

**Rogers Park Community Council
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2022**

Current Officers:

President, Peter Mjos
Vice President, Scott McMurren
Secretary, Cassandra Raun

Treasurer, Sara Dykstra
Immediate past President, Steve Lindbeck
FCC representative, Linda Chase

***Call to order:** Pete Mjos called the meeting to order at 6:46pm. Welcomed all members to the first meeting of the season, reviewed the rules for the meeting and introduced himself and the other Board Members. He also called attention to the welcome letter in the packet, provided by Irene Bortnick.

***Establish quorum** - Cassandra established quorum

***Review and approve May 2022 minutes** - Correction from Pete Mjos, special invited guest name was misspelled, Jason Grenn is the correct spelling. Marilyn Pillifant motion to approve, Dave McCargo second, amended minutes were approved.

***Treasurer's report:** Sara Dykstra. We have a total of \$604.65, we have earned .03 in interest in the last 3 months.

***Assembly reports:**

Meg Zaletel - Issues around the library still persist, there isn't a library director, the one they believed to be hired didn't materialize. Per the ombudsman, given that the HR director couldn't be impartial, complaints are now being investigated by MOA legal. The job for library director has been reposted. The health department director left under a dark cloud. The health department has really suffered because of a lot of things that happened in the last year. At the last health policy meeting they were fortunate to have a representative brief the committee on the current situation. The department is missing the depth that they are used to. They do have an active director for the health department. The committee wants to start discussion of important issues such as substance misuse and treatment. There are going to be on-going conversations to ensure that the situation with the previous director doesn't happen in the future. There are some background checks happening now but they haven't seen the information as to how the situation happened in the first place. Speaking of the health department, Meg has been working on the review of the Alcohol tax money, trying to find out if the money has gone out the door as expected for grants for DV. Sending funds in July only through December doesn't allow for programs to plan for 12 month periods. They are trying to dig in and provide for a better plan for next year.

TIP Transportation Improvement Plan for AMATS was just passed. There are a number of mid-town corridor studies in play, Northern Lights and Benson and Tudor. 92nd and Scooter Avenue project is a mile of highway that needs to be redone. DOT has designed and proposed to raise the highway and put a tunnel beneath it for pedestrian access which requires some side project with high cost. Meg is trying to amend that project to free up additional money for pedestrian access and safety around town.

Felix Rivera - Homelessness. Back in June the Mayor and the Administration made the decision to close the Sullivan as a COVID 19 mass care facility, what that meant was that we had to

find places for the individuals staying there to go. What the Mayor did was bus the individuals to Centennial Park Campground which has been acting as a de facto facility ever since. But the Administration has now posted that as of September 30th the campground will be closed. In the short term the Assembly appropriated several million dollars in July for outreach to connect individuals with new resource opportunities, a continuation of the landlord partnership with the United Way to remodel up to 60 units, forward funded emergency shelter needs for family and single adult. This funding was made with the thought that the Administration would come back in August with their plan for single adult emergency shelter plan. The Assembly funded a host of other housing projects 46% of the 52 million dollars went to a variety of housing projects representing roughly 500 new units coming online in the near future. In August, the only topic on the agenda was a presentation for the Administration's plan. The Administration did not attend that meeting so the Assembly put together a task force to create a plan. So now there are two plans, the Mayor's plan and the plan that will be put forth by the task force next week. Now these two parallel plans need to have a meeting of the minds. The Administration has proposed using the rec centers, mini grants for churches, and portable buildings to be stood up at some to be determined location. Sept 7th meeting shared the Administration's plan, task force will share their plan on Sept 21st. There will be a meeting to discuss funds for the plans. There are roughly 300 unhoused individuals who need placement, 200 individuals at the Centennial Campground and 100 individuals at other locations. Municipal code does not allowed for more than 150 individuals to be housed in a single location. Felix expects that as of September 30, the Administration will bus individuals to the Spenard Rec Center and Fairview Rec Center for shelter. The task force is considering other MOA owned facilities.

Open member question and answer involved the noise resolution that was passed by RPCC earlier this year. Felix is going to start providing regular updates about this issue. There hasn't been much movement thus far.

