

Federation of Community Councils, Inc.

Board of Delegates

BY ZOOM

Minutes of February 17, 2021 meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by FCC Vice Chair Kevin Fimon

FCC Delegates in attendance (26):

Abbott Loop	Bruce Roberts
Airport Heights	Chelsea Ward-Waller
Basher	Don Crafts
Bayshore/Klatt	-
Bear Valley	-
Birchwood	Matt Cruickshank (FCC Treasurer)
Campbell Park	Kevin Fimon (FCC Vice-Chair)
Chugiak	-
Downtown	Silvia Villamedes
Eagle River	-
Eagle River Valley	-
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	-
North Star	Matt Johnson
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Old Seward/Oceanview	Nancy Joseph
Portage Valley	-
Rabbit Creek	-
Rogers Park	Jim Wright
Russian Jack	Kathleen Plunkett
Sand Lake	-
Scenic Foothills	Daniel Clift
South Addition	Jeff Manfull
South Fork	-
Spenard	Lindsey Hajduk
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	Kim Kovol
Municipal Librarian	Mary Jo Torgeson
Municipal Planner	Ryan Yelle
Community Councils Center	Mark Butler
Training	Margaret King
Girdwood Chamber	Kalie Harrison

Al Milspaugh detailed the Zoom meeting rules. Zoom meeting being recorded.

A. Call to Order and Establish Quorum: Kevin Fimon, FCC Vice-Chair
Quorum established.

B. Approval of Agenda
Matt Cruickshank moved to approve.
Daniel Clift seconded.
Approved.

C. Approval of Minutes
Matt Cruickshank moved to approve.
Daniel Clift seconded.
Approved as amended.

D. Standing Committee Reports:

- 1. FCC Chair** – Kevin Fimon
- 2. FCC Treasurer** – Matt Cruickshank Mark failed to get the bookkeeper's report this month.
- 3. FCC Outreach** – Al Milspaugh. Assisted with running many Zoom meetings for councils. Offering trainings for running Zoom meetings.
- 4. FCC Training** – No report.
- 5. Community Councils Center Manager** – Mark Butler
Most councils continue using Zoom hosting software for hosting meetings, just two are doing both in person and Zoom. Best to have one person run the Zoom and a different person 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. Had AMATS Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting.

7. FCC Homelessness Committee Representative – No report this month.

E. Presentations (5 to 10 minutes each)

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

2. Felix Rivera – Assembly Chair

Extremely busy times for the Assembly:

a. Assembly members Weddleton, LaFrance and Zalatel are sponsoring **a series of ordinances that would remove executive orders (EO's) and move them instead to Anchorage Orders (AO's)** that would be approved by the Assembly.

b. **Rent and Utility Assistance** is flowing from Federal recovery dollars and being processed by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC).

c. **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. Anchorage Police Department IT upgrade proposal that would include body cameras and the technology necessary to support it will be on the ballot as a special tax levy.

d. Four ways to observe an Anchorage Assembly meeting:

1. In person
2. Watch on GCI Channel 9
3. Listen on the radio (UAA channel)
4. Stream on-line

e. Long Range Transportation Plan – March 23rd public hearing

3. Margo Bellamy – Anchorage School Board

K-2 students back (also includes special education students and small groups of Middle and High School students) – so far, so good. COVID has closed some

classroom (but not whole schools). Sports programs have been resumed, but masked.

In-person outdoor graduation ceremonies are planned for the end of the school year. After Spring Break, students will be back in the classroom.

COVID vaccination clinic in the lobby of the ASD administrative building has had great success! School nurses, IT staff and administrators have worked closely together to make it a wonderful event.

4. Kim Kovol – Office of the Alaska Governor

The Governor has restored the AHFC budget to the previous level. The Legislature must act to authorize an Emergency Order. Vaccine shots in arms should not be affected by the end of the Governor's Emergency Order.

