

NORTH STAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL (NSCC)

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. 2nd Wednesday of each month September thru May
North Star Elementary School (Library) - 605 West Fireweed Lane

NSCC ONLINE

- Federation of Community Councils - <http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/24.html>
- Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/groups/northstarcommunitycouncil/>

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday February 11, 2015

Call to order

- Round of introductions
- Vote to approve minutes
- Changes or additions to agenda

Reports

Council Officers

- **President** Andre Camara nscc.chair@gmail.com
- **Vice President** Marcus Wilson
- **Secretary** VACANT
- **Treasurer** Melonie Rieck
- **FCC Delegate** Sam Moore
- **Member at Large** Susan Miller
- **Member at Large** Sam Moore

Legislative Representatives

- **Sen.** Berta Gardner (SD-H) Senator.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov
- **Rep.** Harriet Drummond (HD-16) Representative.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov

Assembly Representatives

- **Ernie Hall** (District 3 W Anchorage) Halle@muni.org
- **Tim Steele** (District 3 W Anchorage) SteeleT@muni.org
- **Dick Traini** (District 4 Midtown) TrainiD@muni.org
- **Elvi Gray-Jackson**(District 3 Midtown) gray-jacksone@muni.org

New Business

Old Business (there may be no updates on items below)

Westchester Lagoon Nature Trail: Anchorage Park Foundation's Trails Initiative/Schools on Trails program presentation on improvements to the Westchester Lagoon Nature Trail at the corner of Spenard Rd. & 19th Avenue. RESOLUTION

Adjourn 9 p.m.

NSCC general membership meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month (Sept – May) at 7pm at North Star Elementary School, 605 West Fireweed Lane, in the school Library. The Municipality of Anchorage complies with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Reasonable accommodations will be made available to qualified individuals upon request. Contact the Community Councils Center at (907) 277-1977 at least 10 days in advance of need.

January 14, 2015

Minutes

- Round of introductions
- Vote to approve minutes-APPROVED
- Changes or additions to agenda—Additions: BAC (Budget Advisory Committee) report by Shirley Nelson. Homeless camping at community garden area-requested by Nancy Walsh-Robard

Council Officers

- **President** Andre Camara nscc.chair@gmail.com-- reported nextdoor.com is helpful web site to keep up to date on what is going on in neighborhood.
- **Vice President** Marcus Wilson - no report
- **Secretary** VACANT
- **Treasurer** Melonie Rieck --Savings Account: Beginning balance \$599.94 plus \$0.10 in dividends for ending balance \$600.04. Checking Balance \$106.46 with no additions or subtractions. Total combined ending balance of \$700.50.
- **FCC Delegate** Sam Moore—no report
- **Member at Large** Susan Miller --reported 4 months until the Loussac Book sale.
- **Member at Large** Sam Moore—no report

Legislative Representatives

- **Sen.** Berta Gardner (SD-H) Senator.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov --no report
- **Rep.** Harriet Drummond (HD-16) Representative.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov -- expecting numerous cuts due to fiscal status of State, with big projects being put on hold. --Looking forward to working with new Gov. --video tour of new legislature bldg. avail. Susan Miller asks if on specifics of mtg rooms and in they can be rented in new bldg., Rep. Drummond will follow up on this.

Assembly Representatives

Ernie Hall reported:

- There was a vote for \$10.5 million athletic facility with tennis courts failed 7-4.
- Charter schools and tax exemption-- is a confusing topic and assembly is seeking more understanding of what dealing with in regards to the charter school entity. BAC presented report to assembly. Bond pkgs--\$34 million total includes 1 million for continuation of Spenard road planning, 1.5 million Chester Creek Trail bridge repair.
- Legislative pkg to state --looking for grant for trail bridge repair, --asking to borrow \$32.6 million for water/waste-water projects. Per Mr. Steele this is not for moving the coastal trail but includes 7 AWWU capital improvement water projects, and portion of 10 AWWU capital wastewater improvement projects. Gordon Glaser recommended that it be specifically stated that funds can't be used for Coastal Trail relocation.

Ernie Hall and Dick Traini reported:

- They are looking for designated funding to address the problem with public inebriates in the city. Continual revenue is needed and they are looking at specific alcohol tax. Funds would go towards numerous areas related to this problem such as providing treatment, building a treatment facility and/ or housing. To pass such a tax, will need 50% +1 of voters in favor. Mr. Hall seeks community engagement to testify. Matching funds can be looked at from the state. No tax % has been determined.

Mr. Hall and Dick Traini discussed:

- The new Marijuana statute, which they say is very complicated. The legislature can only amend. The city is able to write regs. Looking at establishment of marijuana Board. Conference in Denver well attended by AK folks. Community council needs to determine what they want, e.g. conditional use permits. Public space needs to be defined in muni code. Harriet Drummond reported on a shop she had visited in Seattle. All cash business makes possible target for crime. Mr. Traini requests that board not be comprised like the ABC board, which does lobbying.

New Business

Budget Advisory Committee Report, presented by Shirley Nelson, Chair of the BAC. Report made public today. Stressed that committee had no agenda but put together a resource listing all specifics related to each property in the municipality that is property tax exempt. Total is \$76 million in property tax exemptions, which assessor states is likely underestimate because assessor is not completely up to date. This is available in print and online and she encourages it to be used. It includes recommendations and suggestions one being “payment in lieu of taxes”. She encourages use of this resource by legislature, governor, and assembly.

Homeless camps near C St. Community garden: Nancy Walsh-Robard reports that she frequently walks through parkland of community gardens and concerned about ongoing camps. She reported recent visit where she responded when concerned about loud yelling between man and woman. She was reprimanded by the woman for inquiring. She is concerned about this new element of boldness and brashness with potential violence and that little seems to be done to rid this area of camps. Other comments by members included: removing camps just means they will go up again somewhere else, at least one tent has been there beginning months prior to this winter, police have been called numerous times and tents remain, public health concern related to human waste, trees could be skirted, skirting trees would make little difference since many of the tents are in plain site, the natural barrier to C street noise provided by the trees would be removed by skirting the trees, this is public parkland and camping is illegal and this law should be enforced. Ernie Hall will follow up with the police chief related to these camps.

Westchester Lagoon Nature Trail: Glen Hemingson, volunteer, reported on Anchorage Park Foundation’s Trails Initiative/Schools on Trails program on proposal for improvements to the Westchester Lagoon Nature Trail at the corner of Spenard Rd. & 19th Avenue. Written information on same given to members. He requests a resolution from NSCC to support this project. One of goals is to engage the schools in order to connect the park to them. In addition to rehabilitation and accessibility improvements to the trail itself, the proposal also includes installation of interpretative signage and art. There is funding of \$300,000-400,000 available through UA. Numerous supportive comments and questions were made by members. A NSCC resolution to be drafted and presented at future meeting.

Old Business (None)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55pm.