

Federation of Community Councils, Inc.

Board of Delegates

BY ZOOM

Minutes of January 20, 2021 meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by FCC Chair Daniel George

FCC Delegates in attendance (26):

Abbott Loop	Bruce Roberts
Airport Heights	Chelsea Ward-Waller
Basher	Don Crafts
Bayshore/Klatt	Bob Laule
Bear Valley	-
Birchwood	Matt Cruickshank (FCC Treasurer)
Campbell Park	Kevin Fimon (FCC Vice-Chair)
Chugiak	Darryl Parks
Downtown	-
Eagle River	Sharon Gibbons
Eagle River Valley	Tom Freeman
Eklutna Valley	-
Fairview	James Thornton
Girdwood	Mike Edgington
Glen Alps	-
Government Hill	Bob French
Hillside	Zac Johnson
Huffman/O'Malley	Matt Burkholder
Midtown	-
Mountain View	Daniel George
North Star	-
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Old Seward/Oceanview	Nancy Joseph
Portage Valley	-
Rabbit Creek	-
Rogers Park	Jim Wright
Russian Jack	Kathleen Plunkett
Sand Lake	Parker Haymans
Scenic Foothills	Daniel Clift
South Addition	Jeff Manfull
South Fork	-
Spennard	Lindsey Hajdul
Taku Campbell	-
Tudor Area	Tod Butler
Turnagain	Cathy Gleason
Turnagain Arm	-

Others in attendance:

Anchorage Assembly	Acting Chair Felix Rivera
Anchorage School Board	Margo Bellamy
Office of the Governor	-
Municipal Assessor	Jack Gadamus
Community Councils Center	Mark Butler
University Area CC member	Joanie Nardini
Spennard CC member	Paul Berger

A. Call to Order and Establish Quorum: Daniel George, FCC Chair

Quorum established.

Zoom meeting being recorded.

B. Approval of Agenda

Al Milspaugh moved to approve.

Matt Cruickshank seconded.

Approved.

C. Approval of Minutes

Al Milspaugh moved to approve.

Matt Cruickshank seconded.

Approved as amended.

D. Standing Committee Reports:

- 1. FCC Chair** – Daniel George Proposing an increase in pay for FCC employee Susan Klein. Her compensation would go up from \$13/hour to \$15/hour starting in the pay period beginning February 1st. Cathy Gleason moved. Bob Reupke seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 2. FCC Treasurer** – Matt Cruickshank We were exactly on budget for the 2020 fiscal year.
- 3. FCC Outreach** – Al Milspaugh. Assisted with running many Zoom meetings for councils. Has suggestions for actions to take when running a Zoom meeting.
- 4. FCC Training** – No report.
- 5. Community Councils Center Manager** – Mark Butler
Most councils continue using Zoom hosting software for hosting meetings, some are doing both in person and Zoom. Best to have one person run the Zoom and another run the meeting. Please get your mailings in earlier, we will not be able to do last minute requests.

6. **FCC AMATS Committee Representative** – Bob French. AMATS Citizen's Advisory Committee will have a meeting on January 26th from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
7. **FCC Homelessness Committee Representative** – Looking for a FCC delegate willing to sit on the Municipal Homelessness Committee.

E. Presentations (5 to 10 minutes each)

1. **Office of the Mayor** - No report this month.

2. **Felix Rivera – Assembly Vice-Chair**

Extremely busy times for the Assembly:

- a. **Emergency Declaration** extended until 16th.
- b. Two different proposal to **fill empty seat in West Anchorage** that was caused by one of the members becoming the Acting Mayor. Either change the code to allow a fill-in person appointed by the Assembly or no change to the charter or code. Will discuss at work session on Friday and then act on January 26th public hearing.
- c. **Anchorage Police Department IT upgrade proposals that would include body cameras** and the technology necessary to support it. Two different proposals to fund the plan – either a proposition on the April 2021 ballot or using existing funds or alcohol tax revenues.
- d. **Proposal to change system for Emergency Orders** that would put them into code. Public work session with a February 9th Assembly vote.
- e. Putting **bond proposals on the April 2021 ballot** for voters to decide. They will include the typical bond packages like road and drainage bond, trails bond, public safety bond, and library bond.

3. **Margo Bellamy – Anchorage School Board**

Whirlwind of activity. K-2 students back today, also includes special education students and small groups of Middle and High School students.

