

# NECC

## Northeast Community Council      General Meeting Minutes February 18, 2021

Call to order: 705?

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of the Board

- **Board members present:**
- **Board members absent:**
- Motion to approve agenda; approved

Board Update

- **Treasurer's Report: \$3279.46**

FCC Update-Missed due to late recording

Community Concerns

- Cheryl Antenucci: SNAP program, provide programs and information for eligible members regarding supplemental nutrition. Working to increase the farmer's markets to use the SNAP. Wanted to introduce SNAP ed into the community and market.



Cheryl Antenucci (she, her, hers)  
SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator  
Anchorage Health Department  
825 L Street, Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: (907) 343-6880  
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- [cheryl.antenucci@anchorageak.gov](mailto:cheryl.antenucci@anchorageak.gov)

Legislative Reports

- **Senator Wielechowski:**
  - Senate finance meeting just about everyday and looking at the budgets of each of the 17 departments and he will be chairing that. Budget hoping to be done the first week of march. Will work out the budgets with the house and senates. Huge amount of deferred mantience backing up in the state.

- Disaster declaration governor can declare, and legislator can extend it, governor extended and there was no dispute about, but now back in session and there was a resolution to extend it the governor did not pass it. Food coalition expecting to lose 8 mil per month for SNAP benefits if not extended March 1<sup>st</sup>. Still trying to figure out the impacts of not extending the declaration.
  - Gettinga bout 13% of the value of oil, in the past it's been closer to 26%.
  - SB 14-review of judges. One of the better systems in the country,
  - Executive order 106 pages long regarding the split.
  - 465-2435 or e-mail me at [sen.bill.wielechowski@akleg.gov](mailto:sen.bill.wielechowski@akleg.gov)
- **Senator Holland**
    - SB 8 and 42-coming out with committee bill with some information. Chairing the education committee.
    - Be in contact if you have any questions.
- **Representative Nelson:**
    - Working on electing speakers of the house.
    - Joined house labor and commerce committee, joint armed forces committees, committee meetings start next week.
    - Talking to principals in the district and getting to know them and the needs of the school. Working on an issue with the Muni snow plowing banks onto the Muldoon elementary school entrance. Also connected with President Pitney of UAA and the “brain drain” of losing students to the lower 48 after high school.
    - Dave Ulmer encouraged him to support a trail/bike trail to connect to the downtown trails. Representative Nelson stated that it is federal land that belongs to the base as “private” and they usually prefer to hold onto it.
- **Representative Spohnholz:**
    - Representative Stutz from Kodiak has been voted speaker of the house
    - Moving quickly on the disaster declaration next week which impacts SNAP, testing facilities and vaccine distribution.
    - Ways and Means committee-last one was held in 2007. Used for three things 1) Ways to control state spending 2)identify ways to make government more efficient and 3)consider revenue if necessary. Peak of spending in 2013 unrestricted general funds was at \$7.8 billion, down about 45% in spending. Earnings revenues are not protected by the constitution. Permanent fund now makes up about 95% of revenue. Oil taxes used to bring in about 95% and now it is 23%.
    - First in the nation for vaccine distribution, public health, Indian health and military have all been working hard. Alaskans who make less than about 78,000 a year are eligible for rental assistance by March 5<sup>th</sup>. Not for homeowners, might be able to renegotiate.
    - Alaska renters who make less than \$77,840/year and experienced COVID-19 financial hardship may be eligible for up to 15 months in rent and utility

assistance. Apply b/w Feb. 16th at 8am & Mar. 5th at 11:59pm. Details at <http://AlaskaHousingRelief.org> or text "relief" to (833) 440-0420.

- Not currently supporting an income tax, a couple of bills have been introduced in the state house (Representatives Wool and Hannon have introduced one each).
- Representative Snyder:
  - Housing assistance. Working with their constituents via survey. Co-chairing the HHS and priority is working on the emergency declaration. Sitting on the judiciary and labor and commerce.

### **Assembly Report:**

- **Assemblypersons Petersen and Dunbar:**
  - No school district bonds on the ballot this year, smaller bond issues, if passed there will be projects for contractors and jobs. Cost of bonds will be about 1.9% or lower.
  - Reiterated the muni relief rent program, received \$35 million from the federal government and partnered with the Alaska Housing Finance Authority. Threshold has changed from 200,000 to 500,000.
  - Trend in crime is down per statistics (car thefts, burglaries, murders), more officers out patrolling the streets 100 more.
  - Extended the emergency declaration until Mid-April, thinking it would line up with the legislature, that did not work out. So far does not impact any of the grants the muni holds.
  - Bond regarding the policing equipment (body cameras), it is less expensive to lease than to buy because you get the automatic upgrades instead of needing to purchase it all over when an upgrade is needed.
  - Ordinances were brought to the last assembly meeting set to "replace" the emergency orders (turn the EOs into AO). A couple of them did pass or are likely to pass, license premises. The mask one did not pass (postponed indefinitely), bag ban is on hold with the EO and will go back into effect when the EO ends, would be suspended until the end of August.

