

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL
General Membership Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021 — 7:00 - 9:00 PM
ON ZOOM

Call to Order - 7:00 pm

- Welcome and Introductions - 23 people in attendance, 18 members present
- Approval of Agenda - Sj so moved, second by Dave
- Approval of September 2021 General Membership Meeting Minutes - Laura motions, Karen seconds

Elected Official

Senator Tom Begich

Email: sen.Tom.begich@akleg.gov

Ms. Tobin in place of Sen. Tom Begich, who is traveling

- 4th special session was called. Unable to get quorum due to COVID cases. 2nd session of the 32nd legislature is hopeful to be fruitful - looking forward to January.
- Reminder to be kind, to move forward together the first step is being kind to each other and your neighbors.

Questions and Comments

None

Representative Zack Fields

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

not present

Anchorage Assembly member Christopher Constant

Christopher.Constant@anchorageak.gov

Not present

Anchorage School Board member Dora Wilson

Contact: Wilson_Dora@asdk12.org

- Upcoming meetings:
 - The next board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 19 at 6pm, a work session is at 4pm.
 - Youth leadership summit Friday is Oct. 22 - 150 high school students to attend from all Anchorage schools
 - The renaming of East Highschool is at noon.
- Focusing on reading for second graders and math skills as well as high school financial training
- Principal appreciation month is October. Take a moment to appreciate the work of the principals

ANC Fire Department

Capt. Lex 267-5001

- Capt. Lex is new to Station 1, Downtown
- Rolling closures are happening. Go over budget, so 9pm - 9am closing down the back end. This means that some rigs are closed, and staff moved to other stations.
- Still have emergency services, but there will be a gap.
- If you don't like this, I will encourage you to let the fire chief and mayor know.
- Safety moment - a good time to check your smoke and CO2 alarms.

Questions or Comments?

- Sharon: I know that this truck you talked about is special. What if you get a call that needs that specialized truck? What will be dispatched?

- Capt. Lex: HAZMAT and water rescued are specific teams, and they will respond as long as there are enough members. Yes, they would go. To run the Tiller, it takes 4 people, which is unique. So it will remain out of service until it's fully staffed.
- Karen: Will this slow down response time?
 - Capt. Lex: There will be a 20% change of delayed response or a coverage gap. Anytime you take a rig out of service, there is that gap.
- Karen: On a happier note, I took my grandson down to station 1, and so thank you, it was great!
- Allen: At some point, we would appreciate and be helpful to give a presentation to the council on the fire department's action plan and strategy if there is a wildfire in our public spaces and green belts.
 - Capt. Lex: Just know that all of us are an urban fire interface and do seasonal refreshers. All are equipped with the proper gear. We respond to fires in the woods daily and are diligent in putting them out and digging them up.

Standing Reports

President Allen Kemplen

- Eastchester Park update - There was a hiccup due to power lines with Eastchester Park and we continue working with the Parks.
- Community garden initiative – Working on finalizing documents – will take time to review this month to complete and send in.

Questions or Comments

None

Treasurer Sharon Chamard

- No update, same as last month and no change since May.
- Current balances: Total \$11,741
 - General: \$179
 - Community Development: \$1,013
 - Beautification: \$274
 - A Better Fairview: \$10,275

Presentations

Parks and Rec Fairview Recreation Center Master plan - *Presented by Taylor Keegan - Landscape architect*

- Call for volunteers! To sign up for updates or to participate in the Fairview Recreation Center Master Plan Community Advisory Group, please follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DWY2GJN>
- Undergoing master plan for the Recreation Center - opportunity to check out what is going on at the rec center. There are some maintenance things to deal with and find out what the community wants. What are the community needs? Hopes and dreams for space.
- Weight rooms, pottery studio, basketball court, dance room, and event space. The indoor playground is going through an approval process.
- Timeline - within a year. Looking for community members to join the advisory group.
- Nicolette Dent Nicolette.dent@anchorageak.gov and Dorena Bingham (rec supervisor) present

Questions and Comments

- Karen: I saw that it costs \$3 to go in? What are the age group and hours for the indoor playground?
 - A: still refining fees and hours of the playground. Custom designed for the space, 5 - 12 school-age small area for 2-5yr olds. Don't know when it will open - still working on staffing and sanitation needs.
- Allen: I have the 2009 study for the center, and it would be good to review.
 - A: Could I have a copy of that? Was it driven by parks and rec?
 - Allen: Yes, Parks and rec contracted it out.
- Karen: In trying to afford recreational opportunities for families, making something like this competitive and appealing, like gyms like the Alaska Club, I would be interested in brainstorming how to be user-friendly.

