

Government Hill Community Council
November 19, 2009 Meeting Notes

October minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.

Assembly Update: Assemblymember Flynn was unable to attend because of pressing issues with the budget, but he updated Acting President French that the Assembly has not reached agreement on getting anything passed. Mr. Flynn invites residents to call, email or read his blog.

Legislative Update: Senator Ellis, reporting for himself and Rep. Gara (who was out of state visiting family), shared that the Anchorage Caucus met with Mayor Sullivan about budget and other priorities for the upcoming legislative session. Our delegation has spent much time talking to DOT about the Highway to Highway project, particularly the alternatives analysis that offers several routes through established neighborhoods. DOT is required to study all feasible alternatives, even ones that turn out not to be preferred. Sen. Ellis also has been working on increasing access to detox and alcohol treatment by making additional beds available at the Clitheroe Center, and these are beds that could be occupied by inebriates who have been court-ordered to treatment. He and the Mayor are in agreement that treatment is an important aspect of dealing with homeless inebriates. Sen. Ellis also facilitated a meeting between GHCC officers and Gov. Parnell to discuss the Knik Arm Crossing. The legislative session will begin on Jan. 19, and the main issue will be reliable and affordable energy. Sen. Ellis advised that he is now using Twitter and Facebook..

Parks Committee: Mavis Hancock reported on three items. Investigating a report that mowers in Harvard Park were being blocked by a concrete barrier, she found that there is no concrete but stumps are in the way. Also, the trash that had been thrown over the slope behind Video City has been removed. And, the resolution requesting doggy stations has been sent to Parks & Recreation and Mavis will follow up on this request.

Recognition and Thank You to Ron Clark: Harriett Shaftel presented Ron Clark with a commemorative plaque thanking him on behalf of the neighborhood for repairing, refinishing and re-lettering the "Welcome to Government Hill" sign.

KABATA Update: Bob French reported that a mid-level DOT bureaucrat named Ron Ottesen stated at a recent AMATS TAC/PC meeting that the bridge is still a top transportation priority. The next important event will be an Assembly hearing in December or January to take testimony on whether the bridge should be moved to a long-range project (ie., delayed) or remain as a short-range project.

Hollywood Vista Update: Bob French reported that Sue Lukens told the AEDC board that a final inspection had been approved for a 2-year AEDC warranty, after which the property will revert to MOA responsibility. No more sales are expected before the spring.

Neighborhood Concerns: Donna inquired about Title 21 rewrite language related to public lands or other industrial lands, which would reduce a buffer from 300 feet to 200 feet.

Port Report: Steve Ribuffo reported that jet fuel transport is up because of an increase in fuel demand from the airport. The next Port Commission meeting is Dec. 9 and the public is invited. Elmendorf is diverting water flowing off of Base to address glaciation at the port's road and new rail line leading north.

Mavis moved and Ron Clark seconded a motion to skip our December meeting. The Executive Board retains authority to act on issues that need attention before our next regularly scheduled meeting in January.

8:07 pm Adjourn