

# Minutes

Northeast Community Council (NECC)

May 18, 2023, | 7pm

Centennial Village- Multipurpose Room

9131 Centennial Circle, Anchorage, AK 99504

\*NECC minutes are always taken by a volunteer board member

## Board Members Present

**Ron Meehan**, President | **Murray Crookes**, Vice President | **Jamie Lang**, Secretary | **Lyn Franks**, Treasurer | **Bob Reupke**, FCC Delegate | **Billy Stapleton**, Member | **Selina Metoyer**, Member | **Stu Grenier**, Member

## Ron Meehan Calls Meeting to Order at 7:00PM

34 people were present virtually or in the room.

## Pledge of Allegiance Bob Reupke

## Board Roll Call

Minutes Approval: **April** - motions, seconds.

Treasurer's Update - Lyn Franks reports \$1,824.68 after payment to rent-a-can folks for picnic.

## FCC Report

**Bob Reupke:** Hybrid meetings at the BP Center yesterday 5/17/2023. Presentation Mayor Bronson regarding Port of Anchorage about the monies they have received. FCC will be off July & August. Mark Butler is retiring, so they are looking for a new ED for FCC. Community Patrol Representative – June 30<sup>th</sup> there is a grant to apply – can work with Mark Butler. FCC is getting a new communication device “OWL.” Cyber Insurance is now required. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 6 pm – 7:45 pm. Discussion: NECC is talking about aligning months off with FCC, so July, August, and December.

**Community Concerns and Activities** (opportunity for community members to share concerns, requests for the council, and upcoming needs/activities, 2 min each).

**Stu Grenier:** Golden Nugget All-Female race is Sunday – massive event <https://goldnuggettriathlon.com> Boundary Avenue – there is a massive mess that Stu will be working through.

**Ron Meehan:** Centennial Park is not off the table. Will discuss more with Assembly Members.

**Paul Robards, NECC Patrol:** Wants to get on the homeless – camps and parks, vehicles overnight in closed parks, thieving, break-ins, squatters. I want a voice to at least have some suggestions. Centennial was a bomb – doesn't want to see it again. Wants to be nominated to attend these meetings. He is called about camps, thrash, stolen bikes, fires, propane tanks, go street to street, working in teams. Golden Lion will only scratch the surface. Dozed between FM and WM bc they were walking in and stealing. If they are going to camp, they need to have port-a-potties and dumpsters.

**Stu Grenier:** This is not a place to be a resident.

**Selina Metoyer motions to nominate Paul Robards to be on the Housing and Homelessness Committee representing the East Anchorage district, Ken Varey seconds. Paul is nominated unanimously.**

**Ken Varey:** Listened to Felix today. ACEH and housing to get people off the streets. Expecting to have Red Lion up and running by July 2023, as the plan, it won't take care of everybody. This summer is going to be a challenge. Muni website

### Legislative Reports (limit 3 min. each, including questions)

**Representative Mears:** Session is over. Budget is passed. Largely based on the Gov budget. Lots of construction projects going on. The budget is OK, less than what we need for education, but can make it another year. Public employee attrition so working on defined benefits. Won't be a tier 3, cheaper to the state. Budget is balanced. Savings is critically low.

### Assembly Reports (limit 3 min. each, including questions)

**George Martinez:** They will not overlap or duplicate. Committee Assignments: list given to George from Pete. He is on the CEC with Kevin Cross. Muldoon: People Mover priority resources coming into Muldoon. Safe route and effective bus routes. Apprentice programs started. 35% of health are without employees. Contact number is 907 343 4120. Centennial Park dismantling of Sullivan without a plan. Lesser on their radar because of sanction camps and best models. Disaster camps, etc. There's a better way to approach stuff. There are task forces that take us past the solstice. Already planning for winter return to Sullivan because there is no other plan. With a lack of having a real plan, we are not 100% out of the woods! Midtown CC – what will others want to accept. It's a disheveled mess! Bronga & Martinez will hold the line. New protocols. Stay vigilant.