***Alaska legislative reports:**

Rep. Harriet Drummond - She was with Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson in a hotel room in Washington DC. They were there to celebrate the swearing in of Mary Peltola. Harriet will not be representing Rogers Park after she is sworn in to her new district and she will miss all of Rogers Park community. She recently attended the in-person community council meeting at Spenard Rec Center and was able to witness the many varied community uses of that facility. She says it would be a travesty to have that facility used as a shelter.

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson - The Senator reviewed the Governor's vetoes to the budget including school maintenance, food bank, preschools, assistance for finding missing persons, re-filling the college scholarship funds, UAA deferred maintenance, and others.

Open member question and answer involved education and the loss of teachers due to the disappearance of the defined benefit plan. We are the only state without the defined benefit retirement and Alaska is losing qualified, skilled teachers to other states with better retirement plans. Rep. Drummond and Senator Gray-Jackson are both supporters of a better retirement plan that will keep people in Alaska.

***FCC report:** Linda Chase - FCC hasn't met since May but they are meeting again next Wednesday. They have 2 main issues that they are considering this year. The first issue is local roads and pursuing road concerns. It's going to take a coalition to make the changes happen. Our community council and other community councils needs to get involved and work to-

gether to help provide better, safer roads for our community. The second issue is homelessness. Community councils need to get together to support our Assembly. After next Wednesday, she will know more.

***Committee reports:**

Transportation - No Report this month, but there is a survey circulating about the U-Med district.

Chokecherry eradication - Please see enclosed announcement of future community efforts.

ADU committee resolution:

Dan Rosenberg - ADU issue is very complex and highly contentious. Dan gave some background about the issue and provided a power point presentation for the group to help explain the planning process, the concerns, the changes, the designs and the reasoning behind the resolution, as well as comparisons between Anchorage and other northern cities. Concerns include height, siting, window placement, privacy, shadows from natural light, square footage, bedroom count, lot size, owner occupancy restrictions, parking restrictions, and how ADUs may affect return on investment for clean energy property improvements of neighborhoods. Dan maintains that we need to develop regulations that are respectful to neighbors and address these concerns. The power point presentation is available upon request for review. Dan gave an overview of the resolution for the group as a document of objectives, not finite, but objective. Dan then opened to the group for discussion. One concern that was discussed is parking. Also, there have been changes to the ordinances regarding height increases. The concern is that a property owner could invest a lot of money in solar collectors and then have someone come along and shadow them out.

Mark Foster motioned to adopt the resolution
Linda Chase seconded the motion

Dan Rosenberg screen shared the resolution to the group and read it aloud. Discussion was opened to the membership.

Bob Butera - Proposed an amendment to the resolution pertaining to owner occupancy. Moved to adopt his amendment. Linda Chase second.

Marilyn Pillifant - Moved to amend the resolution to include parking restrictions. Linda Chase second.

Vote Ms. Pillifant's amendment:

Yeas: 15

Nays: 2

Abstentions: 2

Amendment to the resolution passed.

Vote on Mr. Butera's Amendment:

Yeas: 19

Nays: 1

Absentions: 1

Amendment to the resolution passed.

Vote on the Resolution as Amended

Yeas: 17

Nays: 0

Absentions: 1

Resolution Passes as Amended

Beautification Committee Comments - Looking for volunteers to help pick up the planter and put them away for the winter. Depending on volunteer availability either this coming weekend or a week night before the end of the month. 2-3 volunteers needed. Email Zach Zaletel at zzal-etel@gmail.com

***Other reports:** JBER (See written report)

***Next meeting October 17** - Monday September 10 is a Federal holiday. President Pete Mjos will be absent. Our esteemed vice president Scott McMurren will preside.

***Adjournment** - Meeting adjourned at 9:17pm

From the Chat:

Planning & Zoning Commission Case No. 2022-0090

Public hearing

Monday, September 19, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Assembly Chambers of the Z.J. Loussac Library

Muni ADU Project Page:

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/Projects/AnchLandUse/Pages/ADU.aspx>

ADU Review Packet submitted to PZC:

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/Projects/AnchLandUse/SiteAssets/Pages/ADU/2022-0090%20ADU%20Agency%20Review%20Packet.pdf>