Annual legislative priorities event on January 8th. Three priorities for this year

including:

- a. Provide fair and productive funding
- b. Student wellness.
- c. Standards for success for life.

Held COVID vaccination clinic in the lobby of the administrative building with great success! Almost six thousand health workers and senior citizens were given their first vaccine shots. School nurses, IT staff and administrators worked closely together to make it a wonderful event.

4. Kim Koval – Office of the Alaska Governor

No report at this time.

F. Presentations by Municipal Planners:

1. Jack Gadamus, Municipal Assessor - 2021 Municipal Property Values

Their role is to value property and administer exemptions. Each property must be physically inspected at least once every six years. January 1st is the date when all property is assessed. The assessed values are put up on the Municipal website in early January and “green card” notices are sent out. There is a period for all appeals of value and for applying for exemptions.

The total value of property assessed this year is \$46.9 Billion, which is fairly flat from last year. Taxable value by property type shows about 62% is residential and 30% is commercial with about \$16.9 Billion of value in single family residential units. Commercial property values dropped: Apartments

The staff spends a lot of time on exemptions. Some of the exemptions are mandatory and other are optional with the Municipality mandating them. There are 18,000 seniors and disabled veteran exemptions with a value of \$2.7 Billion. There are 45,000 residential exemptions with a value of \$2.2 Billion. Applications are on line and are due by March 15th.

Taxable new construction dropped the last few years. Existing values were up on average 1.6% on single family homes, though it varied across the Municipality. Girdwood was up 12.5%. Municipality-wide there was low inventory of homes for sale and extremely low interest rates for purchasers. 2020 real estate sales were up 11.2% over the previous year.

Commercial real estate assessments drop this year:

Apartment buildings (5 + units) down 4.6%
Retail properties down 4.9%
Hotel properties down 11.3%

Deadline to appeal assessments is February 11, 2021. Get them in on time.

New computer system being acquired. Hope to have it in place by 2022.

G. Old Business:

1.

H. New Business:

1.

I. Council Sharing (brief points) –

Mountain View CC – Developer purchased 28 empty lots. In process of plating streets and vacating right-of-ways.

University Area CC – Bus barn fumes.

North East CC – COVID talk, CIP. Picnic this year?

Basher CC – Quiet so far this year.

Abbott Loop CC – Very active December 2020 meeting – 70 people on Zoom. Resolution against EO-16 did not pass. Voted down 35-11.

Turnagain CC – Lots happening. Thanks to Assembly member Kameron. Want air quality monitors on the schools. Class A wetlands proposal include solar farm and snow dump. Airport air cargo lease applications in the works.

Fairview CC – Meetings held. Looking for “highway to Highway” project. Amendments to neighborhood plans. Chester to Ship Creek trail connections. Ingra and 14th Avenue property – gardens there?

Campbell Park Cc – Meetings held. Elections. Barely meeting quorums.

Birchwood CC – Titel 17 concerns. Dog control concerns. MEA substation.

Scenic Foothills CC – Last meeting was in November 2020. R& M presentation scheduld for Feb 14th meeting. Rash of signs recently about lost dogs. Realy an eyesore.

Old Seward/Oceanview CC – New officers elected in November. Want upgrade of E. 120th Avenue.

Spennard CC – Cannabis permit requested for Chilkoot Charlies location. We require a neighborhood responsibility plan.

Hillside CC – December 2020 meeting. Resolution about EO-16 passed 4-3.

Sand Lake CC – December and January special meetings about proposed airport development project off Raspberry Road. Proposed solar farm.

Russian Jack CC – Combined in-person and Zoom meeting. Dr. Ann Zink was a great presenter. New council president.

Rogers Park CC – Had December meeting. Concern about Alcohol treatment center in the old Golden Lion hotel. Recall Rivera people showed up. Some uncivil behavior.

Government Hill CC – Election at upcoming meeting. Using Zoom for meetings.

South Addition CC – New board members. Stairs on 12th Avenue have been repaired. Neighborhood plan.

Chugiak CC – Elections of officers. Eklutna Corporation proposal to expand quarry.

Eagle River CC – Elections. New Chair elected. Cannabis. Dog trails. In person and on Zoom.

K. Comments by the Public (3 min. each, time permitting) – None.

L. Adjournment:

Al Milspaugh moved for adjournment, Matt Cruickshank seconded. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned after 8:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully taken by Mark Butler, Community Councils Center Manager.