
GOVERNMENT HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
C/O Community Councils Center • 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99503

Melinda Gant, President
Kyle Stevens, Vice President
Cass Willis, Secretary-Treasurer
Kyle Stevens, FCC Representative
Mavis Hancock, Donna Rymut, and Greg Miller, At-Large Board Members
Stephanie Kesler, Past Presidents

GHCC Meeting Minutes
17 November 2016
Submitted by Cassandra Willis

President Melinda Gant, Presiding

Melinda opened the meeting at 6:35 pm.

1. **Typical round the room introductions**
2. **Approve September and October Minutes**

This was tabled until the next meeting.

3. **Legislative Update: Rep. Les Gara**

Molly Carver noted that the Democratic party now has a majority and that revenue sharing is the most important issue on the table; they do not support further cutting of this program. There are 60 people in the Legislature and they are available to us for consultation, advice or contact if we have any needs or questions.

4. **Legislative Update: Sen. Johnny Ellis**

No representative was present at the meeting.

5. **Assembly Update: Patrick Flynn**

Joshua Spring explained that budget matters and he is focusing on funding for community grants, bus service, library and bus services. Mr. Flynn would like to have a better plan for the port plan before extracting funding from the project. Sharen explained that the Port has never paid a dividend because they don't have customers but since ML&P won't be doing it this year, the Muni has asked the Port to fill in the gap. The Port does need upkeep and maintenance funds; they certainly can't give away the store, but they are expecting to contribute. There will be more details forthcoming.

6. **FCC Update: Kyle Stevens**

The FCC budget was approved and they thanked Mr. Flynn for his support. Challenge grants will be available in January and should be up to \$40,000. APD let them know that the RAIDS program through the Municipality will be called “community crime map.” The GHCC has up to \$75 that can be reimbursed through the FCC for GHCC business. The outreach committee sent out flyers to community councils that have not been very active in the past six months. They are trying very hard to get all the Councils involved and empowered.

7. Alaska Work Source/Tuta’n Recovery Services: Rick Hoover

Rick explained that his organization is trying to get out the word that they are trying to help relieve the homeless problems of Anchorage by offering programs to assist these citizens thru a Housing First plan.

Programs offered: Housing, train their clients to gain skills, help with job assistance, and they would provide case management. They plan to have a continuing, holistic support plan. Their goal is employment and full members of the Anchorage community. They would like the Council members to know about this program and they need partners – both the community and businesses for financial support. They need volunteers but already have a facility and transitional living facility.

They are currently relying on private funds and would like to have grant and community support. They are renovating the Barrett Inn in Spenard (now called Bridgeworks) and have not put it into use yet. Their homes will be no drinking, no drugs; totally therapeutic. They currently have 15 staff. They could really use bus passes for transportation of their clients. They are engaged with NeighborWorks of Alaska.

8. Crowley Update on Tank Farm: Bob Cox, VP

They have tank farms of aviation fuel and motor fuel throughout the state. The largest one they have is in the Anchorage port. They have rehabilitated five of the exiting tanks that they bought in 2011. He noted that they are an active part of the Community Council and wish to be good neighbors to the residents.

They are going to examine the number of tanks at the tank farm. They will not be increasing the footprint of the area; just the number of tanks. Jess, a Project Manager, explained that they will be updating the outside of the tanks, and have plans for light and sound remediation. Crowley fielded many questions from the residents covering their safety plan, previously discussed plans, and reassuring that they have the appropriate safety methods and equipment in place and a full safety investigation and plan.

Steve Gerleck thanked Crowley for their transparency and thoughtful inclusion of the community into their plans. He noted that we have received funding to extend the bike trail to around the neighborhood so there may be increased foot and bike traffic.

Steve Gerleck moved that we forward Crowley’s Port of Anchorage Fuel Terminal Fire Hazard Calculations report to the Mayors’ office so they can review, approve, and adopt it as an addendum to the original plan. Stephanie seconded.

Crowley noted that they would be very supportive of this idea and are happy to share with the Municipality of Anchorage.

The Motion was passed unanimously.

9. Business Update: AKRR Tim Sullivan

They did 8 test trips of LNG to Fairbanks, and it was beneficial. They were surprised to learn Salix, who won the job and needed to move the LNG to FBX, was bought out by AIDEA. They have had very successful holiday trains and are encouraging more local passenger traffic.

10. Business Update: Port of Anchorage Sharen Walsh

Sharen spoke about the recent storm and the status of the pilings. Everything is wrapping up and on schedule. The McFarlan cascade yard with lumber stacked is being moved way up on the north end, because next spring the modernization project will be taking over that area. They're going to do a progressive build and begin work next summer. ML&P is planning a loop to loop in a redundant power source for the Port because they're currently without a backup system.

The Port did get a grant to fix the Small Boar Harbor, but the storm did extra damage and they are now looking to bid that additional work by this spring. There will be a lot of activity at the Small Boat Harbor while they keep it operational and begin improvements.

The Port did get a grant for cameras and lighting to increase safety and mitigate issues. They are hoping to have the project started after Thanksgiving of this year. This work can be done in the winter.

Doyon is now patrolling the Small Boat Harbor at least twice a night to decrease the incidence of malfeasance.

The Port is expecting a Military deployment over the next few weeks and there will be substantial equipment movement during this time. Expect to see an increase in port traffic and storage.

11. Committee Update: Parks: Bob French

Bob explained that the survey about the parks was a success and they are analyzing the results. The results will be compiled and presented through NextDoor and other social media outlets.

They also completed a park walk through to identify the features, strengths, and opportunities for each park. There was substantial turnout and input on the state of the parks.

12. Committee Update: Knik Arm Crossing & AMATS: Bob French

AMATS did meet, and were unorganized and not aware of what they had last discussed. But they do have a freight mobility study that is in the public review phase, and it is available on their website.

There is no update on the Knik Arm Crossing project, though there is some political changes that may change the future of this project.

13. Committee Update: Safety: Kyle Stevens

Kyle explained that he got a group on NextDoor, and requests that residents join him in this quest to decrease crime by increasing engagement and awareness in the neighborhood. He would like to encourage both passive and active surveillance and cooperation with APD, the Community Council's Executive Committee and APD's CAP program.

14. Committee Update: Trash: Thomas Pease

Today was the scheduled date for the communal dumpster to be removed for the winter.

15. Committee Update: Election: Melinda Gant

They are working on getting nominees and bringing it up for a vote in January.

16. Committee Update: Executive: Melinda Gant

Melinda Gant moved that the December meeting be omitted in consideration of everyone's busy winter schedules. Stephanie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

17. Other Business and Neighborhood Concerns

Gabriel Lawry, from Hillcrest Children's Center, reminded everyone that they are still participating in a Barnes & Noble fundraiser through this Saturday. If you make a purchase at the local store, you can donate a portion of your sale to them by simply explaining that you are "with Hillcrest Children's Center" at the time of checkout.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm