

# Federation of Community Councils, Inc. Board of Delegates

**BY ZOOM**

## Minutes of September 21, 2022 meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by FCC Chair Gretchen Stoddard

### **FCC Delegates in attendance (20):**

Abbott Loop	Bruce Roberts (FCC Secretary)
Airport Heights	-
Basher	Don Crafts
Bayshore/Klatt	Bob Laule
Bear Valley	-
Birchwood	-
Campbell Park	Kevin Fimon (FCC Treasurer)
Chugiak	Darryl Parks
Downtown	Mike Ward
Eagle River	Sharon Gibbons
Eagle River Valley	-
Eklutna Valley	-
Fairview	-
Girdwood (GBOS)	Briana Sullivan
Glen Alps	-
Government Hill	Bob French
Hillside	-
Huffman/O'Malley	Gretchen Stoddard (FCC Chair)
Midtown	Kris Stoechner
Mountain View	Daniel George
North Star	Mark Butler
Northeast	George Martinez
Old Seward/Oceanview	Nancy Joseph
Portage Valley	-
Rabbit Creek	-
Rogers Park	Linda Chase (FCC Vice-Chair)
Russian Jack	Kathleen Plunkett
Sand Lake	-
Scenic Foothills	Yarrow Silvers
South Addition	-
South Fork	-
Spenard	-
Taku Campbell	-
Tudor Area	-

Turnagain	Cathy Gleason
Turnagain Arm	-
University Area	Al Milspaugh

**Others in attendance:**

Office of the Mayor	Portia Erickson
Anchorage Assembly	Suzanne LaFrance, Chair
Anchorage School Board	-
Office of the Governor	-
Community Councils Center	Mark Butler
Emergency Shelter Task Force	Owen Hutchinson
	Darrel Hess

Zoom meeting being recorded, including the “Chat”.

**A. Call to Order and Establish Quorum:** Gretchen Stoddard, FCC Chair  
Quorum attained later in the meeting. Began presentation portion of meeting.

**B. Approval of Agenda**  
Unanimously approved later in meeting when quorum was reached. Kevin Fimon moved and Al Milspaugh seconded.

**C. Approval of February 2023 Minutes**  
Unanimously approved later in meeting when quorum was reached. Al Milspaugh moved and Kris Stoechner seconded.

**D. Presentations:**

**1. Emergency Shelter Task Force: Preliminary Recommendations -**

Owen Hutchinson and Darrel Hess, task force members

The task force was set up recently to explore options for housing people by October 1<sup>st</sup> (when the ordinance says that the Municipality must house people in warm facilities when the weather gets down to a certain temperature.) The task force came up with options. Today (September 21, 2022) the Assembly Housing and Homelessness Committee had a meeting to explore these options. A sense of the Assembly members present was that they should use smaller options and then leased housing in the Golden Lion Hotel property next (using housing certificates) and then the Sullivan Arena next. No use of either the Dempsey or Boeke hockey facilities was proposed. The Assembly must approve this concept and then make the appropriation of funds.

2.

**E. Government Updates (5 minutes each)**

**1. Office of the Mayor – Portia Erickson**

The annual budget process continues with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) releasing their plan on September 30<sup>th</sup> with the final submission to the Assembly on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Remember that Second Half property taxes are due on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

There are many employers in Anchorage still in need of employees. Hispanic Heritage month.

**2. Assembly – Susanne LaFrance, Vice-Chair**

Recent changes to the Assembly website are designed to make it easier to use.

The Assembly meets twice on Monday September 26<sup>th</sup> – from 4 to 6 p.m. to discuss the Eklutna Dam and at 6 p.m. in a special meeting about the Emergency Shelter plan. The next regular meeting of the Assembly is on Tuesday September 27<sup>th</sup>.

During the last Assembly meeting, the Assembly voted to put a resolution on the April 2023 Municipal election ballot a question as to whether voters wished to expand the size of the Residency exemption for local property taxes. This would have the effect of lowering property taxes on homes but increasing taxes on rental and commercial properties. If passed by the voters in April 2023, the exemption would take effect in January 2024.

The annual Title 28 review of election procedures is continuing.

**3. Anchorage School Board – Dora Wilson, School Board member**

No report.

#### **4. Office of the Alaska Governor -**

No report.

#### **F. Standing Committee Reports:**

**1. FCC Chair – Gretchen Stoddard**

The FCC Executive Committee has reorganized the FCC meeting agenda in order to bring the presentations up earlier in the meeting. We ask that delegates keep their comments short and to the point.

**2. FCC Vice Chair – Linda Chase**

No report

**3. FCC Treasurer – Kevin Fimon**

Currently \$10,000 “under spent” at this point but that is typical since the Center Manager takes some of his unpaid leave during the summer months. We expect to be on-budget at the end of the fiscal year (December 31<sup>st</sup>).

The FCC received a donation of \$17,622.66 from the campaign account of State Representative Liz Snyder. Thanks, Representative Snyder!

**4. FCC Outreach – Al Milspaugh**

Discussed different systems available to assist with making Hybrid Zoom/In-Person council meetings. GBOS has a set-up that has been successful, the Northeast and Russian Jack councils have held the hybrid meetings.

**5. FCC Training – Lindsey Hajduk**

No report.

**6. Community Councils Center Manager – Mark Butler**

Bobbi Wells, the extraordinary Birchwood community organizer and long-time council president and officer, has died. Birchwood (and all of Anchorage) was blessed to receive the benefits of her many, many years of work to make her community a better place to live, work, and play! God bless you, Bobbi!

Mark is planning to take just over a week of leave in October in order to attend a 95-year old’s birthday party out of state. Jean will be in the office during those days.

Before your meetings, be sure to call the Councils Center to see if you have any mail in the Councils Mailbox.

**7. FCC AMATS Committee Representative – Bob French**

The next meeting of the AMATS public involvement committee is being planned for November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**G. Old Business:**

1.

**H. New Business:**

**1. Proposal for Budget for 2023 Municipal Grant**

Kevin Fimon proposed and Daniel George seconded a proposal to request \$90,000 from the Municipality for the 2023 fiscal year. Passed unanimously.

**2. Increased Funding for Anchorage Streets –** With the recent passage of the

Federal Infrastructure bill, a number of people have approached the FCC with questions about how Anchorage can get more money to improve our local streets. We will be working on this issue in the near future.

**I. Council Sharing (brief points) –**

**Abbott Loop CC** – First in-person meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Planning & Zoning issues and Park & Rec

**Basher CC** – Looking at changing council by-laws. Wildfire prevention. Fire break

**Campbell Park CC** – Will try hybrid meeting.

**Chugiak CC** – Carol Creek subdivision: high density housing project

**Downtown CC** – In-person meetings, Homelessness Task Force. Had abusive behavior by two meeting participants. This is not accessible and that is why the council created a Code of Contact for meeting participants.

**Eagle River CC** – In-person meeting. Hybrid or full Zoom meeting were previously used. Land use and permits.

**Girdwood GBOS** – Lots and lots of meetings about lots of issues. Proposed Holton Hills subdivision. Proposed interchange.

**Government Hill CC** – Meeting by Zoom was well attended. Still dealing with KABATA – they are planning to tear down a convenience store.

**Midtown CC** – Mike Robbins is helping the council to work on a Midtown Plan.

Homelessness care facilities in Midtown. Safety for people walking across major Midtown roads – International Airport Road, Tudor Road, 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, etc.

**Mountain View CC** – Election of council officers, Homelessness Task Force.

**Northeast CC** – Meetings all this past summer due to the Mayor’s decision to house homeless people in Centennial Park. Appreciates help from other councils as NECC faces the impacts of this policy on people living in their area.

**North Star CC** – Fireweed Lane safety improvements.

**Old Seward/Oceanview CC** – Met all summer. Park vandalism, minors on motorized vehicle.

**Rodgers Park CC** – Accessory Dwelling Units – original rules were different that what is being enforced. Homelessness impact on the neighborhood. Want repair to existing neighborhood before the building of new highways.

**Russian Jack CC** – Met by hybrid. Many elected officials and candidates for office attended by Zoom. Speeding in neighborhoods.

**Scenic Foothills CC** – Election of council officers – officers switched positions. Muldoon Curve road monies vetoed by Governor.

**Turnagain CC** – Active members – working all summer. Concerns about using Dempsey for homeless shelter. Fish Creek Trail to the Ocean. Multiple airport lease developments. Construction trucks on West Northern Lights Boulevard.

**University Area CC** – Folker Park cleanup. Homeless Navigation Center.

**K. Comments by the Public (3 min. each, time permitting) –**

**L. Adjournment**

Al Milspaugh moved for adjournment, Bob French seconded. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.