

MEETING MINUTES
Rogers Park Community Council
General Council Meeting
Meeting Via Zoom
December 13, 2021

- I. **Call to Order, Rules of Conduct:** Pete Mjos called the meeting to order at 6:52pm. Cassandra Raun confirmed quorum. Pete emphasized the importance of Robert's Rules of Order pertaining to motions and read the rules listed below aloud:
 - A. Robert's Rules of Order
 1. No member may speak more than twice to the same motion on the same day.
 2. No member may speak a second time until everyone who wishes to speak has done so once
 3. Non members are not allowed to speak to a motion. An exception is an invited guest with knowledge of the motion's issue
 4. Debate is to be focused on "the measure, not the member" and be germane to the motion

*Exceptions to the first three points are allowed by a 2/3 vote of the members
- II. **Welcome Message:** Sara Dykstra welcomed the community during the dark and cold season of winter and encouraged members to consider what they love about the neighborhood. For example, Sara's sons love seeing all the houses and dogs. Sara invited members to put their favorite things about the neighborhood in the chat.
- III. **Review Agenda:** Marilyn Pillifant moved to approve the agenda, Linda Chase second. Agenda approved.
- IV. **Approval of November RPCC Minutes:** Marilyn Pillifant moved to approve, Jim Wright second. Meeting minutes approved.
- V. **FCC Report:** Jim Wright - Jim encouraged the membership to read the attached FCC written report. He suggested special attention to Items 4 and 5 on Pages 2 and 3. Those items are an attempt to reduce procedural steps to have planning and zoning decisions and land use appeals all wrapped up pretty quickly without a lot of public comment or process. There was a lot of alarm expressed at the FCC meeting about these items given that going down the road there may come a time in the future when community council concerns aren't heard prior to decisions being made. Jim suggested the membership do their homework about the report. Also, Jim has submitted his letter of intent to be the state house representative for this community. He loves this community and looks forward to having that conversation more in the future. Jim would like members to consider stepping up to FCC delegate. Once he registers as a candidate there should already be someone in place. It is an interesting position, you get to hear what other CCs are doing. It's rewarding, it's going to be entirely via zoom over the next year at least. Jim encourages people to step forward. Anyone interested should let Pete know.
- VI. **Treasurer's Report:** Ric Wilson was out of town. Pete Mjos gave the report that another penny of interest was earned bringing the account balance to \$604.48. There were no expenditures during the month and there are no outstanding bills.
- VII. **Legislative Reports:**
 - A. Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson: Hello, Everyone! It's been a challenging year, but Senator Gray-Jackson is looking forward to the next legislative session. She wished everyone a safe and happy holiday. Please see her attached written report.
 - B. Representative Harriet Drummond: She is happy to hear that Jim Wright is running for the proposed midtown seat, but sadly that means that after the redistricting, Harriet won't

be representing Rogers Park. Her term doesn't end until 2023 so she will still represent the district for all of 2022. There was a meeting last week to discuss goals. Her goal is to pass an important reading and preschool bill for getting kids ready to read when they get to kindergarten and reading by 3rd grade. She is going to work on increasing the base student allocation. The district is suffering from huge budget gaps due to rising costs and no additional assistance from the State. Her coalition is very interested in seeing the student allocation increased. She is also looking at a marijuana expungement bill. Other states who have legalized marijuana have included an expungement law with the legalization process. Harriett has received a lot of emails about the firing of Angela Rodell. The Legislative Budget and Audit Committee has added that issue to their agenda for their live meeting 10am Wednesday, December 15. Note for accessing the meeting: AKLEG.gov is the main legislative page, fondly referred to as BASIS. The Legislative Budget & Audit Committee is meeting Wednesday Dec. 15 at 10 am. The link to LB&As meeting is here:

http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Meeting/Detail?Meeting=HBUD%202021-12-15%2010:00:00#tab2_4e

- C. Representative Andy Josephson - Elise Sorum-Birk presented for Rep. Josephson who was on a plane. Senator Gray-Jackson and Rep. Drummond shared a lot of what Andy wanted to say. She shared a page about redistricting, including an interactive map. The map isn't final, there are lawsuits to be decided so the lines may still change. But currently, the Rogers Park Community Council district is empty with no state representative. Senator Gray-Jackson still represents RPCC. Regarding, the Permanent Fund Board of Trustees letting go Angela Rodell, Rep. Josephson is working on filing legislation that would restructure how the PFD board trustees are chosen. Marilyn Pillifant asked a question about defined benefits, HB 55. There was open discussion about defined benefits for teachers and police officers with Senator Gray-Jackson and Rep. Drummond also commenting.

