

Rogers Park Community Council Minutes
7 PM Monday April 12, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Steve Lindbeck, President

Board Members:

Steve Lindbeck, President

Linda Chase, Vice-President

Secretary (Vacant)

Ric Wilson, Treasurer

Sara Dykstra, RPCC Member Acting Secretary

I. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm with 39 participants. Members were asked to rename themselves with RPCC for voting purposes

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 8, 2021 (action item)

Linda Chase moved to approve them. There was no second. Minutes from March will be resubmitted next month for approval.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT: Ric Wilson, Treasurer

Ric Wilson reported present balance is \$763.78. Interest payment of \$.01.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Garden & Beautification Committee – Zach Zaletel, Chair

Plan: Materials assembled to start planting. Request from members — If anyone is planting at home and can plant extra hearty plants, the committee could use extras for beautification. Extra assistance in College Village needed. There is extra seeds/soil available if anyone wants to plant. FCC will reimburse up to \$75 in expenses for beautification - receipts needed.

b. Midtown Congestion Relief Committee – Bob Butera, Chair

Steve Noble and Dave Evans were present. Steve Noble update: Continuing to work on environmental processes and look at traffic/noise issues. Early stages of project planning as well as alternatives (36th Ave). Another public Meeting will occur late summer/early fall. There is a resolution that will be discussed and possibly voted on later tonight. Dave Evans described resolution: March 16 DOT and DOWL had a meeting to describe alternatives on 36th interchange. They asked for feedback and this resolution provides that feedback. This is consistent with the January 2020 resolution that was passed. Key points: RPCC continues to support a future depressed freeway - under 36th and under N lights , advocated for non-motorized passages, maximum 35mph on frontage road and 45 mph on highway. Also advocated for Environmental Assessment.

c. Public Safety Committee – Linda Chase

No updates at this time.

d. Nominating Committee – Linda Chase

Elections will occur in May for new officers. Candidates to date: President: Steve Lindbeck, VP: Pete Mjos Secretary: no name currently, Treasurer: Ric Wilson, FCC Rep: Jim Wright (not

an elected position - chosen by President). Additional nominations can be submitted to Linda Chase.

V. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

a. Alaska Legislature Reports: 5 minutes each

i. House District 17 – Representative Andy Josephson

Day 84 of Session. Once adjourned there may not be authority to spend additional funding.

House organized around 18th of Feb. Department of Law: Not much to report, except additional funding for therapeutic courts and additional funding for prosecutors of certain crimes (sexual offenses). Dept of Law also wants to shift muni prosecutions to home rule cities (usually only Anchorage and Juneau) - this was declined and Dept of Law will continue to pay.

DHSS: 51% turnover at Office of Children's Services — they have increased \$3000 bonus.

200+ Social Workers have also been given a clinical therapist to support them - also a \$500,000 scholarship fund. Upcoming Bills: Defined pension for first responders, Workmans comp to essential workers during a disaster, Update personal partial impairment formulas, Bill on Reverse Sweep, Sponsor of House bill 104 - double motor fuel tax (current tax was set in 1970) - move from \$.08 to \$.16/gallon. Wrapping up operating budget in Finance Committee.

Question: Can you dedicate those funds directly for roads? A: Rep J - No - you can designate them but you cannot dedicate them. Can be taken for other purposes with enough support. Q:

On the \$1.1 Billion, would a special session be needed? Is that Feasible? A: Could not do special session for \$5 Billion. Concern is that the Governor will use a process to spend money in the interim.

ii. House District 18 – Representative Harriet Drummond

Not Present

iii. Senate District I – Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson

Confident that they will be in session for full session and also that they will extend for 10 days to appropriate funds. HB76 is now in the Senate - to extend COVID emergency. Anticipating it will be voted on soon. All committees she serves on awaiting final budget. Bills she has proposed: Choke hold, law enforcement use of force, Juneteenth paid holiday, Vehicle registration for persons with disabilities, all awaiting hearings or in process with hearings. SB 80 - Public Schools mental health - will move out of committee soon. First Virtual constituent meeting on Saturday - 20 folks attending as well as live-streamed on Facebook. Question: SB 39 - status A: Has been taken but Senator Showers has another bill waiting - not sure what is in there. Q: What percentage of legislators has been vaccinated? A: Has not been updated lately — believes last update was about 40% — there are 400 people in the Capitol including staff. Rep Josephson says the numbers are increasing. Sen. Gray -Jackson reports her whole staff is vaccinated.

b. Anchorage School Board Report: 5 minutes

i. Board Member Margo Bellamy

Next Meeting April 20, 2021 6pm - Executive Session prior (closed to public) - Agenda posted online. Planning graduations now. Kindergarten roundup in April (virtual info sessions).

