

## **DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Thursday March 2nd 2006, 5.30pm at the Anchorage Museum of History & Art

Welcome, introductions and call to order by Chair, Deirdre Phayer.

A motion to approve the minutes of 1/5/06 and 2/2/06 was made by Becky Beck and seconded by James Maurer. Minutes were approved with no amendments.

Treasurer's report: Ron Alleva stated that First National Bank account has a balance of 1986.78 with just one check outstanding. Membership applications for 2006 are now being issued.

### Appearances

Assemblyman Tesche - talked about the upcoming Mayoral elections, and the proposed 3% sales tax ordinance. For more information see Assemblyman Tesche's Blog at: [www.tesche.us](http://www.tesche.us)

APD – Sgt. Stanton – reported on the APD calls for service statistics in the Downtown area for 2004 and 2005 as follows:

### Drunk Calls

2004 – 885 calls   2006 – 1087 calls

### Transport by APD

2004 – 229 transports   2005 - 286 transports

### Welfare Checks

2004 – 1010 checks   2005 – 783 checks

### Total calls

2004 – 16,334   2005 – 16,135

### Convention Center – Rollie Reed, RIM Architects

Ground breaking for the new Civic and Convention Center will take place on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The expected completion date for the project is September 2008. The new Convention Center will meet both the Civic needs and the needs of the ACVB for additional Convention space and will hold up to 3500 delegates. The additional space includes an exhibit hall and ballroom that will seat 1500 people, and has an outdoor terrace. The ambiance theme is the unique Alaska light, with lots of windows to showcase the light. There will be covered walkways to enhance the pedestrian environment around the building, and the improved pedestrian environment along “F” Street will be integrated into the Comprehensive Plan for Downtown. The adjacent JC Penney Garage will now supply parking needs, and the estimated cost for the 200,000 square foot Convention Center is now at \$100M including fixtures and fittings.

The old Alaska Native Medical Center is to be used as a staging site if this can be agreed with the Municipality. During the first phase of the project "F" Street will be closed to traffic between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be closed between "F" and "G" Street's.

#### Housing Proposal for Special Needs Population – Bob Henry

The proposed location of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Room and Board is 435 East Fifth Avenue, which is zoned at B2C so a rooming house is allowable. The owners Bob and Kathy Henry are looking for a letter of support from the Downtown Community Council. President, Deirdre Phayer will invite the prospective owner's to our next meeting in March.

#### Old Business

McKinley Building – Bill Bobrick reported the elevators are now working in the building, and he is looking to arrange a tour for Downtown Community Council members, prior to our May meeting.

#### Committee Reports

Becky Beck – Anchorage Downtown Partnership - the 20 year Downtown Comprehensive Plan is looking at prime locations for development including parking and housing, and the possibility of an indoor public market. Check out the Anchorage Downtown Partnership web site at [www.anchoragedowntown.org](http://www.anchoragedowntown.org) for the Heart of Anchorage Awards nominations.

Kim MacBeath – Federation of Community Councils - the Federation of Community Councils is sponsoring a joint Mayoral Candidate Forum with the UAA at the Wendy Williamson Auditorium 7.00pm on March 29<sup>th</sup>, John Tracy from Channel 2 news will host the event. Please call Debbie Bauer at the Federation of Community Councils 277-1977 to place a community announcement on the home page at [www.communitycouncils.org](http://www.communitycouncils.org)

John Pattee - Liquor Licenses - no report

Paul Nangle – Planning & Zoning Report – no report

Announcements - none

The meeting adjourned at 6.15 pm.

**Next meeting is on Thursday April 6, 2006 at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art.**