VIII. Assembly Reports:

- A. Meg Zaletel - Meg wanted to inform the community about the budget that has passed. Most mayoral vetoes were overridden last week, but there were a few that remained. The alcohol tax still reflects the community's priorities. The Assembly is going to be deep diving into the Mobil Crisis teams. The community has been involved in the Mobil Crisis teams, which have only been running since July and they have already made a good impression. The port modernization plan is at work. The Assembly wants plans and projects ready to go when federal funds arrive. Also, the State recently won it's lawsuit against the Federal government for previous work on the port that didn't go well and Meg is looking forward to learning more about what it is going to take to get the needed money. The port is such an important part of our city's infrastructure.
- B. Felix Rivera - There are upcoming title 21 changes. All changes are things that are being brought forward by the Mayor's Administration. There is some support from the Assembly for the changes but Felix is urging the assembly to go slowly with the changes. Below is a link with information about the changes. The administration is working on streamlining things so that only the Planning and Zoning Commission would hear something that might normally go before 2 or 3 different boards. He also wanted to talk about the legal process for the state redistricting. The assembly is getting started on their review of the reapportionment. Please see the link below for more information. He isn't initially happy with how Midtown has been treated in the redistricting, but he is looking forward to getting more information about all the mapping. The Assembly is looking into the recent allegations lodged against the Administration by the Alaska

Landmine and taking the allegations seriously. There is also a link below regarding Mass Care Exit Strategy and a link regarding ADUs.

Title 21 Changes: <https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/SiteAssets/Pages/Community%20and%20Economic%20Development%20Committee/Title%2021%20Changes%20-%20Building%20Safety%20Handout.pdf>

MOA Reapportionment Fact Sheet: <https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/SiteAssets/Pages/Municipality-and-Assembly-Reapportionment-Committee/2021-1123%20MOA%20Reapportionment%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

Mass Care Exit Strategy Fact Sheet: <https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Documents/Webpage%20-%20Committee%20on%20Housing%20and%20Homelessness/14.E.1.--AIM%20224-2021.pdf>

Page 10 of this report addresses ADUs: https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/SiteAssets/Pages/Community%20and%20Economic%20Development%20Committee/CEDC%202040%20Update_8.4.2021.pdf

IX. ASD Report:

- A. Carl Jacobs - He wanted to thank the Anchorage Assembly for overriding vetoes to important items such as pre-K education and school resource officer funding. In recent meetings the Anchorage School Board has approved a 6 year capital plan (as required per statute) and a 2022 Bond Proposition which includes roughly \$111 million, roughly \$55 million per year, a 2 year proposal, a bond proposition that will strengthen, upgrade or renovate over 30 ASD facilities. Please see links below for more information. Board met with Legislative partners and discussed priorities for the upcoming session. Those priorities included base student allocation and teacher retirement. SB 6 and HB 220 are working their way through that address these items. Projected budget revenue shortfall of \$67 million is in part due to the static BSA that hasn't increased. If FY11 BSA had increased along with inflation it would be roughly \$700 per student more. Next board meeting is 12/20 at 6pm.

Reading Proficiency Goal Monitoring Report: <http://go.boarddocs.com/ak/asdk12/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C5L4TG027079>

2022 School Bond Information: <http://go.boarddocs.com/ak/asdk12/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C8DN4D5CABBD>

ASD Hot Topics Page: <https://www.asdk12.org/hottopics>

Upcoming ASD Board Meeting - 12/20 @ 6:00pm
Link to agenda (when available) and to register for testimony:
<https://www.asdk12.org/Page/4329>

X. APD Report:

- A. Officer Gittlein - Not present

XI. Mayor's Office Report - Not present

XII. JBER Report:

- A. Joy Boston - Wreaths Across America at Army National Cemetery 12-2PM Saturday, December 18. You can pre-register with Security Forces to access the National Cemetery. For Tricare beneficiaries that use the JBER Pharmacy, beginning December 15, 2021 Walmart and Sam's Club pharmacies will no longer be part of Tricare's pharmacy network; CVS will join the pharmacy network. More info at the JBER Pharmacy – 673d Medical Group (Official) Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/205145626176618/posts/4734793909878411/?d=n>
Questions: please email joy.boston.2@us.af.mil

XIII. Guest CC Report: University Area Community Council President Paul Stang - UACC is at a transition point. They have spent a lot of time since June on the homelessness issues, structure, location, etc. Back in June the Mayor had a proposal for a structure at Elmore and Tudor which caused quite a stir. Lots of members in the community participated spontaneously and actively communicated with the Mayor, the Assembly, etc. As the UACC looks forward, there may be more issues on homelessness, but one other subject of concern is the Elmore Extension. The UACC did not want that extension and neither does UAA. They are worried that this issue may resurrect due to the incoming infrastructure money. The UACC has also worked with other community councils on the issue of homelessness and ultimately 7 community councils co-authored a piece for the ADN.