Planned a robust summer school to mitigate learning loss due to COVID — registration started today. Open to students who have failed or had incomplete first — then will be open to others.

Fall Lottery is open for lottery programs. Budget was passed by Assembly. Q: Is Virtual Option for summer school only available to virtual students or those that attended in person? A:

Currently it is only open to virtual students, but if there are open slots, then any student can

enroll. Q: Website was unclear about who could register for summer school. Q: How is hiring going? A: Limitation is teachers right now — it is hard to hire teachers (and more money needed) for more students. Some teachers will be teaching both sessions Q: When do new terms for school board start? A: April 26th is when new board will be restructured. Sworn on Monday May 3rd (Not May 4th).

c. Anchorage Assembly Reports: 5 minutes each

i. Seat F – Meg Zaletel

3 topics around COVID response

1. Mayor's request to extend emergency declaration to be extended through July 16th. Cases remain high, need measures in order to keep economy open and to be able to respond quickly. Expecting a robust debate tomorrow
2. EO 20: Do it for Summer - goes into effect Friday PM. Loosens restrictions for some areas - Mask Mandate still in effect, but allows community to take advantage of increasing vaccination rate. Graduation attendance was a concern - removed restrictions on graduation crowd size.
3. Health Policy Committee briefing - Transition plan to demobilize over time. This is typically done in stages — they will utilize emergency operations staff but normalize those into our regular staff (vaccines and testing). Contracts and logistics will remain with emergency operations. Shelters and congregate settings - at time of briefing there was 950 individuals with capacity of 1036 — 814 are currently in EOC - FEMA is reimbursing until end of September. They are looking for options to transition out of this emergency shelter into something more permanent. Q: Mayor has set 70% goal for vaccinations — all measures will be “advisory” at that point. Member believes we already have herd immunity. A: Please email the paper and info to pass along. Felix and Meg will be holding a conversation with the community about this very topic and would welcome that. The emergency order does not just cover covid response but also the vaccination roll out. There should be a presentation at Assembly meeting about the current response. Q: Where did the mayor get the 70% vaccination rate goal? A: Figure came from Dr. Johnston, our Muni Epidemiologist
Follow up: Member asked about Dr. Johnson's medical background.

ii. Seat G – Felix Rivera, Assembly Chair

1. COVID 19 relief funds - Muni will be getting \$101 million (estimate). Assembly has had town halls/work sessions (March 19 and 26, April 9) to get feedback. No “next meeting” scheduled yet. Awaiting federal guidance from various departments and also wants to know exactly how much the funds will be. Also waiting to find out what state legislature will do with \$1.1 Billion — Assembly wants to do a gap analysis to find holes and gaps in funding between State and Muni. A website will be available soon — currently go to Muni website and go to COVID 19 link. Feedback form is active currently.
2. Golden Lion RFP was published today on muni.org - Purchasing - Current Bidding opportunities. 3 different bids -RFP - 2021P012. Synopsis and 18 page RFP. Important sections: Page 6 of RFP -Willingness of participants to participate in public outreach (requirement who will be that person), Page 10 - Good neighborhood guidelines (GNG) (attachment C outlines GNGs) Page 11 - Breakdown of points (up to 100), Delivery of Similar Services is a requirement and Participant pathway from entry to discharge, Building Modifications, GNGs (10 points). Evaluation process - committee of individuals that perform the evaluation - Community Councils will be able to be involved but how is TBD. Good Neighbor Guidelines: Advisory Committee (neighborhood and provider representatives - thorough communication to mitigate negative impacts), also discusses

participant and community safety. The RFP is final but Good Neighbor Guidelines are in draft. Due date for proposals is May 14th — there may be opportunity to add an addendum to RFP if there are glaring holes. Jim Wright has been working on how we as a council can influence security and safety around this facility. Jim was disappointed the RFP went out today but it is important that there is an opportunity for addenda. Felix said any additional criteria could be added within the current scoring components. Those would need to be added quickly — end of the month at the latest. Important Dates: Facility Walkthrough April 26, Pre-proposal meeting April 27th, Questions due to April 28th. Final proposals due May 14th. April 23rd is probably an internal deadline for providing additional info to be included.

Questions:

-Q. Are vendors required to provide community impact statements (Mike)? A: Vendors commitment to mitigate community concerns are included in the GNGs.

-Q: What will the muni's responsibility be towards communities and patients once a vendor is operating? Will it just be up to the vendor? A: Ongoing muni commitment will be memorialized in the start up contract. It is a public private partnership and there are start up dollars as well as municipal oversight. Sample contract was provided in the RFP.

