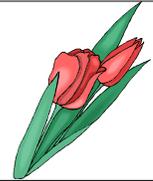




# Heights Herald



The Monthly Newsletter of the Airport Heights Community Council of Anchorage, Alaska

## MEETING AGENDA THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009 7-9 PM, AIRPORT HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

AHCC complies with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and is an equal opportunity employer. Reasonable accommodations will be made available to qualified individuals with disabilities on request. Contact the Community Councils Center, 277-1977 at least 10 days prior to the meeting to make arrangements.

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|----------------------------|---|
| 7 p.m.                     | Call to Order, administration notes, introductions (Chair)  |
| 7:05                       | Approval of Minutes & Agenda, Establish Quorum (Chair/Secretary)  |
| 7:10 Presentations/Reports | Legislature<br>Assembly<br>PTA<br>Parks Committee (Nichols Park, Gomez Ice Rink)<br>Traffic Committee<br>Picnic |
| 7:40                       | Highway-to-Highway (H2H) update   |
| 8:00                       | Recess  |
| 8:05                       | Northern Access to U-Med District (Maryellen Tuttell, Dowl HKM)   |
| 8:25                       | Walk About  |
| 8:45                       | Community Concerns (3 minutes for any council member to speak to neighborhood issues and concerns.)             |
| 9:00                       | Adjourn (by motion)   |

### **CENTER OFFERS RESOURCE FOR WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORK**

The Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC) has prepared a guidebook on how to improve pedestrian safety in neighborhoods. To download the book go to [http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped\\_bike/ped/ped\\_walkguide/](http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/ped/ped_walkguide/) or you can order a free hard copy (limit 5 per order) at [http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped\\_bike/ped\\_bike\\_order.htm](http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/ped_bike_order.htm).

The HSRC is offering grant opportunities of \$2,000 for neighborhoods to improve their walkability using these guidelines. A conference call is scheduled on May 1 to find out more about the grant, and the RFP is due Friday May 29, 2009, by 5 PM EST. Grant recipients will be selected by July 2009. If you are interested in working on such a project after reading the above document, or even applying for the grant for a project for our neighborhood, please contact Dawn Scott at 223-4001. Thanks!

Visit our web site at <http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/3.html>

**MARCH 16, 2009 MINUTES**

President Kurtz convened the meeting at 7 p.m. Elaine Pratt moved to approve the February minutes, the motion was seconded and approved. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dick Snyder and was seconded and approved.

Assemblywoman Elvi Gray-Jackson gave an Anchorage Assembly report. Mark Fish said any computer products made by government bodies should be readable by any computer operating system to assure full public access, the State for instance has produced some information in a format that requires a proprietary reader that only runs on a single operating system. She encouraged Mark to call the IT Director, Fred Carpenter, and agreed such access should not be limited in this way.

Elaine Pratt reported on the Nichols Park project. She reviewed the phase 1 efforts to expand, define, and protect the park. The initial proposal was to remove all fencing. The committee wants to leave the ballpark fence in place for at least another year to assure children do not run onto 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue when playing in the park, perhaps adjusting its height. Eventually the fence would be removed when phase 2 of the project commences. They are working with the Anchorage Park Foundation on trees and possible shrubs for the area. She said dog owners are taking good care of the park, that human picnic groups have inflicted more harm than dog owners. She said the park is intended to be a short-usage park so porta-potties are not planned. What will occur in phase 2 is not final nor is funding for that phase. An ice rink for the winter, volleyball in the summer was suggested by Dick Snyder, hills for sledding and dog running have also been suggested, and another recommended basketball rather than volleyball. Barbara Karl moved to support continuation of the fencing at Nichols Park with height adjusted, the motion was seconded and approved. Elaine said they need to raise \$4,603 for the project, they will probably need volunteers for some work at the park near the Memorial Day weekend, final details will be coming.

Jon Spring reported AMATS project nominations are coming up on March 23. He suggested using the top 5 traffic projects from the councils' approved Capital Improvements Project (CIP) list. The Lake Otis road improvement is the only major road project, others are sidewalks. Kevin Agpar moved to use the top 5 CIP transportation-related projects on the CIP for AMATS project nominations. The motion was seconded. Mark Fish suggested working with Rogers Park on the Lake Otis issues, Jon said there is concern about the length of the traffic light on Lake Otis and changing the lane numbers. Jon Spring moved to amend the motion to include the Lake Otis improvement project from Northern Lights to Debarr to the AMATS project recommendations, the motion was second and passed. The vote on the main motion to recommend the top 5 CIP transportation-related projects on the CIP and the Lake Otis improvement project from Northern Lights to Debarr as AMATS nominated projects passed.

There was no Federation of Community Councils (FCC) report.

A move to suspend the rules was made by Dick Snyder to allow the Anchorage Firefighters to move up on the agenda schedule, the motion was seconded and passed. Several Anchorage firefighters from the Airport Heights station spoke to the use of proposed bond issue dollars, including cardiac monitors. The Anchorage Fire Department has the second highest success rate in the U.S. in saving heart attack victims and is frequently chosen to field test a variety of new, state-of-the art equipment.

John Steiner of the Anchorage School board and John Bulkohl spoke to the school district bond issues on the April 7 ballot. Todd Jacobson from Anchorage Tomorrow also spoke to the bonds on the ballot. Jon Spring moved to extend the meeting for five minutes, the motion was seconded and passed.

A discussion ensued on the several areas of Anchorage, such as Hillside and Eagle River, which do not pay taxes for road usage but use the Anchorage roads extensively.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

**Next meeting is April 16, Thursday, 7-9 p.m. at Airport Heights Elementary School. Please join us!**