

Rabbit Creek Community Council General Membership Meeting – April 8, 2004 (draft)

Rabbit Creek Community Church – Snowshoe Lane

Call to Order: President Ky Holland called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Other board members present were Charlie Barnwell, Donna Van Flein, Carol Fries, Susanne Comellas, Wayne Skidmore, Jess Grunblatt and Mike Flister. Absent were Vivian Mendenhall, Dan Case, Dianne Holmes and Thom Janidlo. Introductions were made and there were no changes to the agenda.

Treasurer's Report: Currently there are 71 members and \$650.45 in the checking account.

Minutes: motion by Wayne, 2nd by Susanne to approve the March minutes – passed unanimously.

Announcements: There will be an informative meeting at the Rabbit Creek Community Church May 13th at 6pm presented by the Firewise staff on planned wildfire mitigation activities in the Rabbit Creek area. Firewise will be notifying residents closest to the target areas.

Assembly Report: Janice Shamburg provided an update on the acquisition of a 4-wheel drive tanker to the RC fire station. She is also working on retaining paramedic staff with the extra medical training necessary to administer aid on the long transport from the Hillside areas served by the RC Fire Station. Additionally, there will be some changes in the distribution of funds for wild fire mitigation.

Legislative Report: The phone connection could not be made due to technical difficulties and last minute relocation of the meeting.

Special Presentations:

Hillside District Plan: A power point presentation was given by Ky outlining some of the major issues that face the Hillside and ideas on developing a Hillside District Plan (HDP). The plan will set policy to aid development of our unique hillside environment, addressing transportation, drainage, waste water, fire mitigation and park access to name a few. The goals encompass coordinating development patterns and their impact on public services and infrastructure, protecting our current assets and reducing long-term costs of development. Chris Hamre with HALO has conveyed that organizations desire to aid the development of the HDP. Funding has been helped with generous donations from our assembly people Janice Shamburg and Dick Tremaine.

Anchorage Road Coalition for Safe and Sensible Streets: Frank McQueary with the assistance of Mike Flister gave a presentation on improving Anchorage roads through citizen participation and education. Discussion surrounded over design and its' negative impacts, lack of public process and a request to lobby the MOA and SOA to formally adopt Context Sensitive Design Principles currently being successfully applied in many areas of the country. The CC was asked to review a resolution that will be finalized and submitted requesting the MOA to formally adopt Context Sensitive Design Principles.

Rabbit Creek Trails and Parks Plan: Charlie and Jess gave an informative presentation on the state of our area trails and parks. The maps and overlays used clearly gave the audience a picture of how few parks and trails exist in the area and how the rapid development of subdivisions and lack of enforcement of our trails plan has impacted this valuable resource. The MOA needs in put and direction from the public. The local communities must become involved and advocate for a comprehensive trails plan.

After the presentations people broke up into small groups to discuss and present their thoughts on the information that was presented. The presentations were well received by the audience.

New Business: Action was taken on the Rabbit Creek Greenbelt Grant Award. A motion was made by Donna to accept the National Park Service Challenge Grant for work in the Rabbit Creek Greenbelt in partnership with the State Forestry Intern Program. Work will include all or a portion of the following, depending upon MOA Park Commission final approval north/south trail connection, loop trails in the 100 acre park, loop trails in Griffin Park and maintenance on all existing trails. Second by Carol, passed unanimously.

Adjourn at 9:30