

**Rogers Park Community Council Minutes  
7 PM Monday May 8th 2017 Meeting  
Rogers Park Elementary School Library**

**Board Members:**

**Marilyn Pillifant, President  
Jim Richardson, Vice-President  
Secretary, vacant  
Clare Boersma, Treasurer  
Bob Churchill, FCC Representative**

**I. Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00.  
PM. A quorum of 30 RPCC members was present at the start of the meeting.

A visitor, Linda Garrison from the Campbell Park Community Council introduced herself. They meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday every month.

**II. Community Council**

**A. Agenda**

There was motion to adopt the agenda with flexibility to change the order of items as necessary to allow teleconferencing with our legislative representative. Motion was made by Bob Churchill and seconded by Jim Richardson. There was a unanimous vote to adopt.

-----  
**Agenda item out of order**

**IV: Legislative Reports**

**Representative Andy Josephson**

Representative Josephson was in Anchorage this weekend, then back to Juneau to continue the special session. The legislature was on day 112. They are allowed 120 days plus a 10-day extension.

Representative Josephson reported that the House passed a fiscal plan that fully funded the state budget. The Senate will take up this budget at some point.

The 'Grand Plan' is to take up an oil & gas tax bill at some point. The House Resources Committee is still busy. They have a new slate of oil and gas consultants to help address revenue issues.

---

**Back to agenda**

**B. Minutes**

The minutes from the past three RPCC minutes were presented for approval. Claire Boersma made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Seconded by Jim Richardson. The motion passed unanimously.

**B. FCC Report**

There was no FCC report at the meeting as Bob Churchill was not able to attend the meeting.

**C. Treasurer's Report**

Clare Boersma, our treasurer, reported that we currently had \$208.01 in funds.

---

**Agenda item out of order**

Mike Stenback, Senior Captain of Fire Station 4 (on McGinnis) and 3 of his fellow firefighters popped in to say hello and make a pitch for the use of carbon monoxide detectors. They passed along information on a bond for new equipment and burn permits (there are no burn permits being issued). In response to a question, Senior Captain Stenback noted that homeless campfires are a concern. Inquiries on fire issues can be phoned in to 267-4950.

Since Proposition 2 failed to pass in the April Municipal Election, Senior Captain Stenback commented upon the impact of this result. To recap - Proposition 2 dealt with public safety and transit. The biggest item was to be the purchase of two new ambulances (\$650,000 each). Proposition 2 also included \$2.3 million in yearly operations and maintenance costs. That money would have funded fund the 14 positions to staff the new ambulances.

Senior Captain Stenback reported that the Union and the Municipal Administration have agreed to work to ease staffing to deal with the problem created by the fact that Proposition 2 did not pass.

He also reported that the number of emergency calls annually have increased by 1,000 calls per year.

---

**Back to agenda**

### **III: Assembly Reports**

#### **Felix Rivera**

Assemblyman Felix Rivera reported that Elvi Gray-Jackson thanks the RPCC for the flowers sent to thank her for her Assembly service over the years. She is currently on her way to New Jersey.

Felix Rivera is on the Municipal Audit Committee and will Chair the Homeless Committee. Their first meeting will be May 17<sup>th</sup> from 11 Am to 12:30 PM in the Mayor's office. He will also be on committees for budget finance, safety and rules.

Assemblyman Rivera can be reached at [riveraf@muni.org](mailto:riveraf@muni.org), phone 764-7081.

Tomorrow's Assembly meeting will include consideration of a youth member (without voting privileges), and discussion of a hazardous materials ordinance.

#### **Dick Traini**

Assemblyman Dick Traini will be Chair of the Assembly.

They are currently dealing with four marijuana licenses and are consulting with the Governor's office on approval of said licenses.

The Anchorage School Board will meet on Wednesday May 18<sup>th</sup>.

An issue that the Assembly will be addressing will be property tax exemptions. They are covered by a State mandate, however the State does not cover the costs (to the Municipality) for these exemptions.

### **IV: Legislative Reports (continued)**

#### **Senator Berta Gardner**

Samantha Harris reported for Senator Berta Gardner. Senator Gardner is working to not leave a funding gap in the State budget because we need fiscal certainty. She is working to restore education funding that was reduced in the budget.