XIV. Guest Speaker: Clark Halvorson, CEO United Way - 65 years ago United Way Anchorage was born focusing on three building blocks: Education, Financial Stability, Health. They begin with an equity lens and work to create communities where everyone has access to their needs. United Way's involvement with the Afghan refugees is to get the families Health Insurance. Mr. Halvorson wants members to be aware that the United Way is active and participatory within Anchorage. There are ways to get involved, volunteer and donate.

XV. Committee Reports:

- A. Transportation (Formerly 36th and Seward) - Dave Evans - Committee is now named the Transportation Committee, please contact Bob Butera or Dave Evans with any transportation concerns. Dave is personally concerned about sidewalk plowing. Steve Noble reported that there is not a whole lot new to report on 36th and Seward. They are still working on pushing the project forward, looking to get to Planning and Zoning Commission in January - March timeline. He'll have dates after he hears back from the Municipality and will let us know.
- B. ADU - Dan Rosenberg - in 2018 the Assembly introduced an ordinance that allowed for ADUs in R-1 zoning. The RPCC opposed ADUs or requested more restrictions to what the assembly had proposed. The Assembly passed an ordinance with fewer restrictions than RPCC requested. Then a ADU went up on Redwood that much surpassed the exceptions for ADUs. The committee was split on opposing ADUs altogether versus working with ADUs in a way that could work for the neighborhood. Then Covid-19 hit. Dan is working on the identifying the differences between Anchorage's ordinance and ADU ordinances around the nation. He is looking into how to accommodate neighbor concerns against the push to build and develop ADUs.
- C. CIP - Dave Evans - no updates at this time
- D. Beautification - Zach Zaletel - no report, Meg spoke for Zach. It is still cold outside and they plan to kick back off next month.
- E. Crime and Safety - No report

XVI. Adoption of a RPCC Welcome Letter - Irene Bortnick was out of town but Pete Mjos explained the goal of welcoming new neighbors and explaining to them what RPCC is, what we do and how we do it. Once Irene has created the welcome letter, we will publish it and send it out.

XVII. Resolution regarding AMATS: Dave Evans spoke for his wife who is the assembly district 4 representative of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions organization (AMATS). One of AMATS responsibilities is to every 4 years update a document called the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. They are currently doing so and they are doing that in sections. AMATS has released a section called the Goals and Objectives, with a current comment period ending on December 31st. Dave encouraged everyone who has an interest to review the information and fill out the survey and specifically the comment form on the municipal website. <https://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/AMATS/Pages/default.aspx>

Dave read his resolution aloud for the consideration of the body. Dave Evans moved that the RPCC adopt the resolution. Marilyn Pillifant seconded the motion and the floor opened for discussion. Dave expressed concern that AMATS only allows 30 days for comment and time is short. Dave requested that Assembly Member Zaletel encourage the assembly to allow more time, preferably 60 days for a comment period. In this case there isn't time for that. Members expressed support for the resolution but also concern that the membership hadn't received at least 7 days to review the documentation prior to voting to adopt it. The body discussed the possibility of a special meeting in a weeks time just to hold a vote on the resolution. Concern was expressed that there isn't enough time given the holidays. Steve Lewis made a motion to defer this topic to be reviewed and voted upon in a weeks time at a special meeting. Beth Abisor seconded. The floor opened for discussion. Dave expressed concern about reaching a quorum at a special meeting and missing the opportunity to submit commentary. Several members agreed. Assembly Member Zaletel stated that AMATS would still accept comments after the December 31st deadline and would still take those comments under consideration. Dave stated that he was okay deferring as long as AMATS really would be consider late comments. Dave Evans moved to table the current motion to call a special meeting. He wanted to postpone the discussion about the resolution until the January meeting. Jamie Shearer seconded Dave Evans new motion. Steve Lewis and Beth Abisor withdrew their motion to defer for a special meeting. Seeing no objection from Dave Evans or other members, Dave Mjos postponed discussion and vote on the resolution until the January 10th meeting.

XVIII. Closing Comments: Happy Holiday to everyone!! Next RPCC Meeting is January 10, 2022

XIX. Adjournment: Scott McMurren motioned to Adjourn. Dave Evans second. Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm

Chat Notes:

From Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson:

FYI - Representative Tuck stated that the Budget and Audit Committee will discuss whether or not to take up the Angela Rodell issue at the next meeting. If not, the Committee will take it up in January. The Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation is the last item on the Agenda.

From Joy Boston:

Re: Afghan refugees, Catholic Social Services is the State's lead agency, Celeste Early is the CSS POC at cearly@cssalaska.org office 907-222-7376. Or Tricia Teasley tteasley@cssalaska.org cell 907-250-8040

From Assembly Member Meg Zaletel regarding AMATS comments:

I will raise it on Thursday at the AMATS Policy Committee meeting that the RP has comments coming after its January meeting on the 10th.

