

Rogers Park Community Council
Meeting Minutes
General Council Meeting - September 13, 2021
Via Zoom

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Steve Lindbeck, President called the meeting to order at 6:53 pm.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Peter Mjos moved to approve Meeting Minutes from May 10, 2021, Marilyn Pillfant seconded the motion. no corrections or objections, Meeting Minutes Approved
- III. FINANCIAL REPORT: Ric Wilson, Treasurer. Present balance is \$605, expenditures during the summer were \$159 for garden efforts
- IV. FCC REPORT: Jim Wright, FCC Representative. No Report, first meeting of FCC will be on September 22nd via zoom
- V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- a. Crime & Safety Committee** - Linda Chase, Chair
- Discussion regarding homelessness and the current differing opinions between the Mayor's office and the Assembly. A new contract has been given to 99 Plus 1, Inc. to maintain the Sullivan Arena shelter. There are public committee meetings on homelessness the 3rd Wednesday of every month.
 - Mike Savitt is interested in chairing the Crime and Safety Committee
- b. Garden & Beautification Committee** - Gretchen Cuddy gave report for Zach Zaletel, chair
- Thanks to all who helped with summer gardening efforts! Findings from the summer garden work include: plan for more flowers next year to fill the planters and more neighbors to split the watering responsibility
- c. Seward Highway Project (36th Avenue Interchange)** - Bob Butera, Chair and Sean Baski, DOT
- Seward Highway Project is now renamed 36th Avenue Interchange, Sean Baski gave an overview of the project. The project is currently state funded, the goal is to make it federally funded. A question was asked about timeline. Sean Baski said no sooner than 2025-2026, depending on federal funding.
- d. Capital Improvements Committee** -
- Bob Butera stated that the committee is looking for a member from College Village area.
- e. New Officers Committee** - Linda Chase, chair
- Linda provided the slate for new officers and asked for other suggestions, none were given. The slate gave personal introductions: Pete Mjos for President, Scott McMurren for Vice President, Cassandra Raun for Secretary, Ric Wilson for Treasurer
- VI. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS
- Legislative reports:**
- a. House District 17* - Representative Andy Josephson

- Gave a brief report, mentioning special session and highlighting discussions around House Bill 3006

b. House District 18 - Representative Harriet Drummond - NOT PRESENT

c. Senate District I - Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson

- Provided overview of Fiscal Plan Working Group and House Bill 3003
- See Attached Written Report

Anchorage School Board Report:

a. School Board Representative - Carl Jacobs

- Discussed the work around keeping ASD schools open and symptom free

Anchorage Assembly Reports:

a. Seat F - Meg Zaletel

- Cited concern that new acting director for Solid Waste Services may intend to privatize
- Discussed work on homelessness, including the search for new facility site and collaboration between the Assembly and the Mayor's office toward a shared goal of housing and shelter
- Note was made of member concern about alley refuse pick up for Rogers Park
- See Attached Written Report

b. Seat G - Feliz Rivera

- Top priorities are mask care and homelessness. Also working on on-boarding for the new mayoral administration
- The assembly is discussing options for the continuation of the plastic bag ban
- Regarding re-districting, the Assembly is working on forming a committee. New maps would need to be submitted to the clerk by December 5 for the April 2022 election
- See Attached Written Report

VII. NEW BUSINESS: Election of Officers for 2021-2022 Year

a. Steve Lindbeck asked for any objections to the officer slate, none were given.

Vote was called by a raise of hands via Zoom reaction - 44 votes in favor

Vote in opposition by a raise of hands via Zoom reaction - 0 votes against

All proposed officers elected

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEMBER COMMENTS

a. Marilyn Pillifant provided the number for Mark Butler, FCC contact 907-277-1977

b. Joy Boston gave a JBER report

- September 19 - 9th Army Band performing at UAA Alaska Airlines Center grand re-opening
- September 19-20 Alaska Native Heritage Center Suicide Prevention Subsistence Camp
- New US Army Alaska (USARAK) Commander, Major General Eifler took command in July

c. Dr. Savitt - please get vaccinated! If you are exposed or symptomatic, please get tested right away and contact your health provider if positive. Monoclonal antibody treatment should be given as soon as possible.

d. Sara Dykstra - brought attention to Meg Zaletel's recall election
IX. ADJOURNMENT: Steve Lindbeck passed meeting adjournment to President elect Peter Mjos. Meeting Adjourned at 8:38pm



**Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Roger's Park Community Council
September 13, 2021**

Happy September everyone!