### **Community Leadership Updates**

- JBER:
  - Joy Boston, directly responsible for relationships on base, JBER Community Partnerships, [joy.boston.2@us.af.mil](mailto:joy.boston.2@us.af.mil)
- Library
  - Muldoon Library will have limited services opening next week (computers for tax forms, PFDS, public assistance, rental assistance, job applications, etc) Tuesday the 23rd. Curbside and personal shoppers are still available.
  - Bob Reupke highlighted that Prop 2 includes upgrades for the library.

### **Candidate Forum:**

#### **Mayoral**

- George Martinez-george2021.com. Former special assistant to the mayor and NECC resident.
- Jeffrey Brown: Wants to bring people together, supports things we can do, needs to start looking at new revenue sources.
- Forrest Dunbar: Get past the current health crisis and get the economy back on track. <https://www.forrestdunbar.com/>
- Darin Colbry: Tired of how leadership is telling individuals what to do in EO, wants to decrease crime rate and homelessness. Anyone can call me and ask me questions if they want (907) 885-9630
- Joe Westfall: Not a politician, a businessman and engineer. Disheartened with the way things have become in the past year and wants to get things rolling again.
- Bill Evans: 1-grow private sector economy 2-decrease homelessness 3-solve the crime problem [www.VoteBillEvans.com](http://www.VoteBillEvans.com)
- Bill Falsey: best days are ahead of us, bill@falseyformayor.com, 907-529-7096 falseyformayor.com, <https://www.facebook.com/BillFalseyforMayor/>

#### School Board

- Seat B
  - Judy Norton Eledge: former teacher and principal, then teaching coach. Wants to help students be all that they can be. [judy@sbcandidates.com](mailto:judy@sbcandidates.com)
  - Marilyn Stewart Richardson: Children need to be back in school with guidelines, worked in government and is a veteran. All about the children.
  - Mark Anthony Cox: Contemporary perspective (black indigenous person of color and a millennial, product of east side schools and UAA) 907-406-4921 [facebook.com/VoteMarkAnthonyCox](https://www.facebook.com/VoteMarkAnthonyCox), [MarkAnthonyCox4SchoolBoard@gmail.com](mailto:MarkAnthonyCox4SchoolBoard@gmail.com)
  - Kelly Lessens: worked alongside school board past 2 years, child centered decision making, [www.kelly4anchoragekids.com](http://www.kelly4anchoragekids.com), Facebook at @Kelly4AnchorageKids.
- Seat E
  - Alisha Hilde: Incumbent, motivations to improve learning call/text 720-1060, email [vote@alishahilde.com](mailto:vote@alishahilde.com), [alishahilde.com](http://alishahilde.com)
  - Edgar Blatchford: Comes from a working/union background, teaches at UAA. <https://edgarblatchfordschoolboard2021.godaddysites.com/>, <https://www.facebook.com/Edgar-Blatchford-PhD-Anchorage-School-Board-2021-100545308721165>, [edgaredkids2021@gmail.com](mailto:edgaredkids2021@gmail.com)
  - Rachel Blakeslee: former teacher in title 1 school, improve opportunities for children, [www.blakesleeforschoolboard.com](http://www.blakesleeforschoolboard.com)
  - Sami Graham: product of ASD, former teacher/counselor/principal, equitable access and high expectations, [samigraham.com](http://samigraham.com)
  - Nial Sherwood Williams: immediately reopen schools, represent every child and family (907) 717-9647, [nial.williams@gmail.com](mailto:nial.williams@gmail.com)
- Seat F

- Dora Wilson: Product of and truly believe in public education, career and life readiness, <https://dorawilsonforschoolboard.com/> 907-884-8584  
[dorawilsonforschools@gmail.com](mailto:dorawilsonforschools@gmail.com)
- Seat G
  - Carl Jacobs: former licensing specialist, bring increased leadership and engagement <https://www.carl4anchorage.com/>

1:03

**Presentations:**

- Traffic Calming
- COVID-19 Vaccine
  - Status Updates: [covidvax.alaska.gov](https://covidvax.alaska.gov)
  - COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Call Center: 907-646-3322, 2-1-1 or 1-800-478-2221
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

**New Business:**

- Liquor License renewals: JJ's Sports Bar and El Rodeo, no objections or questions noted.

**Old Business:**

- Roller Rink Rezone
- Resolution
  - For-11
  - Against-0
  - Abstain-2

**Committees:**

- Parks and Trails will meet April 8th.

**Business conducted between NECC members and Muni:**

- Rachel emailed back and forth about the library and park bonds
- Selina spoke with Steve about the Park reservation.

Motion to adjourn at 9:17 pm