

# **Spenard Community Council Minutes**

## **January 4, 2006**

### **Call to Order**

The Spenard Community Council began its January meeting shortly after 7 pm. The Minutes from the last meeting and the Meeting Agenda were both approved as drafted.

### **Assembly Reports**

Pamela Jennings and Dick Traini provided the Assembly report this month. A 3-hour meeting is planned for Friday after next (January 13<sup>th</sup>) with the Parks Commission. A contract has been approved by the Assembly for ACVB to manage the new convention center. The eminent domain issue is coming at our next meeting – Chris Birch's ordinance. The Sign Ordinance had outlawed temporary signs; it is now coming back to bite them. The Sales Tax issue is also set to come up at the next meeting. Public hearings on the Assisted Living Ordinance are now closed.

### **Announcements**

The 35<sup>th</sup> and McRae Rd scooping meeting will be at Romig.

Public Workshops are planned for February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7-9 pm related to Pedestrian improvements.

Chuck Spinelli's appeal regarding the coffee cart in an RO zone is coming up before the ZBEA.

The Habitat for Humanity Spenard project is getting closer. Habitat is looking for wishlist items to assist them in the project. A construction trailer would greatly assist them. Habitat's local website is [HYPERLINK "http://hfhanchorage.org/"](http://hfhanchorage.org/) <http://hfhanchorage.org/> if anyone is interested in more information.

### **Sand Storage Facility**

The council received a presentation about upgrading the sand storage facility near Minnesota & International (Connor's Bog area). Heated and covered structure will prevent salt and sand mixing. The salt residual is a problem currently. Additional traffic is not expected in the area and buffering is already in place. Storm drain upgrades are planned in the future. A formal hearing in front of Planning and Zoning for the site plan review is scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Parks Update**

Doe Anderson introduced the council to two new hires – Jamie Actin (based in the NW office) and Ami Denazel (Fairview). They are new program employees assigned to the area. February 26-27 meetings are planned related to challenge grants.

### **APD Community Liaison Report – Officer Stanton**

Officer Stanton provided some interesting facts about the recent survey from the FCC related to the top 3 things APD is doing good/bad. Only 8 responses were received during last year's survey. This year, it's worse – only 3 responses to the survey. Everyone should try to respond to the survey since such a limited response doesn't provide much guidance to the Police Department.

Zoning enforcement is aware of problems at 3303 Dorbrandt. One of the main issues is drugs. During the New Year's holiday there were 7 DWI arrests. Council members asked questions related to towing of vehicles. There are three things that normally lead to a vehicle being towed: a prostitution arrest (John Law), no license or no insurance.

The issue of noisy mufflers was discussed. What do you we do about the noise problems; car stereos and mufflers that you can hear a mile away? One council member was very concerned about the use of very loud after-market 'mufflers', specifically at 4708 Kent Street in the Windemere subdivision. Officer Stanton mentioned that these mufflers are almost surely not legal. When these vehicles cause disturbances, call the non-emergency dispatch number to file a noise complaint. The member mentioned that noise complaints have been filed in the past, but little is done. Someone asked if the 'Nuisance Ordinance' was the only thing left to try.

### **Harding Drive Funding**

Teri Albrecht, formerly with the Mayor's Office, is now working at the Capital Office. Same email and phone number as before. She committed to follow up with the Mayor's Office on the Harding Drive funding problem. She was aware of the history of promises, the defunding, the reapproved funding and the reallocation of funds. She can be reached at 343-8142.

### **4003 Lois Drive - Update**

A meeting was held with Mike Abbott and some of the council members. Everyone is up to speed on what has been happening. A 'Shell Game' is going on between the two owners of the property. The issue is in the hands of Building Safety & Health, not Code Enforcement, at this point. The City is interested in tearing down the structure but there are some legal issues. It could be several months before this is resolved. The charges against the owners will be re-issued with more details about the specific violations.

Another problem is the McRae/Spenard corner property owned by Larry Norene. There are issues related to the original language of the rezone that need to be addressed. Also, the Spinelli coffee cart issue went all the way to the Alaska Supreme Court. February 9<sup>th</sup> it will go before the ZBEA. Peggy Auth can provide more details if you are interested.

Peggy also reported on a recent presentation of the *MyNeighborhood* program. This is a new addition to the City's [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org) website. The direct link is <http://neighborhood.muni.org/>. MyNeighborhood provides citizens the ability to find information easily and conveniently about property, recreation, local services, plans, and important places within Anchorage-area neighborhoods. Also, the Community Council website HYPERLINK "<http://www.communitycouncil.org>" [www.communitycouncil.org](http://www.communitycouncil.org) has been substantially updated in the last few months. Check it out.

Northwoods Drive should go out to bid this month. The bid packet had to be rewritten in November. This will still be a 2-year project with ground breaking set for May 2006. Dowl Engineers should be updating their website soon to reflect the latest information about the project.

### **Nominations Committee formed**

Sam O'Connor is heading up the committee to seek nominations for SCC seats. Due to term limits, the Chairman's seat is open. Other positions that interested individuals could seek include the Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Interested parties can contact Sam at 227-5157.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Planning & Zoning Report: Peggy Auth

Peggy's report is provided above under the 4003 Lois Update.

#### Westside Patrol Report: Sam O'Connor

The Public Safety commission is waiting to take up the 4003 Lois issue until Peggy meets with the Mayor's Office. Sam reports that the commission would be more aggressive if the problem goes unresolved.

A new substation has been opened at Russian Jack (16<sup>th</sup> and Bragaw). This puts the Community Patrol in a position closer to where they are really needed.

Over the New Year's holiday there were a number of fights; some shots fired.

### **Old & New Business**

Jan Watson told us she is looking for some space on this side of town to help seniors with their taxes. She is an IRS trained volunteer sponsored by AARP. Currently she is offering help to senior through the Senior Center, Muldoon Mall, Catholic Social Services and Luther Social Services. If anyone knows of space that may be available, Jan can be contacted through the Chairman of the council or Doe Anderson.

### **Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, February 1st at 7pm. Board elections will be held during this meeting.