member. Paul identified how hard Darrel has worked for the neighborhood and expressed his confidence that he will continue to be a valuable member of the community and remain active within the council. He stated again (and noted not likely for the last time) thank you. The council expressed its shared gratitude with a round of applause.

Ron Alleva asked again about the t-shirts, are they being sold?

Sharon Chamard seconded what Paul Benson said and also wanted the group to recognize Harry Deuber and his efforts in the area of beautification of Fairview as he also steps back from involvement on the board.

Verna Gibson of SHILOH Community Housing Development Corporation announced herself as the new director of that entity and after explaining the mission and activities of that organization renewed the Corporation's request for community members to serve on their board.

Sharon Chamard in turn invited her to continue to attend our meetings.

Lorne Bailey thanked Sharon Chamard for her fine service as Council President.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Minutes submitted by Paul Benson, out-going Secretary.