Fairview Elementary School Halloween Activities - *Presented by Monica Ratliff ratliff_monica@asdk12.org*

- Working with students on behavior, if you haven't seen in the news with the tik tok challenges and COVID. Trying to get back in the groove while the building is under construction. Many new families and staff at the school are working to build those relationships and trust.
- The first family night of the year was in September. Many parents haven't been to the school before. Very positive event. The following family night is Oct. 28, with a focus on drug prevention and red ribbon week. That day will have a drug prevention workshop and a trunk or treat.
- Call for candy and prize donations from the community for the Trunk-or-Treat event

Questions and Comments

- Maria: Chris and I are excited to support Monica in this event. Earlier this year, the slow roll program was ended early due to COVID case numbers. I was happy to hear this is happening through the school and will be supporting this program. Thank you, Monica, for sharing with us today.

Redistricting and What it Means - *Presented by Alex Baker*

- Here is the website for the Alaska Redistricting Board: <https://www.akredistrict.org>
- Redistricting 2020 process with census data done every ten years based on the population. Right now, the process of new maps is happening. AK has a nonpartisan approach, and there are five representatives chosen.
- Ongoing meetings throughout Alaska. Can go to meetings or email comments/questions.
- I encourage everyone to look at the maps on the provided website.
- You can voice your opinion on senate pairing as well.

Questions and Comments

- Sharon: If we have a neighborhood like Fairview that has disadvantages, does it benefit the neighborhood to be divided into more districts or stay in a single district?
 - A: This is subjective. My initial thoughts are that it is best to have a representative of a larger voting block. May not feel heard, like Valdez, who is lumped into the mat so valley. In my opinion, you do what the neighborhood does to stay in one district.
- Allen: This happened to us before and was split into two districts. We have had reps and constituents that understand the neighborhood well. Then others don't understand. Having two representatives for the neighborhood seemed to be advantageous.
- SJ: What is best for Fairview may not be best for the parties.
- LG Tobin: Alex, how might this impact the 12th member of the Assembly?
 - A: Chris Constant would be the one to ask about this during your next meeting.
- Jenny Jones: What is the public comment deadline?
 - A: Nov. 10 will decide. The best time is now because they are forming their thoughts and opinions now. I wouldn't submit anything later than the end of October.

Unfinished Business

- none

New Business

- The Impacts of Mentally Ill Individuals on the Community
 - SJ - I know that Denise is at her wit's end with an individual at Carrs. Alaska stopped providing mental health services to the public 10 years ago. API no longer has beds, so they are now on the streets. We are the neighborhood that Anchorage likes to stuff its problems. I will talk about the homeless committee in my section.
 - Allen - good for the council to think about, that it would be possible for the FCC to be more proactive on this issue. If the membership thought it important enough, we could reach out to the mental health authority to request a presentation to the council on the issues and challenges we face. An entity in Alaska provides the funding for these beds, and it would be important to know the priorities because they may be misplaced.

- Karen: Officer Adolf has a team focused on the mentally ill. They may be able to do a presentation on what they are doing and share some ideas.
- Jenny - I'm wondering, that mobile medical unit that was presented a few months ago- will they have any capacity to address mental illness as well?
- Push back the dark - neighborhood enhancement - *Allen Kemplen*
 - This builds on comments on how COVID has changed people's lives and behaviors. For some, it's becoming disruptive and losing our sense of community. This could be because we do not see enough positive things for the neighborhood. It will be dark this winter and could be made worse. SAD is a real issue and impacts people's mental health.
 - The council could help organize a neighborhood initiative to encourage property owners and businesses to brighten our dark. Like Mayor Mistrum tried to do in the past, to beautify Anchorage. The council can help promote or co-sponsor a contest for the best lighting with prizes from local businesses and contributions from locals. Push back that darkness and negativity. Have judging in Mid-February. Give a reason to drive through the neighborhood to see the lights.
 - Jenny: I love it! Great idea!
 - Karen: I love it. Also, I already have the Halloween lights up.
 - Allen: I Will put this in old business and reach out to the FV Business to see if we can have something together for the next meeting. Then we can start promoting this in the neighborhood. Everyone that is here talks to your neighbors to put up some lights!