It's been a good summer and I hope everyone was able to enjoy it with your friends and family. The school year has begun, and I wish our kids a great and safe school year.

Fiscal Plan Working Group Final Report

This summer, the Legislature established a bicameral, bipartisan, Fiscal Plan Working Group (FPWG) for the purpose of developing policy recommendations that will provide fiscal certainty to Alaskans through means of achieving a balanced budget and resolving the annual dispute over the PFD. The FPWG conducted both informational hearings and internal work sessions dedicating 71 total hours and unanimously adopted fiscal budget assumptions. The FPWG also unanimously agreed that the following were necessary parts of a comprehensive solution:

- Constitutional, single-account Permanent Fund structured withdrawals limited by POMV.
- Constitutional certainty for the PFD.
- New POMV-based PFD formula
- Healthy Capital Budget
- New Revenues
- Budget Reductions
- Spending Cap reform
- Several-year “transition period” with one-time fiscal measures
- Spending cap reform.
- New POMV-based formula.
- Constitutional Budget Reserve reform
- Process – Always keeping in mind what can realistically pass the Legislature.



**Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Roger's Park Community Council
September 13, 2021**

House Bill 3003

HB 3003 was moved out of the House Finance Committee on Wednesday, August 25th. After a lengthy amendment process, the Bill passed the House on August 31st with a vote of 24/16. Some of the highlights of the appropriations Bill follows:

- Fully funds Alaska's student scholarship programs
- \$3.3 million to WWAMI Medical Education
- \$1.487 billion one-time transfer from the earnings reserve account to the CBR (Constitutional Budget Reserve)
- \$11.7 million to Alaska Performance Scholarship Awards
- \$1,100 PFD

HB 3003 included a \$2,300 PFD but, on August 24th, the House Finance Committee amended the Bill to reduce the PFD to \$1,100. The Bill was also amended to pay over \$100 million in owed oil tax credits. In addition to HB 3003, there are several other bills introduced on new revenues and more. The special session ends on September 14th, 2021.

I was honored to have Governor Dunleavy sign Senate Bill 47 on Wednesday August 25th which will make it easier for people who experience a disability to acquire disability plates. Prior to this Bill passing, only Doctors, Nurses and PAs could provide the needed proof. The Bill will allow speech-language pathologists, physical therapists, and occupational therapists to provide proof of disability for Alaskans to obtain their plates. A very special thank you to Representative Story for carrying the bill in the House.

Always representing your interests!

Interim: 907 269-0174 Session: 907-465-4930



**Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Roger's Park Community Council
September 13, 2021**

Email: Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov, Keith.Bauguess@akleg.gov or Besse.Odom@akleg.gov

Assembly Update

In This Issue

Confirmations Complete

COVID Update

Housing Support

Confirmation Updates

The Assembly approved all Mayoral executive appointments (AMs 492, 494, 495, 496, 497, and 508-2021) brought before us on August 10th. These appointments included Karl Raszkievicz as Management and Budget Director, Adam Trombley as Director of office of Economic and Community Development, Marcus Dahl as Information Technology Director, Saxton Shearer as director of Maintenance and Operations, Lance Wilber as Director of Public Works, and Christina Hendrickson as Director of Real Estate. Due to his resignation, the Assembly did not consider the appointment of former Acting Anchorage Health Department Director, David Morgan.

Honoring Mayor Fink

The Assembly approved AR 2021-255, a resolution to honor former Mayor Tom Fink for his service to the Municipality of Anchorage. Tom Fink served as Mayor from 1988 to 1994 and was well known for using the power of the veto. By the end of his tenure, Mayor Fink had used the veto approximately 160 times.

