

Federation of Community Councils, Inc. Board of Delegates

BY ZOOM

Minutes of January 18, 2023 meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by FCC Chair Gretchen Stoddard

FCC Delegates in attendance (25):

Abbott Loop	Bruce Roberts
Airport Heights	Amanda Moser
Basher	Don Crafts
Bayshore/Klatt	Bob Laule
Bear Valley	Caitlyn Jackson
Birchwood	Carol Perkins
Campbell Park	Kevin Fimon (FCC Treasurer)
Chugiak	Darryl Parks
Downtown	-
Eagle River	-
Eagle River Valley	Tom Freeman
Eklutna Valley	-
Fairview	Allen Kemplen
Girdwood (GBOS)	Mike Edgington
Glen Alps	-
Government Hill	Bob French
Hillside	-
Huffman/O'Malley	Gretchen Stoddard (FCC Chair)
Midtown	Kris Stoehner
Mountain View	-
North Star	Matt Johnson
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Old Seward/Oceanview	Gary Meaders
Portage Valley	-
Rabbit Creek	Mike Kenny
Rogers Park	Linda Chase (FCC Vice-Chair)
Russian Jack	Kathleen Plunkett
Sand Lake	-
Scenic Foothills	Danny Clift
South Addition	John Thurber
South Fork	-
Spenard	-
Taku Campbell	-
Tudor Area	-

Turnagain
Turnagain Arm
University Area

Cathy Gleason
Michael Packard
Al Milspaugh

Others in attendance:

Anchorage Assembly	Suzanne LaFrance, Chair
Anchorage School Board	Margo Bellamy
Anchorage Assembly	Daniel Volland
Municipal Long Range Planner	Tom Davis
Community Councils Center	Mark Butler
Old Seward/Oceanview CC	John Henry
Girdwood	Grace Pleasants
	John Weddleton
	Karl Kisser
	Kalie Harrison

Zoom meeting being recorded, including the “Chat”.

A. Call to Order and Establish Quorum: Gretchen Stoddard, FCC Chair
Quorum attained.

B. Approval of Agenda
Unanimously approved . Kevin Fimon
moved and Al Milspaugh seconded.

C. Approval of November 2022 Minutes
Amanda Moser moved and Al Milspaugh seconded. Unanimously approved.

D. Presentations:

1. Purchase of Anchorage Affordable Housing Trust -

Victor Mollozzi, board member

Non-profit whose mission in to own real estate that creates affordable housing in Anchorage. So far have purchased the Guest House (130 units) in downtown Anchorage and the Barrett Inn (96 units) in Spenard. Hoping to close on a 3rd hotel in February. Looking for a fourth property. This is not a shelter, but rather for people seeking permanent housing. Guest House residents pay \$850 to \$1,000 per month. Uses a contractor to provide services. High level of security provided.

Guests must sign a lease (that itemizes damages, bad behavior, disruption, eviction process, etc.). They must pay (using vouchers, Social Security, VA vouchers, cash, etc.)

2. Newly Passed Ordinance that Reduces the Need for Parking Spaces –

Daniel Volland, Assemblymember

Recently passed by the Assembly. Affects downtown and midtown. There is currently way, way too much asphalt (in the form of parking spaces) in both downtown and midtown areas of our city. The existing parking mandates are mostly set for peak usage and are often arbitrary and not based on facts. The ordinance is only for newly developed properties and does not affect existing developments.

3. Anchorage School District Budget -

Margo Bellamy, President, Anchorage School Board

The Anchorage School District is identifying potential cuts to the budget in order to make up a \$68 million deficit for the 2023 – 2024 calendar year. Proposals to reduce projected deficits include sixth grader moving to middle schools.

Eliminating only one school. Have to create a plan to make up for the snow days. Please, please, please ask your legislators and the Governor to approve a major increase in the BSA, which funds schools state-wide.

4. Discussion of Municipal Planning Issues -

Tom Davis, Municipal Long-Range Planner

Working on the Ten-Year review of community council boundaries. Still accepting input and is setting up a committee to review comments. Working site access rules.

E. Government Updates (5 minutes each)

1. Office of the Mayor –

No report.

2. Assembly – Susanne LaFrance, Vice-Chair

Lots of activity - Five Assembly meetings in the last six days. Assembly has scheduled to have a special meeting just to determine which propositions and bonds to put on the April Municipal election ballot. Assembly appointing people for the east Anchorage and Eagle River/Chugiak seats to take the place of Assembly members who were elected to the Alaska Legislature. They will serve only until the April 2023 Municipal election results are certified. The Assembly met in Executive Session to get legal advice and guidance. The Holtan Hills development proposal in Girdwood has been postponed. The ordinance to change the ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) rules was approved with amendments. The Assembly approved an Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) public information officer.

3. Anchorage School Board –

Margo Bellamy, Board President
Presented earlier in the meeting.

4. Office of the Alaska Governor -

No report.

F. Standing Committee Reports:

1. FCC Chair – Gretchen Stoddard

2. FCC Vice Chair – Linda Chase
No report.

3. FCC Treasurer – Kevin Fimon
Spent the \$90,000 last year.

4. FCC Outreach – Al Milspaugh

5. FCC Training – Lindsey Hajduk

6. Community Councils Center Manager – Mark Butler

Before your meetings, be sure to call the Councils Center to see if you have any mail in the Councils Mailbox. Will look for gear to assist with possible hybrid. FCC meetings.

7. FCC AMATS Committee Representative – Bob French

Spoke about the AMATS TIP and State of Alaska STIP programs.

G. Old Business:

None.

H. New Business:

None.

I. Council Sharing (brief points):

Northeast CC – Hybrid Zoom meeting. Keeping Nunaka Valley Elementary School open. Centennial Park usage.

North Star CC – Still on Zoom, how to restart in-person meetings at school, Chugach Electric project to underground power, “The Fireweed Lane Experience” -with multiple people walking on the roadway, Sockeye Inn now is the “Complex Care Facility” for certain homeless people, run by Catholic Social Services.

Midtown CC – Licensing and/or renewal of alcohol and marijuana facilities, disappointment in passage of Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance.

Huffman/O’Malley CC – January was hybrid meeting, Municipal Tax Assessor, three-laning of Lake Otis Parkway, “Daniels” Platting issue.

Government Hill CC – No December meeting.

Girdwood GBOS – Holtan Hills development, design alternatives of new intersection at Seward Highway.

Fairview CC – Coalition to end homelessness, Gap for troublesome individuals, Highway process, Community gardens, East Chester Park (challenge grant and bond-funded master plan).

Campbell Park CC – Good turnout at December meeting, Resolution on land swap, elections in January.

Eagle River CC – Quorum, cemeteries bond, wildfire

Birchwood CC – December and January meetings, Beach Lake Park trails (dog trails, multi-place trails)

Bear Valley CC – LRSA, road conditions, park access proposals

Basher CC – Last meeting was in November 2022, firebreak issue

Airport Heights CC – Cemetery, Holtan Hills development, Access through Russian Jack Springs Park, Cyrano’s Playhouse

Abbott Loop CC – In-person meeting since August 2022, Scooter and Academy interchange with Seward highway not scheduled to build until 2027

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

Grace Pleasants of Girdwood.

Members of their community are visiting a number of community councils in Anchorage in order to talk about their concerns with the proposed real estate development in Girdwood called “Holtan Hills”.

L. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Butler, Community Councils Center Manager.