

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL
General Membership Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2021 — 7:00-9:00 PM
On ZOOM

Call to Order 7:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda – No quorum to approve

Approval of June 2021 General Membership Meeting Minutes - no quorum to approve

Elected Officials

Senator Tom Begich

Email: sen.Tom.begich@akleg.gov

- End of session discussion - Passing the budget
 - Fiscal plan discussion with multiple members of Senate to draft plan to present to Senate
 - Last day of the special session - agreement to pass a budget to send to the Governor
 - Governor vetoed projects - tourism, seafood, long trail
 - Second special session to be scheduled in August or fall
- Vic Fisher Day bill is still with Governor Dunleavy to be signed

Questions and Comments

- Leslie: Will the state shut down?
 - Sen. Tom: No it will not. The PFD has been zeroed and put at risk. Money taken/cut from Pre-K and libraries, the long trail funding, half the seafood marketing, health workers, Alaska legal services, and the university system.
- Allen: Thank you for your service.

Representative Zack Fields

Questions or comments? Call (907) 465-2647, rep.zack.fields@akleg.gov or tristan.walsh@akleg.gov

- Added to what Sen. Begich said funding vetoed was federal money. \$3M sent back. Claimed it was new spending, growth and the government. Creates risk to the education system without the repairs. Long trail network was vetoed that would attract tourism throughout Alaska. Human services funding - vetoed because he didn't want to grow the government, cutting funding to 800 domestic violence survivors.
- Under new mayor Dave Bronsen - need more investment in mental health and shelter space in Anchorage.

Questions and comments

- Leslie: Is there anything the community can do to support both of you in action?
 - Rep. Zack Fields: be more aware of funding and public education. The PFD funded ⅓'s of state programs. Overdrawing the permanent fund should be off table, it earns less this way. Honoring the market structure because it's important to human services.
- Leslie: Is there any discussion on a state income tax?
 - Rep. Zack Fields: Will vote for new revenue, increase economic development, and in turn can give out a larger dividend. Sales tax is popular with republicans. hard to design - doable and harder.

- Sen. Begich: I proposed an income tax and the governor will likely veto it.

Anchorage Assembly member Christopher Constant

Questions or comments? Christopher.Constant@anchorageak.gov

- Selected as Vice Chair.
- Homeless Services Update - Mayor proposed \$15M 800 - 1000 people homeless shelter. Waiting on more details prior to approval. Suggested compromise with number of people to house.
 - Working on a special meeting next week.
 - Emergency order changes made - housing 150 people per structure.
 - Concerned with current tactics of getting people there and keep them there - regarding locking homeless people up without due process of the law.
 - Leading confirmation process - five hearings tomorrow and five votes the following week. The rest will be heard Aug. 24.
 - Haven for Hope - shelter difference \$100M/\$20M annual. Anchorage will need more resources to not impact the neighborhood. Can't support a project that will drown another neighborhood as it did Fairview.
 - FCC would like to see a plan that works - humane as possible.
- Chief McCoy confirmation on July 27. First African-American chief of police in Anchorage. Everyone is invited.
- Cannabis renewal is coming up in August.
- Mayor came up with an idea on extending Merrill Field for jets. Working with Mayor on educational facility.

Questions and comments

- Leslie: Why was the Alaska Club declined?
 - Politics. Said he didn't want to be sued.
- What is your take on the 400-1000 people in one place Dave?
 - Dave R: I believe smaller facilities are the way to go. This would cause less neighborhood impact.
- Allen: I cannot see the reason to give up diversifying homeless services in Anchorage.
 - Chris Constant: There will be a public hearing on this topic
- Allen: Administration is reorganizing?
 - Chris: Yes, new job titles have been added. Tomorrow we will have a work session on briefing of confirmation process and hearing for Amy Dembowski with a briefing of the proposed new administration.
- Allen: Look into the notion of expanding the free trade zone down at the port. This could be an incentive to attract international corporations and businesses.

Anchorage School Board Member Dora Wilson

Contact: Wilson_Dora@asdk12.org

- Not present

Questions and comments

- None

Standing Reports

President Allen Kemplen

- AMATS: released an Issue Response summary to the non-motorist plan. The FVCC made several recommendations in a past resolution. Almost all were accepted except dealing with snow removal on sidewalks.
 - Will include Fairview Greenway improvements in the documents
- Community Garden 14th and Ingra: Copies of agreement with DOT and Muni will be reviewed and FCC will move forward.
- Chris Constant: Working with Denise at Carrs on the Mural - May be requesting donations on a lift rental for the artist in upcoming weeks.

Questions and comments

none

Treasurer Sharon Chamard

- No Action and no bank fee
- Current balances: Total \$11,741
 - General: \$179
 - Community Development: \$1,013
 - Beautification: \$274
 - A Better Fairview: \$10,275

Vast majority of funds are for specific projects.

Questions and comments

- Leslie: When you say its targeted, is that for the Fairview bike project?
 - Sharon: No, that money's been spent. Eastchester Park improvements and community gardens. This is money fundraised for specific projects and set aside and can't be used for other things.

Presentations

Eastchester Park Improvements - Allen Kemplen

- FVCC working with parks department to get into the system.
- Discussions with Chugach Electric for easements and wrapping of utility boxes. Also talks with GCI on wrapping their boxes as well.
 - Asked permission to allow wrap utility and Chugach denied permissions due to safety concerns. Did not want people attracted to the utility boxes that may create a safety hazard.
- Anchorage Parks - Planter boxes
 - Spruce killed trees for logs will be used for raised garden beds that will be placed throughout the trail.
 - Donated logs are currently being stripped by Allen at his home.
 - Looking for volunteers to help strip logs at Orca Street. Sunday log stripping BBQ is scheduled for Sunday afternoon. Contact Allen if you would like to attend.
- Site Plan Photo examples -
 - Idea to plant trees, shrubs and log planter boxes along utility easement length and around utility boxes. Waiting on approval.
 - planter boxes are sustainability themed - berries, rhubarb, and wildflowers

- Parks and Rec commission meeting considering FCC's plan set for July 8.
 - If approved, activities to occur in August.

Questions and comments

- Leslie: What is the plan for planting and maintenance?
 - Allen: Planting will be done by volunteers. Looking for neighborhood volunteers in the second half of August. Could make this an event with food trucks and music. Regarding Maintenance, the parks will water with the water trucks. This is part of their regular routine watering. Let people know about the opportunities to help out.
 - Sharon: Beautification Committee was successful in the past with the diverters, may need to have a new organized effort.
 - Leslie: suggest getting 10-15 community members to volunteer to upkeep the planters.

Unfinished Business

Eastchester Park Improvements discussed above.

New Business

- none

Report and Updates

- none

Community Comments

- none

Meeting Adjourned 8:44 pm Motioned by Leslie, Seconded by David.