

Rogers Park Community Council  
Meeting Minutes  
September 11 , 2023  
Rogers Park Elementary Library

Officers: President, Scott McMurren; Vice President, Jill Klein; Secretary, Cassandra Raun; Treasurer, Sara Dykstra; Immediate Past President, Pete Mjos; FCC representative, Linda Chase

Call to Order - Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Jill Klein read the land acknowledgement: The Rogers Park Community Council is committed to diversity and inclusion. We acknowledge that we gather here today on the traditional lands of the Denaina People of Upper Cook Inlet.

Scott reviewed the Roberts Rules of Order for Voting and asked everyone to be sure to sign in. Scott reintroduced himself as the new president and introduced the rest of the board.

Cassandra established quorum

Review and approval of the May 8, 2023 minutes - Pete Mjos motioned to approve, Jill Klein second, no opposition, minutes approved.

Treasurer's report, Sara Dykstra - We have \$930.00 in the bank. We have two accounts, \$305 in one account and \$625 in the other. We have had no expenditures since May and because of our move here to the Rogers Park Elementary library we are not being charged for our meeting. The benefit of being here is that we can have a later start and we have a little bit of savings.

Alaska Legislative reports:

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson - The Senator appreciates RPCC continuing to offer hybrid meetings. Please see her written report.

Representative Alyse Galvin - Tasha Hotch spoke for Rep. Galvin - They are hosting a town hall this Saturday with Senator Gray-Jackson and Rep. Josephson at Wilda Marston Theatre from 1-5pm. Rep. Galvin has been attending a lot of the same meetings as Gray-Jackson and learning from her. The Governor's vetos happened in June and Rep. Galvin is very unhappy about those vetos. She has been learning about potential solar projects for Alaska's future. Rep. Galvin wants to hear from her constituents. Please reach out to her with any questions or concerns.

Assembly reports:

Meg Zaletel - Regarding the bridge between Rogers Park neighborhood and the elementary school, Parks and Rec checked that the bridge was clean and free of debris, and DOT went to check that it was sound and fixed a step that was unsafe. The budget process has started. Meg has a resolution that suggests a continuation posture, starting with the 2023 budget and moving it forward to 2024. We need to focus on rebuilding our municipal work force. The mayor's full budget should be submitted by early October.

Felix Rivera - Regarding MOA trust fund, thank you for everyone who voted for the proposition that created the MOA trust board. The MOA Trust fund was created when the Phone Utility was sold and then it doubled when ML&P sold and it got to the point where it didn't make sense for one person to manage that fund, so the board has been approved by voters and created with highly qualified applicants. Regarding body worn cameras, the assembly has

approved the funding and the contracts for body worn cameras, now it's all about the implementation. There are 2 phases to implementation. First, a test phase for roughly 30 volunteer officers. Most of those will be patrol officers. By the end of this year those 30 pilot body worn cameras will be rolled out and tested. Then at some point by the end of 2024, we'll have roughly 350 body worn cameras, new dash cams, everything that is needed for this community-voted change. Transparency is important to Felix and he is working to keep the lines of communication open. Regarding homelessness, after the assembly vote regarding the Tudor and Elmore proposed navigation center, the focus has really shifted for an emergency cold weather shelter plan. The assembly is working to set aside the funds for that shelter. They will vote on the funding tomorrow, roughly \$5 million. Then the implementation plan will come forward after that. The assembly is going to look at three things: non-congregate shelter (hotel rooms as much as possible), small increase at Covenant house, 25 individuals 18-24 years old, and some type of small congregate emergency shelter. Start time is hoped for October 15th.

Open discussion occurred with membership expressing concerns and asking questions regarding disruptive and illegal activities by homeless people in the neighborhood.

Assembly Members Meg Zaletel and Daniel Volland gave a presentation about the HOME initiative. Bottom line, demand is high and supply is low for housing in Anchorage. Anchorage has fewer people but more households than in previous years. Power point is available upon request.

Dave Evans motioned for the council to accept a resolution regarding the HOME initiative. Ron Alleva seconded the motion. Dave Evans read his resolution aloud. Scott opened the floor to discussion and open discussion ensued.

Sara Dykstra motioned to table the resolution discussion until next month, Pete Mjos seconded.

Scott called for a vote to table the discussion:

Dave Evans stated that the vote to table the discussion required 2/3 majority to pass.

In support of tabling the resolution: 12 votes

Nays: 14

Abstentions: 2, Elvi Gray-Jackson and Meg Zaletel

Motion failed.

Open discussion regarding the resolution continued.

Scott called for a vote:

In favor of the resolution: 18

Not in favor of the resolution: 11

Abstentions: 2 Elvi Gray-Jackson and Meg Zaletel

Resolution Passed.

Guest speaker: Shawn Hays, Henning, Inc., managing the Golden Lion - Shawn had to leave early, Pete read some of Henning, Inc's goals for the neighborhood and highlights from their mission statement.

Committee reports:

Beautification - Meg for Zack - Last Saturday in September, please help decommission the planters.

Jill Klein motion to adjourn, Pete Mjos second, Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.