Report and Updates

Progress on the EPA Environmental and Justice Grant

- Sharon - submitted our proposal with NeighborWorks Alaska as the physical agent of the funds. Received notice that there was a delay.

PEL grant

- Been contacted by HDR consultant by DOT for the PELL. Starting up their first strategy. Limits on public engagement. They seem to be dissolved on this committee, impacting community councils. I will have more to report next month.
- Please share your information if you would like more information on this.
 - The Third Avenue Radicals would like to be part of the PEL ad hoc and Ms. Tobin with Senator Begich's office.

Merrill Field Update

- This will be a standing item under-report and updates. One main thing to report is that we have been working with the manager of Merrill Field for some time. Looking at ways to beautify Orca street. Reported to the MAC last month. Requested the list and can provide guidance.
- Construction is almost completed - wrapping up now.
- Allen - I encourage people to download that noise app and monitor the noise levels from Merrill Field to develop a stronger track record of what we are experiencing in the neighborhood. You can get this on the FCC website under noise concerns.

Fairview Homeless Sub- Committee

- SJ - the committee was formed after last month's meeting after many members raised concerns. Had an ad hoc meeting after and formed the subcommittee.
 - The second meeting will be next Thursday.
 - Email the council if you would like to become involved.
 - There will be a resolution ready for next months meeting

Community Comments/Concerns

- Keelin Baughman - 343-2904, keelin.baughman@anchorageak.gov
Storytime, Tuesday at 6pm and Friday at 10:30 at Dave Rose Park. Moving indoors in November.
LEGO Club, Every Saturday in October from 2-4pm at Mt. View Library.
Live Painting Demonstration with Will Kozloff, Nov. 6 at Noon at Mt. View Library.
- Jenny Jones - Who are the Third Avenue Radicals? Jim Renkert: We are a collection of businesses, property owners from Karluk down to Cordova. Inclusive as well. Gathered together because my family has owned property at 3rd and gamble for many years. A while ago, we discovered a real problem down there. Wanted to be a solution, not a problem. Focused on the assets in the area. I encourage you to come to the meetings.
- Laura - I encourage everyone to walk your block and pick up the trash before the snow sticks. Thank you!
- Karen - Please clear the leaves from the gutters as well. This helps with flooding. To the radicals - I heard that you have helped develop a plan for the old hospital site. It has been rezoned and is overseen by the muni.

Adjourn Allen motioned and seconded.

Information about Zoom

At the March 2020 General Membership Meeting, there was discussion about moving to a different method for future meetings because of the importance of avoiding gatherings during this time of COVID-19, and an ad hoc committee was created to explore options. The Fairview Recreation Center was closed the next day. Subsequently, the ad hoc committee recommended that we use a virtual meeting interface application called Zoom.

Zoom is used quite a bit in business settings and is fairly user-friendly. It can be used on smartphones, tablets, laptops, and desktops. But it has its limitations with respect to bandwidth. In ordinary times, it is possible to see the faces of other meeting participants (assuming everyone has a webcam), but given the recent massive increase in use of the internet the guidance has changed, so we ask meeting participants to do the following:

- Do not use your video camera
- Make sure your microphone is muted

These will be the default settings when you join the meeting, so don't worry if you're not sure how to do this.

Also, we will be using the chat box feature in Zoom for asking questions and for making comments, although if anyone really wants to speak, they can request this in the chat box and will then be "unmuted." This may sound a bit harsh, but it's the virtual meeting equivalent of raising your hand and being recognized by the chair.

How Do I Access Zoom?

- 1) If you want to connect using a smartphone or some other device connect to the internet, go to this URL:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84049110076>
- 2) If you are on a regular phone and want to connect using audio only, there are several dial-in numbers. After you're connected, enter 840 4911 0076# on your keypad.

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US
- 3) If the audio on your internet-connected device is not working properly (usually because of how your speakers are configured), you can also try dialing in on a regular phone to get the audio.