Street Naming Changes

In response to concerns about the process of a 2019 street renaming project, Assembly Members Crystal Kennedy and Jamie Allard brought forward AO 2021-69. This ordinance, approved by the Assembly, changed the notice requirements in Title 21 to require that notice of any proposed street name change be mailed to the local Community Council.

Liquor License Postponed

At the request of the Midtown Community Council, the Assembly postponed action on an Alcohol Special Land Use Permit for Northern Lights Liquor, AR 2021-248. The Council raised a variety of public health and safety concerns regarding this package store liquor license. This resolution was referred to the Assembly Public Safety Committee meeting of September 1 and will be back before the body for consideration on September 14.

Certificate of Ownership System Removed

Continuing the work started with AO 2020-90, Assembly Member Felix Rivera and Vice Chair Christopher Constant brought forward AO 2021-72 to assist the taxicab industry. This ordinance, amended and approved by the Assembly, removed the certificate of ownership (CoO) system from Municipal code. The CoO, according to the sponsors, limited the transferability of legacy permits and destroyed their economic value.

Featured Content

Confirmations Completed

The Assembly completed the final round of Mayor Bronson's executive appointments, AMs 505, 506, and 509-2021. These appointments included Rachele Ager for Purchasing Director, Sami Graham for Librarian, and Mike Robbins for Executive Director of the Anchorage Community Development Authority. Sami Graham was not confirmed, but was promoted to Chief of Staff to the Mayor. We congratulate Ms. Graham on her position and look forward to working with her. The Mayor has submitted Judy Norton- Eledge for consideration as the Librarian.

Houseless Advisory Board

Assembly Member Felix Rivera brought forward an ordinance to create a Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board, AO 2021-76 this month. According to the sponsor, this item would systematize inclusion of those with lived experience of houselessness into the work of the Municipality of housing and homelessness. Unfortunately, this item was vetoed by Mayor Bronson earlier this month. The Board may still be established via veto override by the Assembly.

Housing Assistance Funding

The Municipality of Anchorage will be receiving another \$26.9M of federal funds for rental and utility assistance, AR 2021-261. This resolution will allow us to accept the funds. Federal guidelines dictate that the funds must be used for rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utility and home energy arrears, and other expenses related to housing incurred directly or indirectly due to the pandemic.

Vision Document Updates

In 2019, the Assembly approved AR 2019-436, a resolution establishing and adopting the Assembly's Vision and Goals for 2019 to 2021. The priority areas in this approved document included: Homelessness, Communications, Public Safety, Economic Development, and Quality of Life. As the Assembly prepares to update this document, Vice Chair Christopher Constant and Assembly Members Felix Rivera and Kameron Perez-Verdia have brought forward AR 2021-262 for the body to consider. This resolution does two things: 1) adds Equity as a priority area for the Assembly's Vision and Goals for 2022 to 2024 and 2) reconfirms the Assembly's commitment to the goals of Welcoming Anchorage and Welcoming America. This resolution passed on August 24 (no individual public hearing).

Winter Housing Plan

The Administration and Vice Chair Christopher Constant and Assembly members John Weddleton and Meg Zaletel are engaged in a facilitated dialogue to discuss an interim plan for mass care for winter 2021/2022 as well as evaluate long term plans to address the shortage of shelter within the community.

The facilitated process was discussed at the Assembly's Committee on Housing and Homelessness on August 18 and further updates will be provided to the public and full Assembly through work sessions. The next work session update is scheduled for September 1.

COVID Updates

Due to increase demand, the administration has put forward an ordinance to finance additional testing and vaccination services in the Municipality, AO 2021-75, in the amount of approximately \$8M. It is expected that these funds will be fully reimbursed by State and Federal assistance. You can learn more about testing opportunities at: <https://anchoragecovidtest.org/>.

You can learn more about vaccine opportunities at: <https://anchoragecovidvaccine.org/>.