-Q: Will mitigation and testing for TB be included?(Dave Morgan) A: Yes, we will look at that

-Q: Since this is voluntary, many patients will be self pay or insurance — how will that defray the overall cost to the muni (residential 30 days inpatient)(Pete Mjos). A: The RFP is meant to target the 1115 medicaid waiver was brought on — when there is a gap. The provider can create multiple categories for funding - private, medicaid, etc as well as muni contribution for start up funds. Part of RFP is a financial plan as well.

Suggestion to include insurance requirements to protect from liability (risk management).

Government has some immunity with policy making but it does not cover for implementation.

Meg asked Jim Wright to review sample contract and flag any concerns. Concern that the implementation will not go well and will have negative impacts on the neighborhood (Ron Alleva). Felix provided clarification - Golden Lion is not a shelter, never was a shelter, it is an inpatient substance treatment center. Pete Mjos provided clarification — it is a closed center, not open - they are under strict supervision for the 30 day stay. People will not be able to come and go at will, it will be fenced. Clients will be people who qualify for the program. One major gap we have is the time a client identifies this need and the time when they can get into this facility.

-One member offered up support for Meg and Felix and thanked them for incorporating council feedback into the RFP.

Q; Does this proposal still include step down housing? A: Vendors can provide what services that would like to offer (including step down housing) in the proposal. If that is an option then identify it would need to be addressed in all the areas of the Proposal (security, GNG, etc).

Q: Are the GNGs just strongly worded suggestions or is it something they need to hold to or they will lose their contract? (Beth A) A: Currently in draft form — now is the time to give feedback — would be helpful to have them give updates to community council, have a designee that works with the council - increase feedback. There is some more time with the GNGs as it is currently in draft.

Q: What is the timing on this? (Mike Savitt) A: RFP is out - Meg and Felix did try to get it delayed but were not successful. Feedback should be provided ASAP. Administration chose to release it now rather than delay/wait.

-Linda Chase thinks an additional committee should be formed to provide more input. Jim Wright agreed— there is an opportunity to provide feedback to alter the outcomes.

Steve Lindbeck: There have been 3 resolutions produced by members about this very topic. Jim was asked to do some legal work on what our authority is and how we can be constructive. There have been lots of good faith efforts to try to find common ground.

Question: Should we take a week or two now that we have the new RFP to provide more feedback and modify the resolution? Should we have an additional meeting?

Beth Abisoror - would be in favor of pulling their resolution in support of Jim's resolution. Mike Savitt also agreed to pull his resolution in favor of Jim Wright's resolution. Suggestion is to adopt the resolution then formulate amendments for RFP based on our resolution and their RFP. Dave Evans - point of order, Bylaws would require us to have a special meeting to approve feedback to administration.

Suggested Way to Proceed:

1. Vote on resolution from a few months ago
2. Beth has pulled 2nd resolution
3. Can vote on Jim Wright's's resolution tonight
4. Committee to create additional amendments and a special meeting will need to be held to approve amendments.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Summer meetings - Request to continue meeting over summer over Zoom. There is significant business that should be addressed. Mixed input from members - might need to take a break, not everyone is around/available. A lot of work from executive members. Concern about what will happen over the summer. Either as needed or limited agenda items (old business and new business). Decision deferred until next month's meeting.

b. Municipal Capital Improvements Process (CIP) – Heather Ireland

Muni gives a list of projects to community councils they would like ranked. List of projects will get emailed out - Survey will be emailed out and will be closed around May 12th. If new items are proposed, they can be emailed to Heather Ireland and Steve Lindbeck. Additional projects should be emailed by Friday. Meg Zalatel added that this was a critical year to add to the list because of possible federal infrastructure dollars.

c. Resolution regarding Seward Highway/36th Avenue Interchange Project

Moved and Seconded. No discussion. Vote: 23 in Favor, 0 Opposed, 5 Abstain

d. Resolutions regarding Class 3.3 Treatment Center at Golden Lion Hotel building (moved to this item before the other 3 since it was

-First resolution - dated Feb 8th, 2020 is on the table and will remain there

-Second resolution - dated March 8th, 2020 by Beth A has been withdrawn

-Third Resolution Dated 4/12/21 - Mike Savitt Moved - Ric Wilson Seconded. Jim

Wright discussed resolution and shared it with members.

Voting on approval of the Golden Lion Resolution (4/12/21): 38 in Favor, 2 Opposed, 1 Abstain

- Motion passed

VII. MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMENT

April 24th, 5pm (40-45 minutes) - History of Rogers Park Neighborhood — meeting will be recorded and slides will be posted.

Chugach Electric will have a vote for Board of Directors - link in the agenda

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 9:55pm