

Meeting Minutes

North Star Community Council

November 9, 2022
(online via Zoom)

PRESENT

NSCC Officers & Members:

- Matt Johnson, President
- Mark Butler, Vice President
- Andre Camara, Treasurer
- Mike Hondel, Secretary
- Susan Miller, Member at Large

Legislative:

none present.

Assembly:

none present, Assembly is meeting at same time

Other Entities:

- Abby O'Neil
Principal, North Star Elementary
- Pat Higgins
ASD School Board
- Joy Boston
JBER
- Tom Davis
MOA Planner
- Briana Sullivan
Girdwood Board of Supervisors, and Cemetery Supervisor
- Dave Ritternberg
Catholic Social Services - Complex Care Facility
- Corrine
Area Manager, Brown Jug

North Star members present:

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CALL TO ORDER

Introductions. Approval of agenda. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.

REPORTS

I. COUNCIL

1. Matt Johnson:
2. Matt Johnson, President: willing to continue NSCC presidency in 22/23
3. Mark Butler, Vice President: voter turnout data, by precinct
4. Andre Camara, Treasurer: bank account

5. Mark Butler, FCC: ASD \$68M deficit, ramifications
6. Susan Miller: results from recent library book sale, library accepts donations of books & cds

II. COMMUNITY

1. Abby O'Neil, Principal, North Star Elementary
Holiday meal event. Outreach. Snow removal on sidewalks along Fireweed; related discussion.
2. Pat Higgins, Anchorage School Board
ASD budget deficit, w/out state funds there will be more school closures than the six proposed so far. Programs will be affected as well. A crisis of resources (lack of). Budget usage and carry-overs. Q&A re: connections between funding and academic performance. Q&A re: how schools were selected for closure.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of Community Council Boundaries
- *Tom Davis, MOA Planner (and NSCC resident)*
Review occurs every 10 years. Want to best support natural neighborhoods. Seeking feedback and comment from community councils regarding boundary considerations. A questionnaire will be available in the next week or so. Criteria behind recommendations for boundary changes.
Q&A.
2. Resolution of Support for an Areawide Bond Proposal for Cemeteries in Anchorage
- *Briana Sullivan, Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS), and Cemetery Supervisor*
GBOS ability to raise funds for a cemetery via taxation. Anchorage Memorial Park is running low on available space. Targeting bond on ballot in April 2023.
 - A. Mark Butler: Resolution can be on agenda for December NSCC meeting.
3. Crime in our Neighborhood
- *Mark Butler*
Report from NSCC resident about homeless encampment on Arctic Blvd (just north of Fireweed), and report of confrontation w/ criminal. General discussion.
 - A. Abby O'Neil: shootout in North Star elementary parking lot, drug needles found in parking lot, increase in transient traffic on school grounds.
 - B. Mark Butler: Muni shelter space.
 - C. Zachariah Hughes: shelter space and homeless camp abatement considerations.
 - D. Rep. Zach Fields: activating development on/near public lands has positive effect, plans for support and funding.
 - E. Dave Rittenberg: finding way to move forward w/ Mayor and Assembly.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Chugach Electric Undergrounding
- *Mike Hondel*
Status update...
2. Fireweed Lane Improvements and the Need to Advocate for More Road Improvements in Anchorage

– *Mark Butler*

DOT funding dollars are bypassing legacy and in-town projects, more focused on projects moving traffic in & out of town. Generational opportunity, need way to work around funding constraints.

NORTH STAR CC MEMBERS PRESENT

COUNCIL

1. Matt Johnson, President
2. Mark Butler, Vice President
3. Andre Camara, Treasurer
4. Mike Hondel, Secretary
5. Susan Miller, member at large

RESIDENTS

1. Tom Davis
2. Eiden Pospisil
3. Sharon Schlicht
4. Jacquie Braden
5. Penny Gage
6. Zachariah Hughes

BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

1. Abby O'Neil – *Principal, North Star Elementary*
2. Dave Ritternberg – *Catholic Social Services, Complex Care Facility*
3. Corrine – *Area Manager, Brown Jug*