

Campbell Park Community Council
Minutes
September 21st, 2023
Via Zoom and in-person at
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cay Room

I-III. Call to order, approval of agenda, and approval of minutes

Chair Harary called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. The agenda was approved as amended. The draft minutes were approved as submitted.

IV. Guest Speaker Rep. Ortiz was scheduled, but was not available, to discuss Daylight Saving Time.

V. Old Business

a. Fire hydrants In response to Nicole Cupp's inquiry, Assembly Member Zaletel obtained fire department confirmation policy of not repairing fire hydrants within 500 feet of a working fire hydrant. As a result of Zaletel's query, the fire department recognized the need to update the map of working and non-functional fire hydrants.

New Business

a. Resolution for Selection of Camp Site to Recommend to Assembly Task Force

Tony Andrew read a draft resolution recommending the Tudor and Elmore location as the site for a dry campground. After discussion, Tony agreed to revise the draft prior to the next meeting. The revision would remove references to the Navigation Center and "whereas" positions not previously supported by the Campbell Park Community Council.

b. Rabbit Creek Community Council Comments on AO-2023-87

Because the Assembly tabled a vote on AO-2023-87, the proposal to simplify residential zoning, and is apparently revising the proposal, the council deferred discussion until the October meeting.

VI. Reports

a. FCC Kevin Fimon Funds are available for training in community council procedures. The Municipal Ombudsman's office may be willing to help arrange training, which would have to occur in October or November. Funding expires in December.

b. Housing and Homelessness Committee. Chair Harary reported briefly for Michael Burke on activities involving unhoused campers in and near Waldron Park and St. Mary's. As a result, some unhoused persons were moved to housing.

c. CPCC Chair Jordan Harary Jordan may need to resign as chair prior to the end of his term in January. Individuals willing to step up should talk to board members.

d. Legislature - Senate

Sen. Gray-Jackson Recent activities include:

- National Conference of State Legislators
- White House Conference on Child Care issues
- Palmer Plant Materials Center tour.

Sen. Gray-Jackson's recent report to constituents follows the end of these minutes.

Sen. Forrest Dunbar commented on

- Childcare
- Blight tax proposal for dangerous properties, not including single family primary residences
- Shelter site locations
- State support of homeless issues

e. Legislature - House

Rep. Andy Josephson Recent and ongoing activities include:

- Audit of Department of Law, not yet published
- Legislation regarding state funding of lawsuits against the governor
- Legislation to outlaw non-consensual pelvic exams in hospitals
- Legislation to increase penalties for domestic violence in the presence of children
- Reform of psychiatric care and patients rights

Rep. Andrew Gray Deirdre Goins reported for Rep. Gray. Rep. Gray is starting a monthly Zoom session for constituents and is continuing the East Anchorage Book Club podcast. Links are available at repgray.com.

f. Mayor's Office. Michelle Hodel, constituent relations director, reported on subjects including:

- The mayor's efforts to increase housing and adopt a cold weather sheltering plan by October 15th
- The Anchorage Police Department and Cops for Community started a youth mentorship program to introduce young people to policing and possible careers in policing.
- The Port of Alaska Phase I and II projects are eligible for federal Department of Transportation funding under the Transportation Infrastructure and Innovation Act. The next step is to apply for a loan under this program.

g. Assembly

Felix Rivera Rivera's comments included:

- Assembly's plans for \$3.7M funding for implementing cold weather housing and for additional long term housing when low barrier shelters close in the Spring.
- Assembly matching grant of \$1.3M to Anchorage Affordable Housing and the Anchorage Land Trust to rehabilitate thirty to forty housing units by spring.

Meg Zaletel No report.

h. School Board Dora Wilson reported on start of school year

- Bus routes fully staffed
- Monday morning late starts in elementary and middle schools for teacher professional learning communities (plc).
- Focus on reading proficiency
- In August 2024, sixth grade will move to middle schools.

Margo Bellamy's September Report follows the end of these minutes.

i. JBER - No report.

J. Comments from public

In response to Felix Rivera's report, Josephine and Bob Jennings described their experiences in Anchorage and traveling in the lower 48, emphasizing decline in civility and increase in lawlessness on a national scale.

Nicole Cupp pointed out that the proposed low barrier congregate shelter/navigation center in the former Solid Waste Services transfer station is close to Campbell Creek Trail. Also near the trail are Save High School and Tudor Elementary School.

Steve Sawyer suggested establishment of a community garden on Muni property at 46th and Walker, site of a former tennis court. Muni operates five other community gardens, the closest of which is four miles away. The chair noted that St. Mary's Episcopal Church operates a community garden on church grounds, just off Lake Otis Boulevard.

VII. