

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL
General Membership Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2021 — 7:01-9:25 PM
On ZOOM

Call to Order 7:01

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Leslie Kleinfeld, seconded by Jerome Lopes. Passes without objection.

Approval of February 2021 General Membership Meeting Minutes

Moved by Jerome Lopes, seconded by Leslie Kleinfeld. Passes without objection.

Elected Officials

Senator Tom Begich

Tom read out text of Memoriam for Regina Manteufel. Difficulties with universal pre-K bill. Differences have been worked out, on track to getting the bill. Authorship will be from a committee because of problems getting a Democrat to pass a bill. Vaccinations open to everyone over 16 for Pfizer. Moderna and Johnson and Johnson just for 18 and older. Hearings coming up on bills about Community Trust, Pay Equity and Minimum Wage, free tuition for essential services and others in high-risk jobs for COVID.

Tom proposed an income tax bill to raise \$1.4B. Governor does not support income tax, just sales tax.

Tom says he could support sales tax if it excludes food and other essentials.

Q from Allen Kemplen – since Congress passed the \$1.9T bill, what are the revenue implications for State of Alaska? Tom Begich – it will be \$1.2B coming to Alaska, Governor wants to invest a lot of it into long-term jobs – alternative energy. \$340M will come into the Dept of Education for pass through to school districts. Some will be held for universal pre-K, summer schools, \$40M for university system. The Governor supports the infrastructure bill proposed by Biden. This infusion of funds pushes the discussion about revenue back. We keep getting reprieves, but we need to diversify our revenue base or our state will never be able to sustain the gains we will make from the \$1.2B coming to Alaska.

Allen Kemplen – please continue to advocate for Fairview capital projects and the like. Tom Begich – you sent in your items for CAPSIS. Met with Governor, asked him not to veto those small projects.

Representative Zack Fields – not here, no staff person present

Anchorage Assembly member Christopher Constant

Launch Alaska is interested in the area around the old City Electric. There are opportunities for investment.

Question for Tom Begich – issues with COVID safety at Copper River Seafoods. Are you on top of ensuring the state is held accountable for its processes that seem to be in violation of the law? Tom Begich – please bring me up to speed at our meeting tomorrow.

ASD budget approval. Assembly's role is up or down vote. We didn't get a lot of feedback. Probably will pass with no problems at next meeting.

The Muni is moving through process of ending the emergency. Most mandates have been rescinded. Last remaining mandates are social distancing, some testing requirements, and masks. What is the plan for the mass shelter at Sullivan Arena? This question is before the administration now. The outcome of upcoming election will affect how we respond to homeless population. But there is a strong move to stop concentrating services for these populations in a small part of the city. Posted link to a vaccine appointment website in the chat box.

Election opens soon; closes April 6. Probably will have run-off on May 11. There is an effort by a small group to call into question our vote-by-mail process. Vote-by-mail has increased the number of people who vote.

Q from Leslie Kleinfeld – with the mandate on limitations lifted, I am concerned about travelers coming in through our airport. We've now suspended testing at the airport. We could get a whole new reinfection from people coming in from all over the world. Chris Constant – we don't have local authority over state policies. Emergency ends on April 16, but we can extend it if we need to. We all have a duty to get vaccinated, and to continue wearing masks in public and keeping social distance. Tom Begich – discussed this with Governor. Without an emergency order, he cannot have a mandate. He is stressing that the vaccines are open to everyone. In the Finance Committee in the House, Snyder and Zukowski presented their version of the emergency order bill. It's important to get vaccinated, wear a mask, and keep a distance.

Q from Chelsea Thompson – is there a collaborative discussion going on re: Sullivan Arena? Chris Constant – yes, many are involved. Government, developers, Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness, homeless and formerly homeless individuals, non-profits, Weidner Investments, etc. Conversation just started in earnest in the past two weeks. The big commitment of this administration and Assembly is to distribute the services into the areas where people are – day services and sleeping. Populations would be subdivided by need and interest.

Standing Reports

President Allen Kemplen

Comments submitted on non-motorized plan to AMATS. Upcoming summer activities include the neighborhood cleanup in early May. People should also think about participating in volunteer efforts at Eastchester Park. Will be planting trees to define edge of the park, probably in June. Utility boxes will be wrapped with artistic wraps. Will be issuing a request for artists to present ideas for designs of the five utility boxes there. It's an opportunity to add something artistic and creative in the neighborhood. We are moving forward, we were delayed, but we can restart some of the things we had to put on the shelf.

Treasurer Sharon Chamard

\$7 bank fee

Current balances:

General \$180; Comm. Dev. \$1,013; Beautification \$274; A Better Fairview \$8,285. Total \$9,752

Fairview Elementary School Bike Reading Program – currently \$2,250, two pending expenses of \$1,402.50 for helmets and shipping, \$711.37 for locks, bells, lights and shipping. Remainder \$136.13.

Presentations

Dr. Jocasta Olp, PharmD (AKDH&SS) – Science, Safety and What to Expect re COVID-19

Powerpoint presentation about vaccinations. Five key points: 1) it prevents most severe illness; 2) it prevents death, 3) there are common side effects, 4) severe adverse reactions are rare, and 5) vaccines provide individual and community protection.

Sandra Millhouse – change of ownership of Retail Marijuana Establishment license for Alaska Tasty Cannabis

SJ Klein (in chat) – the motion on this matter was tabled. Sandra Millhouse – I have put together a memorandum of understanding. SJ says he can send Sandra a template for the Neighborhood Responsibility Plan (NRP) and she can complete it and send it to him for review.

SJ Klein moves that the Fairview Community Council empower the council President to give AMCO notice of non-objection after seeing and approving the NRP based on the template we have used before. Leslie Kleinfeld seconded. Dave Rittenberg - Can we use the MOU Sandra has written up? SJ Klein – we haven't seen it. We'd prefer she use the standard template we have approved before. James Thornton – you've got a new license and a transfer of license. That's why this is complicated, because we had someone come in before and give a big show, but didn't follow up. The council needs to do what it is doing to show there are consequences to not doing what you said you would do. **Motion passes without objection.**

Dana Giliam and Joseph Giliam – new Retail Marijuana Establishment license for Highpothemia

Here to present to community about our proposed establishment on corner of 13th and Hyder. Looking forward to contributing in a positive way to the community. Still in the preliminary stages. Products sold at our store and security will be upmost of importance to us.

Dwayne Crofton – lives on Hyder within 150 feet of the proposed facility. Liquor store at 12th and Gambell was able to operate badly for years. It's taken years to get a sense of normalcy in the area after the liquor store was shut down. There is a marijuana shop within two blocks, within 10 blocks there are four marijuana shops. There used to be a big problem with traffic. I do not want that to happen again. Still cleaning up bottles along Hyder between 12th and 11th. Why can so many marijuana stores be allowed in such a small area? All the other shops are located in business areas, not this one. We need help with the residential areas. There are two 6-plexes on Hyder that have been on the market for a long time.

iPhone joe joe – Dwayne is correct about people driving on Hyder. Question to owners of property. It was office first, and now you are redoing the land as retail. How many parking spots do you need? What kind of security are you talking about. Dana Giliam – we will need two or three spots, we will be in compliance. We don't have all the details about security yet, but we will as we are further along in the process.

Allen Kemplen – it is good you are coming to the Council early. Now you get a sense of what the concerns of residents are. Please talk with us to figure out how to balance your entrepreneurial interests with the concerns of the neighborhood.

Joseph Giliam – we want to be on the same page as the neighbors. We don't plan to be open late. There won't be a problem around the store like there can be with liquor stores.

Allen Kemplen – suggests that Joseph Giliam reaches out to Dwayne Crofton so they can discuss their concerns together.

Unfinished Business

Fairview Community Council Resolution 2020-08 requesting the Municipality of Anchorage to modify its Snow Management Plan for the Karluk and Medfra Street hills south of 15th Avenue to resolve an unsafe pedestrian streetscape issue and to provide a safe snow-free sidewalk throughout the winter

Moved by Leslie Kleinfeld – Medfra and Karluk between 15th and 17th are very wide and snow is stored along the sidewalks. Would like for snow to be put in berms in a way that protects the sidewalks.

Seconded by Karen Gonne-Harrell – support resolution. These streets are heavily sanded. There is runoff. It pools up and creates ice rinks.

Laura Orenge de Gaffory – says if someone buys a sidewalk snowplow, she will plow sidewalks for free.

James Thornton – so many kids are walking on these streets and it is very dangerous. Support.

Barbara Johnson – this resolution is why I came tonight. Support.

Chelsea – I have issues on my street (Eyak) with city pushing snow against my fence and plowing in parking spaces that have been cleared out. They are also putting snow in my driveway.

Sandra Millhouse – does the city not plow sidewalks? SJ Klein – City has a snow removal plan, property owners are responsible for clearing sidewalks adjacent to their property.

No objection to the motion, motion passes.

New Business

Auditor's Report – Sharon Chamard screen-shared the report from the auditor, Darrel Hess.

Election – Allen Kemplen presented the slate of officers. Each gave a few words about why they wish to run.

President – Allen Kemplen

Vice President – SJ Klein

Secretary – Laura Orenge de Gaffory

Treasurer – Sharon Chamard

There were no additional nominations and the slate was approved without objection.

Allen Kemplen presented the slate of members-at-large. Each gave a few words about why they wish to run. Members-at-Large: Karen Gonne-Harrell, Denise Janson, Jerome Lopes, David Rittenberg and James Thornton.

Moved by James Thornton and seconded by David Rittenberg to extend meeting until 9:15.

There were no additional nominations and the slate was approved without objection.

Report and Updates

SJ Klein – we need to figure out when we will have the spring clean-up in May.

Community Comments

Barbara Johnson – Speeding traffic concern 17th and Karluk. Showed a map indicating speeding areas. Allen Kemplen – thanks for bringing this to our attention. We can put in a request to the municipal traffic engineer to come talk to us about the safety issues you've identified in this areas and what the options are for addressing them.

Maria Crawford – update on Books and Bikes Reading Challenge. Since last report, we received additional \$400 in donations. We're still waiting to get the quote for shipping additional items and for printing the brochures.

iPhone joe joe – Does the council have plans to meet again in person? Allen Kemplen – if the emergency order is lifted and the Fairview Recreation Center opens again, we might be able to use the room there. But currently the facility is being used as an overflow homeless shelter. iPhone joe joe – are you thinking about alternative locations? Allen Kemplen – yes, in the past we've met at the Anchorage Senior Center and at Central Lutheran Church.

Lindsey Hajduk – we are seeking nominations for Paint the Town. If you know someone who qualifies, please let them know. We really hope to have a home within Fairview.

<https://www.nwalaska.org/programs-events/paint-the-town>

lhajduk@nwalaska.org

Three candidates for School Board--Edgar Blatchford (seat E), Patrick Higgins (seat E), and Carl Jacobs (seat G)--each made some comments to introduce themselves and about why they are running.

Meeting Adjourned 9:25 pm