**Ken Varey:** Felix was talking about relocatables from ASD plus Pallet houses – in the works.

**George Martinez:** George is aware of all of this. There's no plan, so it might still happen. Reach out to George and let him know what you think!

**Karen Bronga:** Holding the line is what we are after, but as a community, we need to figure out where to put these peoples. Equity and Election and Health Policy Committee – bike equity and enforcement of rules. Arrested Mobility article. Thankful for veterans helping them learn their jobs. Bronga: Phone is 907 343 4119.

### Community Leadership Updates as available (3 min each) [JBBER](#), [Mayor's Office](#), [Police Department](#), [Fire Department](#), [Parks & Recreation](#), [Muldoon Public Library](#), [School Board](#), [Community Patrol](#), others.

**Bryant Molle, Fire Department:** 907 267 5006 Station 6 – smoke alarms! Five fire fatalities in five months. Lots of excellent new wifi enabled systems. BBQ and grilling – keep it clean, grease free, don't grill with anything over the grill. Move it 15 feet from the building. There are Muni codes about being too close to the house. Smoking – douse in water and leave soaking for a few days. Recreational burning – burn permits are not a thing! Only legally allowed to burn split and dried firewood. Burn bans? Looks at <https://www.muni.org/Departments/Fire/Pages/default.aspx> "is it a burn day?" Question about alarms: will the battery last as long as it says? AFD defaults to manufacturer. PulsePoint App – CPR certified, sign up on app, can help out faster than before AFD can get there. Question: civil defense plan about missile – anything on this? Will bring answers back next time. Evacuation plans are being created for fire, but civil defense plan is unknown. Question: cabins with smoke detectors? Yes! Get them installed. Question: if we see fire in parklands? call 911 and they will put them out.

**Kelly Lessens, School Board:** One month since bond passed, thank you! Registration is open for returning students – sooner is better than later. Exciting work: CCL soft-launch academies will roll out around fall of 2024 with freshman academies for sense of belonging. 2025 will be 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders. FENTANYL: schools 5 of 8 schools have had fentanyl issues so they have Narcan kits in the schools – let's be proactive as a community. Board meeting: school day structure changes – 1 hour late start at all schools. Bus system will run later to support that. 2024 changing school start times: Elem 0800 1430; HS 0845 1515; 0930 – 1630; movement of AK Native Cultural School – moving to Abbott Loop w/five year duration approval, but it needs a better fire suppression system, but the detection system is adequate.

**Paul Robard, Community Patrol:** Lots of camps, ODs, meth & fentanyl – going to be a rough summer! Hot areas 907 575 7285. It's 24/7 now. Squatters are everywhere. Question: what do you do? Peacemakers, call police, presence keeping people safe, getting body cameras, first aid, CPR and first response, Narcan, you name it. Always looking for volunteers. Suggestions: ring cameras everywhere! Ken Question about fentanyl exposure puts you in jeopardy, too. Paul, yes it is very scary – lots of Narcan but they only have a

few kits with them and sometimes it is taking 4-5 Narcan to work. Narcan is coming from a website, nasal, but one pump isn't working, so they are needing to do at least two. Murray – if giving Narcan, still call medics. Does not remove the Narcan. Ken salmon fest discussion online of coke was laced with Fentanyl that needed 6 applications of Narcan, then coma, almost died. Narcan is bought through community patrols.

#### **Committee Updates (limit 2 min. each)**

##### **Lyn Franks CIP:**

**Stu Grenier, Parks and Trails:** Working on boundary realignment and trail with resolution with what was already passed. Parks about 6x as many homeless people than last week. Clean-up for Chanshtnu Muldoon Park Muldoon 6/3 11- 1 with pick-up sticks and lots of orange bags. Picnic is 6/10.

##### **George Martinez, Picnic:**

**Jamie Lang, Alcohol and Marijunana Committee:** 3 restaurants renewed their licenses: Samurai, Ding How and JJ's. Discussed marijuana going from yearly to every other year because there were too many at one time.

