

Turnagain Community Council  
Meeting Minutes February 5, 2009

Breck Tostevin, TCC President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

I. *Announcements*

Breck Tostevin announced that the Municipality of Anchorage is updating the vehicle code. If you have ideas on how to modernize the code you can contact Shane Locke, Municipal Traffic Department at [LockeSR@ci.anchorage.ak.us](mailto:LockeSR@ci.anchorage.ak.us).

West District Plan: The TCC board met with the other three community councils and all agreed that there should be more than one person representing each council. One way to get better representation is to recruit people from the community who have transportation or business expertise, who can serve in that facility. If folks have these areas of expertise or know of people with this expertise who would like to serve on the working group – please contact Breck. Once the committee structure is set up, it will be posted on the TCC website. For more information on the West District Plan, go to:

[http://www.muni.org/planning/West\\_Plan\\_main.cfm](http://www.muni.org/planning/West_Plan_main.cfm)

There is a variance proposal on Pete's Place – the owner would like to build within the 20' front-yard setback. Submit comments to the Zoning and Platting board by March 3, hearing on March 12. Case 2009-026. To look up the case on line:

<http://munimaps.muni.org/planning/home3.htm>

Cathy Gleason made some announcements related to the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport (TSAIA): a Job Fair on March 14 and a Disaster drill on June 6<sup>th</sup> – looking for volunteers to play “victims” in the drill. Communications director Linda Bustamante welcomes comments – she can be e-mailed at: [linda.bustamante@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.bustamante@alaska.gov).

February 18: The Spenard Fire Station will have an open house on - more on this below.

February 11: Urban Design Commission will have a public hearing over a sign variance request for the Performing Arts Center.

January TCC minutes were approved with unanimous vote.

II. *Legislative Report*

Sen. Hollis French provided the report. Three items to report

- 1) Institute of Social and Economic Research came out with their cost-of-crime report with the following conclusions. If nothing is changed, by 2030, the number of inmates will double. If we spend \$10M/yr more on rehabilitation, we can reduce the population by 10%. It costs \$44K/year to keep an inmate. Rehabilitation programs produce a return of 2 to 5 times through decreases in recidivism.

- 2) Lots of good feedback has been received from the constituent surveys – these are all read. Folks can contact Sen. French directly at 866-465-3892.
- 3) Conoco Phillips will no longer register its lobbyists with APOC. Sen. French feels that this is a bad policy choice and is in communication with the company. The company claims that the reporting requirements are too onerous.

Following the update, several members of the TCC asked questions covering the budget process, the Health Insurance Bill (SB61), and renewable energy.

### III. *Assembly Report*

Assemblyperson Harriet Drummond gave the assembly report. At the February 3 meeting, the Assembly moved all bond proposals forward for the public to vote on in April. The bonds included:

- 1) \$70M for Service High, Eagle River remodeling and Girdwood K-8 design
- 2) \$27.5M for other school projects. These include West High bleachers and Turnagain Elementary School electrical upgrades. The School district will need to provide education to the public on these projects prior to the vote.
- 3) \$34M for roads, the controversial part of Spenard Road work was deleted.
- 4) \$3M for police headquarters building – this is matching \$\$.
- 5) \$1.5M for Parks and Recreation. Margaret-Sullivan Parks is the only one on the list from within the boundaries of the TCC.
- 6) \$0.5M for the Loussac Library – this would provide the match for a \$1.2M anonymous donor grant.

### IV. *Spenard Fire Station Remodel*

Anchorage Fire Department Division Chief Jim White presented the concept plans for the Spenard Fire Station remodel. The station is located on Spenard Road and McRae. There will be an open-house on February 18 on the \$4.5M, 8,300 ft expansion project. The company should be able to stay on site during the construction period, so there will be no change in service during construction. Still need to get through the Platting and Zoning and completion of design. If all goes well, hope to start construction in September.

The Department is welcoming comments on the concept plans. Chief can be reached at: 267-5068 (land-line) and 440-0033 (cell). Several council members provided comments at the meeting regarding landscaping and using natural and artificial light in the design.

### V. *Parks and Recreation issues*

Municipal Parks Planner Suzanne Little presented two projects associated with Lyn Ary Park:

- 1) The Baseball Field Realignment (BFR) and the Master Plan (MP). The state has provided a \$85K grant for the BRR. Parks and Recreation would

like to meet with the Lyn Ary subcommittee now through the end of February to get input. The design should be complete by the end of March for subcommittee approval which should be by April in order to start work in September.

- 2) The Parks Foundation has provided \$20K for a Master Plan for Lyn Ary Park. Parks and Recreation would like to meet with the Lyn Ary subcommittee now through the end of February to get input. The plan should be complete by the end of March for subcommittee approval which should be by May.

Mark Wiggin suggested that the Lyn Ary subcommittee should be reconstituted from previous members and will provide the member list to Breck.

Suzanne Little also provided an overview of parks in town. The city has \$800M in park assets and \$250M in deferred maintenance. There will be a \$1.5M bond issue on the next ballot and it is all matched. Overall, neighborhood parks received C- grade from local volunteers who graded the parks last year. For 2009, there are 24 parks that are on the list for maintenance.

Local parks and status: Didlika Park – Complete unless community wants to continue; Balto Seppala – Committee formed to provide direction on future work; Lloyd Steele – renovated the fields last year and monitoring the grass.

#### VI. *Runway 7R Extension and the Sisson Loop Trail*

Colleen Miller from HDR, who has been contracted by DOT/PF, provided an update on the Runway 7R extension at the TSAIA. More information on this project can be found at: <http://www.anc7rrunwayextensionproject.net/trail.htm> Two alternatives are on the table: No Action and extend the runway by 1,500 feet. Extension of the runway will affect the Sisson Loop trail. Two alternatives have been proposed. The TCC board has written a letter supporting the reroute option with minimal tree cutting. There is also opportunity to comment on the web site. Most feedback on the web site has been in favor of the reroute option. FAA has directed the airport to perform another noise study to examine the effects of this extension on noise contours. Draft Environmental Assessment will be ready in early summer. A public hearing, complete with a court reporter will be held after the EA is complete.

#### VII. *Turnagain Street and Northern Lights AWWU project*

Ed Sorenson from Anchorage Water and Waste Water Utility (AWWU) outlined the project for preventative maintenance to the force discharge located at the intersection of Turnagain Street and Northern Lights. Between one-third to one-half of all of the sewage generated in Anchorage passes through this tank. The tank is deteriorating. Maintenance is designed to reduce turbulence in the tank and coat it with an epoxy paint. Whole project will take 4 – 6 weeks to complete. During this time, there will be a 10-day road closure and then for the remainder of the project, a reduction to one lane. This project is

being coordinated with the Street Maintenance Division's road repair project scheduled for this summer, but the repair project will probably take place first, followed by the AWWU project.

#### VIII. *Traffic Calming*

Nick Oliviera from HDL presented two street calming plans. First was an elevated intersection at McKenzie and Clay Products and second was an elevated crosswalk and street chokers at McKenzie and Milky Way. Both projects were identified by the street calming committee a few years ago as high priority projects.

#### IX. *Community Concerns*

Frank Keene and Cathy Gleason both spoke to the lack of glass recycling and the need to form a committee to keep recycling going. Frank proposed that glass be stockpiled -- as opposed to being put in the landfill -- until economic conditions allow glass reuse/recycling.

The TCC presented a plaque of appreciation to Mark Wiggin for his four years of service and dedication as President of the TCC.

Adjourn 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Habicht, Secretary-Treasurer