

Russian Jack Community Council
Meeting Highlights
April 8, 2015

12 present, including presenters

MOA Anchorage bowl land use plan, Tom Davis: part of the comprehensive plan adopted in 1982, finishing a plan that was started in 2006 with the community. Some factors have emerged since 2006 such as changes in title 21, new neighborhood plans, etc. In May 2015 will start next steps, talk with community councils about possible land use issues, may organize a regional meeting to discuss some of the common areas in the region. Call Tom Davis at 343-7916 if you want to give input or have questions about this project or google “nixle Anchorage planning”

Legislative Report (By Phone in Juneau)

Sen. Bill Wielechowski: Biggest issue is the budget. Latest revenue forecast showed 3.9 billion dollar deficit. Debt reimbursement bill. Capital budget, lots of cuts. Medicaid expansion and reform.

Rep. Gruenberg: the House has had few bills introduced because of the interest and focus on the budget and the proposed gas pipe lines. Also, Medicaid Expansion and marijuana legislation.

Paul Honeman, Anchorage Assembly: Introduced representatives from the Alliance for the support of the American legion baseball. Idea to develop an East Anchorage Multi-use community pavilion on East HS property to include a variety of sports uses for community groups. Seeking funding through private sources, no taxes involved. Gathering momentum among stakeholder groups. A temporary, unheated, unlit structure for summer use only at first. Cost is approximately 1.7 million. Potential Rasmussen foundation, muni funds from funding not connected to taxes. Would be run by Muni. Will return in June 2015 for update.

Northeast Community council passed a resolution against the commercial use of marijuana in their area. Not sure yet if leg bill will allow councils to put further restrictions on the law. Concerned about where the marijuana board will reside.

Pete Peterson, Anchorage Assembly: No funding for capital projects from Leg. Finance committee meeting, ended last year with a surplus due to hotel bed tax, bldg. permits, etc. Mayor was possibly wanting to fast-track sale of Solid waste services which some Assembly members were suspicious of and didn't want increased prices if Waste Mngmt ended up being the monopoly. Muni still trying to install SAP software, 40 million dollars invested already and not yet installed. Once installed successfully, it would save the Muni lots of money with efficiencies. School bonds.

School Board and Bonds, Kathleen Plunkett:

Budget reduction ideas: increasing pupil to teacher ratio, eliminating middle school, admin cuts at “head shed”, outsourcing sports, other ideas.

Northern Access Road: Resolution to request that funds for the northern access road in to the Umed district be withdrawn for collateral, fiscal, and safety impacts:

Proposed Fred

Seconded Kathleen

5/0 in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm