



# Heights Herald



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

## MEETING AGENDA FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009 7-9 PM, AIRPORT HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, CAFETERIA

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, establish quorum, introductions (Chair)   |
| 7:05                       | Approval of Minutes & Agenda (Chair/Secretary)   |
| 7:10 Presentations/Reports | AHCC Treasury<br>Municipal Assembly<br>State Legislature<br>Airport Heights Elementary School PTA<br>Parks Committee<br>Traffic Committee<br>Federation of Community Councils                  |
| 7:40                       | 18th Avenue Montessori School/Friends Church lease (Michael Baffrey)   |
| 8:00                       | Recess, Holiday Refreshments (see below)   |
| 8:15                       | Open Member Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning and Priorities for 2010 and 2011</li> <li>• Ideas for use of remaining \$5,500 grant for community safety</li> </ul> |
| 8:45                       | Community Concerns (3 minutes for any council member to speak to neighborhood issues and concerns.)  |
| 9:00                       | Adjourn (by motion)  |

### **Holiday Refreshments, meeting in School Cafeteria This Month**

We will have an extended mid-meeting break with refreshments at the December 17 meeting. We will provide some cider and cookies, if you wish to contribute cookies or a light snack feel free to do so. We are meeting in the cafeteria instead of the library to allow the consumption of food.

### **Northern Access to U-Med District Study Underway**

The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has initiated a reconnaissance study on access and circulation needs between northeast Anchorage and in the U-Med District. The Northern Access to U-Med District project will evaluate the alternatives for a northern access to the U-Med District from Northern Lights Boulevard in the two-mile stretch between Lake Otis Parkway and Boniface Parkway.

Information on this project, which could potentially put an access road through UAA/APU green-space, is available at <http://www.hkminc.com/northernaccess/> or by contacting Michela Spitz at 562-2000.

## NOVEMBER 19, 2009 MINUTES

At-large board member Barbara Karl convened the meeting at 7:05 pm. Dick Snyder moved to approve the October 2009 minutes, the motion was seconded and passed. The agenda was approved as written. Secretary/Treasurer Dawn Scott reported there is \$30 in the council's bank account.

Assemblywoman Elvi Gray-Jackson provided an assembly report. A resolution opposing any destruction of neighborhoods by the Highway-to-Highway (H2H) project passed unanimously. The budget is still being considered and the assembly is working to stop the bus fare increase, reinstate fire prevention funds, restore funding for libraries, and more. There have been meetings regarding the Alexander Avenue condominium water backup issues.

Sid Atwood reported there had been a meeting that day regarding the Umed Northern Access project, but no one at our meeting knew about it. Sid reported the cameras at Tikishla Park/Gomez Rink at working, but we are having a difficult time getting help to get the video's available via the Internet.

Jim Frederick and Mike Courtney of Neighbor Works gave a presentation on the proposed low-income senior housing HUD 202 project for up to 20 independent living apartments in the triangle-shaped property between the American Legion and the large apartment complex at the corner of Lake Otis and Debarr at 540 Charter Circle. They indicated the height will be under 30 feet, well within the zoning requirements for this land. It was discussed that the large apartment complex at Lake Otis and Debarr built higher using varying ground heights and berming to justify the height, which many in the council felt was defiant of the spirit of the height limits. Owners will screen for violent and drug-related activity in their tenants, and provide a safe living environment with features such as electronic access controls and common areas to assure tenants are familiar with each other. There will be 24-hour emergency maintenance and a building manager. Access to Charter Circle was discussed; Jim said it is a relative easy left turn, and vehicles per unit are expected to be lower than usual for this type of occupancy. Sid Atwood made a motion that the Airport Heights Community Council support the proposal for up to 20-unit Section 202 apartment building at 540 Charter Circle. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Construction would begin in 2011 if they are successful in obtaining the HUD grant and Neighbor Works will bring information on building and landscaping plans to the council as the effort proceeds.

Mark Madden, Gina O'Neal, and Brian Vanderwood from Solid Waste Services discussed the new refuse & recycling service. Several neighbors indicated they had lost alley service, which we were told we would not lose at a 2008 AHCC presentation on this topic. Mr. Madden said the goal is to eliminate all alley service, as it presents several problems, including trucks getting stuck and overhead line hazards. Darcy Bromley-Harris said where the alley service is provided and where it is not seems very arbitrary. Neighbors offered to work with SWS to develop a workable plan to continue to provide alley service. Mr. Madden said he would reexamine these issues in light of neighbor concerns. It was also discussed that many folks now leave the new containers at the front of their houses throughout the week. SWS said an MOA ordinance requires trash cans be set out of view on any day but collection day. Dick Snyder suggested undergrounding our utility service, which is supposed to happen, would help enable alley pickup service. It was suggested we need to contact the MOA regarding timelines for such undergrounding. A solution for dealing with lawn clippings and green cuttings was also requested.

Elaine Pratt agreed to defer her Nichols Park grant report until a future meeting.

Michael and Michelle Baffrey discussed establishing a Montessori School in the Friends Church basement. The hours would be from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm and there would be about 55 children maximum. Melissa said she could give a preference for children from the neighborhood. The pick-up and drop-off area will be between the church and the fenced-in area and great care would be taken to assure driveways and property access would not be blocked. Representatives from the Friends Church also attended and indicated their support for this project. The Baffreys were encouraged to contact neighbors in the area of the church to inform them of their intentions and how they plan to avoid the parking problems that occurred with the last school at that site, and bring evidence of the support of those neighbors to a future meeting for the council to consider a motion to support their plans.

Shirley Iverson moved to extend the meeting until 9:15. The motion was seconded and passed.

Jon Spring prepared a 2-page memorandum regarding the Penland Parkway Design Study Report presented at our October meeting. In the memo he provided comments and requests for further study regarding vehicle crash statistics, pedestrian crossings, landscaping, and bus routes/ridership/transit facility needs. Dick Snyder moved to approve the memorandum as written, the motion was seconded and passed.

Darcy Bromley-Harris moved to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded and passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.