

Basher Community Council Meeting
Baxter Elementary School Cafeteria
March 16, 2004

Meeting called to order by president Matt Moore at 7:00 pm.

Meet the Candidates for the East Anchorage Assembly:

Ken Stout – Introduced himself as a 32 year resident. Experiences have included several commissions, the Republican national committee, national employment policy commission, and national veterans commission. He now sits on the royalty oil and gas commission. Municipal service is dear to heart. Married 52 years. Vision of safe, clean wholesome community.

Bill Wielechowski – President of Northeast Community Council. Supported Basher CC efforts to oppose Antenna farm. Would continue to oppose such efforts if on the assembly. On defense issue, has been working with military to get a more fair solution to proposed Muldoon fence. Believes we need to keep military, and has sponsored a resolution within his community council to oppose a base closing. However, community needs to begin a discussion about potential uses if Fort Richardson does closes. Regarding Stuckagain roads, would work towards consensus and developing community solutions. Has a degree in finance. Participated on school district budget review committee. Will work towards elimination of waste, and sees a need to protect taxpayers.

Question: Position on site condominiums?

Stout: They are a blight on community. Assembly has allowed them to be built and is now acting surprised that there is a problem. They present a safety problem as emergency vehicles can't get through narrow streets clogged with parked cars. Eventually, street maintenance will have to be added to home owners' payments, which will make these "affordable" homes no longer affordable.

Question: Regarding Anchorage 20/20 plan. What would you be doing to help us get neighborhood and hillside district plans together?

Stout: will help alleviate problems, will help us get things done.

Wielechowski: Happy to work with community to develop and enact a plan that works and protects the community needs rather than outside developers' needs.

Question: Position on antenna farm?

Stout: If it comes up again, would require aesthetics that would make it acceptable. It is up to community to have stopped it if it did not suit it. May come a time when it is a necessity, and if so, should be aesthetically pleasing. Believes it is Mr. Henri's prerogative to try to develop the land, and in doing so, convince the neighborhood that it is a worthy project.

Wielechowski: Community has soundly stated it does not want an antenna farm, so will support that.

Question: View on Muldoon Town Center?

Stout: Wonderful concept in certain parts of the country. In this arctic environment, it is a more difficult concept to make them acceptable. Does not oppose concept, but believes it needs to be monitored very carefully. Worried about density it will bring. Need to pay

attention to infrastructure needs that will come with center. Doesn't think it will reduce traffic. Thinks financing needs will ultimately be a problem that could negatively affect it.

Wielechowski: Supports concept and is Chair of Creekside Town Center. This project has had the most public participation of any project that he knows of.

Anchorage School District Presentation on Proposed School bonds: Jeff Freidman & Roger Feedler

Bond handout provided. Mr. Feedler gave a brief overview of each:

- Proposition 4: Major repairs/renewals
- Proposition 5: Major construction & renovation. Largest project new Muldoon middle school.
- Proposition 6: Renovation and purchase of K-mart at Northway Mall for school administration building. Would allow consolidation of administrative services, as well as cost savings with owning versus leasing.

All three bonds qualify for significant state debt reimbursement. (Subject to annual appropriation).

School district makes best projections possible within a six year planning phase, but there is no real coordination between developers and district projections. Developers can quickly get ahead of school projections.

Meet the Candidates for the Basher LRSA

Incumbents:

Harry Haywood. Harry not present so Bob Gruenewig spoke on his behalf. Mr. Haywood had been in LRSA more than 20 years and is willing to volunteer more time. Mr. Gruenewig described him as knowledgeable, knows all soils, knows what needs to be done and when.

Challengers:

Loyd Richards: (vacant seat e), Mr. Richards was not present.

Mary Norman: (Running against incumbent Harry Haywood). Supports dust control. Has been active in parks and rec for the past fifteen years. Says park use and neighborhood are increasing, yet there have few improvements to the road. Last year was involved in getting request submitted to Parks and Rec for bond money for road. However, feedback from the municipality was that this request should have initiated from the LRSA. Wants LRSA to be more proactive in requesting and getting more money for road.

Dave Keddington: (vacant seat e). Will bring a fresh vision to find away to improve roads. Dust and safety are concerns. Calls for greater accountability as community is sitting on the edge of being able to vote itself a higher mil rating. If this happens, we will need a better understanding of where money is going. Calls for quarterly reporting, and if not elected, will try to get that regardless. Mr. Keddington has 20 years in military service, but has not had a chance to serve the local community. He says he has a lot of energy and thinks he can work well with existing LRSA members.

Presentation of Bond Proposals for the Road

Proposition 14: Parks and Rec bond @ \$4,335,000. includes \$300,000 for improvements to Campbell airstrip road.

Proposition 19: 1.5 mil rate for LRSA. Will take about 2/3s to maintain status quo, which will leave LRSA with about \$30k for better service, such as ½ mile double chip per year, or oil for dust control on all roads in neighborhood.

Discussion regarding Safe Driving in the Neighborhood

Slow down, try not to tailgate, talk to teens about safe driving behaviors.

Other problems: poor signage and snow being plowed into roadways (which is illegal and subject to fines)

Appointment of Federation of Community Council Delegate. Volunteers?

One meeting per month, 2 hours, third Wednesday per month at 6:00 pm. Contact Matt Moore at 562-2600 if interested.

Additional Discussions, Comments, Announcements

Regarding development of a neighborhood district plan per 20/20. It was thought we should be part of a hillside district plan, but we are now told we are not part of hillside, so it is important that we as a community council draft something to address future development of community. Currently are open to rezones at whim of P&Z and assembly. With a neighborhood district plan in place, we have more ability and control to stop rezones.

Motion: Have Community Council form a committee to draft a neighborhood district plan as dictated by the comprehensive 20/20 plan. Motion seconded.

Discussion: Form committee at next meeting so that people have time to think about it. More information needed such as guidelines for drafting and type of input that is needed from community.

Motion passes 20 for, 3 opposed, no abstentions.

Chris Hamre with the Hillside Area Landowners Organization (HALO) for South East Anchorage. HALO originally formed to have impact on area G (south of Dowling, East of Seward highway). Thinking of expanding – looking for commonalities. Encourage involvement with HALO. Looking at hillside district plan, city won't take a lead, perhaps they can. Advocacy and education are activities. On site septic ordinances. HALO is funded solely through donations.

Q: How does a community council become a part of HALO?

A: The community council per se does not become a member, but individuals can.

Dirk Sisson: Encouraged community members to go to the polls on April 6th. Community members have spent a great deal of time opposing antenna farm and he urged consideration of comments from candidates on the issues as you go to the polls.

Judith Hildreth: Announced that Ron Duncan of GCI indicated no cable TV any time soon!

Meeting adjourned upon a motion and second at 8:56 pm