#### **Presentations (limit 3 min. each, unless otherwise note)**

No Presentations

#### **Old Business (Limit 10 min/item including discussion)**

##### **Anchorage Public Transit Jamie Action and Bary Rudolph:**

They received a grant received – mixed use transit facility. \$500 total project. Study will be happening. Pete and Forrest were supporters. Working with the Public Health Department, Library, etc. No RFP at this point. Projects will be coming, and updates will be coming. Muldoon and Debarr intersection is being looked at due to safety and the amount of bus stops.

**Stu Grenier:** Valley Mover interchange: VA and Downtown transit center. They were at NW Mall.

People Mover and Police Station 24/7 – can we have it together? We would like that. Jamie said they will work with the Chief of Police.

**Selena Metoyer:** 4-wheel drive vehicles with ramps – it was discussed, but they are too steep. Better vehicle but talk to the users. Ease of use! What about the 30-foot buses?

Electric buses – charged with diesel generators – no infrastructure. Looking at other options, but still no infrastructure.

Downtown Transit Center is being shut down for a project.

Selina broken signs.

**Jamie Acton:** The broken signs and info-tainments signs are all fixed – everything is fixed and working. But one got hit by a car.

**Selina Metoyer:** How can we partner with you? Partners first, then stakeholder groups will be invited. Lots of opportunities to participate.

**Stu Grenier:** Lowering the speed limit from 40 to 35 like Eagle River.

**Jamie Acton:** Yes! We can support that.

#### **New Business (Limit 3 min/ item including discussion unless otherwise noted)**

##### **Anchorage Concert Association Summer Concert Series, Becky Kendall**

Anchorage Concert Association – patchy. Music and Arts in the communities. Summer concerts into neighborhoods. Nunaka Valley, Moose Hill. June 29<sup>th</sup> from 7-8 pm. Will send more information to NECC. Moose Hill was chosen because of the awesome neighborhood – budget cut schools! Highlight areas for others to see those areas. And it's large, good parking, etc. Hyperlocal. Keep it smaller.

#### **NECC Boundary Recommendations**

**Lyn Franks:** FCC boundary recommendation changes. A few different iterations to discuss this.

Resolution to Tom Davis before June 10th

Option 1: Nothing

Option 2: SCFF presented their idea to take from Chester Creek. Lessen NECC load.

Option 3: Moving some pieces to Russian Jack. George – Russian Jack said no off the table.

Option 4: Making a new CC. House district 18, Duben, JBER, Government Hill – nobody wants to do this.

Ken Varee – I need maps, cannot table until next year – they will run us over. FCC Committee.

Selina – I agree with Ken

Stu – Wonderful council at SFCC

Voted:

Those who wanted to switch: \_\_\_\_\_

Those who did not want to switch: \_\_\_\_\_

**Anchorage Community Development Authority Façade Program, Melinda Gant**

Mike Robbins is online. ACDA ED. aims to help revitalize business districts in Muldoon and Downtown by providing low interest loans to improve the appearance of building facades and stimulate private investment. Starts 5/15/2023. Qualifications: anybody who owns a business and a few other items. Covers anything on the front side of the building. Contact Lisa Wilson: lwilson@acda.net 907-297-4417

**Overnight Parking Ban Resolution - tabled until next month**

**Community Announcements**

Memorial Day information for JBER Cemeteries provided by Murray. Veterans Memorial I street 0930. Eielson AFB Air show July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Brad Authier:** Chugach Election running as a team, all engineers. Election ends tomorrow by 3 pm 5/19/2023 votechugachstability.org Special interest is trying to take it over.

Spirit of Muldoon June 10<sup>th</sup>:

10:30 set-up

11:00 tour of the park, library and the mural, People Mover vehicle

12:00 – 2:00 BBQ, American Legion and Enstar grills, live Music, guests, etc.

2:00 – 3:00 clean up and DJ Spencer Lee

**Ron Meehan adjourns meeting at 9:15PM**

**Upcoming NECC meetings: June 15, 2023**

**Respectively submitted by,**

**Jamie Lang, Northeast Community Council Secretary**