F. Presentations:

1. Training of FCC Officers and Members – Margaret King

Margaret presented a needs assessment that she created under contract with the FCC. She recommends that the FCC set up a FCC Training Committee in order to establish goals for training of council officers and their members. As an example, the the goal of each council to “build agreement on issues” or to “provide information to members, so that they can make their own opinions”?

Matt Cruickshank suggested that the FCC adopts the needs assessment and create a committee as Margaret suggests with Matt Burkholder as chair. Volunteers to serve on the committee include: Bob French of Government Hill CC, Tod Butler of Tudor Area CC, Cathy Gleason of Turnagain CC, and Silvia Villamedes of Downtown CC.

2. Rezoning of Dedicated Municipal Parks - Municipal Planner Ryan Yelle

The Municipality is beginning the process of rezoning those Municipal parks that are dedicated as parks to the “PR” (Parks and Recreation) zoning classification. This process is required as a result of the adoption of the new Title 21 and the 2040 Land Use Plan. The Planning Department is starting with twenty parks in the Midtown and Central areas of the Anchorage bowl. Comments by community councils are due by April 12th at the Planning Department. It will come to the Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Commission on May 3rd and then on to the Assembly. Comments to the Planning & Zoning Commission are due by May 3rd. The whole process of acting on all the dedicated parks in Anchorage will take a year or so.

The new “PR” zoning classification allows farmers markets and other appropriate events.

There are currently non-dedicated parks in Anchorage that the Assembly could dedicate as parks if they chose, and there are some park areas that the Municipality operates as parks even though they are not dedicated as parks or are owned by different entities (like those owned by the Anchorage International Airport.)

3. Candidate Forums and Other Opportunities for Candidates to Speak – Mark Butler, Community Councils Center Manager

There will be a number of on-line forums for candidates for Mayor and for the Anchorage School Board. Suggested that each council allow candidates to introduce themselves at the end of their council meetings.

Mary Jo Torgeson, the Municipal Librarian advocated for Proposition 2 which includes money for Municipal-owned senior centers and the library. It is on the ballot in April.

G. Old Business:

1.

H. New Business:

1.

I. Council Sharing (brief points) –

Scenic Foothills CC – Dog posters, East Anchorage Candidate forum (so far 10 Mayoral candidates have committed to attend).

North East CC – Non-motorized plan

South Addition CC – South Addition Neighborhood Plan continuing.

Turnagain CC – Airport developments, 17 projects for non-motorized plan, proposed solar farm and snow dump in Class A wetlands – not compliant with MOA planning documents.

Government Hill CC – Zoom meeting.

Basher CC – Safety Committee and single access to the neighborhood

North Star CC – Fireweed Lane project soon to start design. We hope to significantly reduce the impact of the May Day tree (invasive species *Prunus Patus*) from the Chester Creek greenbelt. North Star is ground zero for homelessness campers in Anchorage. Had three School Board and one Mayoral candidate give presentations at the end of the meeting.

Abbott Loop CC – 47 Zoom participants at last meeting. Lively discussions. Resolution supporting childcare providers during COVID times.

Rogers Park CC – Wanting more input into the plan for operating the facility in the old Golden Lion Hotel building.

Girdwood BoS/CC – Bond proposals.

Spenard CC – Transportation work group. Spenard Road (between Benson and Minnesota Drive) design continuing. Election forums on March 15th for ASD candidates and March 18th for Mayor.

Fairview CC – Elections. Revitalizing the neighborhood. Neighborhood Plan.

Russian Jack CC – Working with NeighborWorks. Capital projects.

Downtown CC – Temporary bathrooms for summer months in the core of downtown. Helping businesses – safe, vital and clean.

Campbell Park CC – Steve Johnson elected President.

K. Comments by the Public (3 min. each, time permitting) –

Kalie Harrison of the Girdwood Rotary Club mentioned that there will be a candidates forum in Girdwood.

L. Adjournment:

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

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