

Minutes: Scenic Foothills Community Council

December 12, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Roger Shaw; Minutes approved.

Captain Keen, the new firehouse Captain from Station 14 (corner of Tudor, Campbell Airstrip Road). Captain Keen wanted to introduce himself and also to remind attendees that holiday decorations are a significant fire hazard. Keep heat sources away from decorations. Keep live trees watered and get them out of the house as soon as possible after Christmas.

Legislative Report: Dirk Craft from Representative Pruitt's Office: Representative Pruitt is at a leadership meeting. He wants us to know that the Governor unveiled his budget. The earlier we get requests from community councils to him, the better.

Roger Shaw: We have previously submitted requests to Rep. Pruitt.

No assembly members or school board representatives were present.

Begich Middle School Lego League team with coach Jason Collins: Mr. Collins is a math teacher and robotics coach. In the Lego League students make a robot out of legos and also write a paper on how this robot could be used in a natural disaster. The students focused on earthquakes and report that there are 30 earthquakes a day in Alaska. People should have supplies to keep alive for 10 days after an earthquake. Students' plan was to begin a Robotic Delivery Drone service. Families could sign up for to delivery of goods in the event of an emergency. The students did a skit about an earthquake. In the skit, a drone with built in internal GPS finds them to deliver requested supplies.

Question: How many have experienced a real earthquake?

Four hands saying yes.

Question: Is this your own idea?

Yes, then we saw news of the proposed Amazon Drone Delivery.

Tom Bronga, Campbell Airstrip Road and Pedestrian Safety Improvements: The project scope is the road section from mile .7 to Mile .3, where improvements to the road in 1993, ended. This section of road is in ARDSA and eligible to receive funds through municipal bonds.

For the last 10 years, Basher Community Council has brought this road upgrade as a priority. This upgrade's primary goal would be to improve the road surface to match segments north and south of the project and connect the two existing pedestrian pathways on each end of the project by providing a multi-use pathway parallel to the road.

Jake Moe, SFCC Council member, originally voiced his concerns with the pedestrian safety of this road. He runs with his teams up Campbell Airstrip Road to reach the Far North Bicentennial Trail System for training. He has had many close calls with vehicles. Many residents in our area use this road as a corridor to the trailhead at mile 1.1 and beyond, as

well as UAA, Bartlett, East High, Anchorage Christian Schools and APU training groups. Many bike commuters use this corridor and Mayor's Marathon even goes down this road.

When the legislature looked at funding this project, it had a very large estimated cost of \$4,164,400. Anchorage Works has since bumped the price tag to over \$5 million. Extra money was real cost of making the trail stay on the same side instead of crossing the road.

Basher community council wrote a letter to Mayor Sullivan asking for these pedestrian safety improvements to be included in the 2014 ARDSA bond package. The letter states that this is priority to their council. Mr. Bronga asked if SFCC would draft a letter of support for this project as many of our community members regularly use Campbell Airstrip Road to recreate.

Roger Shaw says Tom brought up good points. He says it's an accident waiting to happen and on icy roads it gets especially dangerous. Average traffic is 10-15 mph over speed limit. A challenge to the project is that the west side of the road drops off steeply and there is an embankment to the east. This makes construction costly.

Mr. Shaw suggested that the executive board meet and make recommendation for the next SFCC meeting.

Executive board report:

1. It was decided to recommend that the 29 acres of greenhouse property in Muldoon to be held as much as possible for park.
2. The board did not support a proposed change to community council voting age to 16 years old.
3. The board did not like the wording of the council bylaws change that looked like residents could vote by proxy.
4. There was a question about annexing east of Baxter Road area into our community council. It was decided that this was not in our interests. The residents of this area did not themselves ask for this.

Roger Shaw said that there would be a presentation about group homes in the future.

Committee Reports:

Mark Hill: Reports that emergency management has a new administrator. They are shifting to CERT, neighborhood watch downgrade. As for the Muldoon park cleanup project, the Forester who had been working on this has moved on. Continued cleanup might need greater support from neighbors.

Jerrienne Lowther questioned whether the meeting for 1/2/14 would have attendance. Mark Hill agrees this date is bad. A motion was made and positively passed, to move the next SFCC meeting to January 9th, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35. Holiday treats, provided by Roger Shaw, and a social gathering capped the evening.