She also reported that SB 54, a Crime Bill to modify SB 91 has not been passed.

#### **Representative Harriet Drummond**

Patrick from Representative Drummond's office reported that there had not been a meeting on education. They were working on the budget. If constituents have any questions, they can reach Representative Drummond at 465-3875.

## **V. Other Business and Announcements**

### **Presentations, Actions items and discussion.**

#### *a) Election off Executive RPCC Board positions*

RPCC President Marilyn Pillifant reported that the current members were willing to continue in their positions.

A motion to accept those nominations was made by Pete Muse and seconded by Rick Wilson. The vote to approve the executive appointments was unanimous.

#### *b) Nora Morse from the Mayor's Office*

Nora Morse is addressing homeless and public safety issues for the Mayor's office. She also brought Nancy Burke, the Homeless Coordinator for the Municipality.

Nora Morse announced that APD Chief Chris Tolley was retiring and that Captain Justin Doll would be the new APD Police Chief as of June 30<sup>th</sup>.

APD is currently staffed with 389 officers. An academy will add 29 new graduates on June 1<sup>st</sup>, and an additional 26 officers just came in for field training.

Data shows an increase in property crimes in Anchorage. The Municipality staff believes many of these crimes are due to drug related issues. In response, there will be expanded foot patrols and the Community Action Patrol (CAP) Team is being re-focused to better address these crimes.

---

### **Agenda item out of order**

Governor Walker stopped in to address the RPCC. He wants to pass along a message of hope for addressing the difficult budget issues facing Alaska. These are unprecedented times and require difficult decisions.

He stated the need for a full fiscal plan that will require change. Many fiscal decisions in Alaska result in a net loss. It will be more important than ever for better fiscal strategy. For example, mining activities in Alaska do not contribute much in the way of tax revenues to the State.

Governor Walker urged RPCC members to tall that it is OK to make unpopular decisions that are needed to finish the job of revising Alaska's budget and taxation policies.

It may be necessary to bring in an outside negotiator to assist in these difficult decisions. As far as Governor Walker is concerned, all options are being looked at.

Governor Walker said that people could get their opinions registered by letters to the editor, opinion pieces and other means to get the message to our legislators.

---

## **Back to agenda**

Nancy Burke said that wayfinding signs have been installed along the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail with markers every ¼ to ½ miles. This will assist in locating homeless camps along the greenbelt.

The Municipality is continuing its program of outreach and camp notification. The Muni has a web portal on [muni.org](http://muni.org), link. Click on the the 'Parks and Recreation' icon. Then go to the 'Homeless Camp Reporting' on the left side of the screen to report a homeless camp.

Camps can also be reported via phone with the location geo-located. Add photos if possible. This information goes to the CAP team, and then they go out and post camps. The posting starts a 15-day notification period, after which the Municipality sends out a cleanup team (from Parks & rec) to do cleanup.

The muni is hiring a 10-person crew for cleanups this summer, beginning on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Nancy Burke reported that the CAP team does regular patrol sweeps. Compared with last year, the CAP team has a quicker response to homeless camp reportings. Anchorage Mental Health has a representative imbedded with the CAP team to assist in dealing with camps.

Nancy Burke can be reached via e-mail at [burkeni@muni.org](mailto:burkeni@muni.org)

### ***c) Lighting along the alley south of 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue update***

Felix Rivera reported that Municipal lighting/street maintenance have told Mark Johnson (MP&P) that they do not have funding for lighting we have asked to be installed along the south side of the 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue alley between Glenwood and Maplewood Streets. To be continued.....

### ***d) Cell Tower Update***

A motion was proposed and seconded to send GCI a thank you note for their installation of the low impact cell tower. The motion was passed unanimously, with no objections.

### ***e) CIP Survey***

RPCC members were reminded to participate in the CIP Survey, with responses due by May 19<sup>th</sup>.

### ***f) Zarvis Street traffic calming***

The Muni is installing a traffic counter at the Jarvis Street speed bump proposed location this summer to evaluate traffic patterns.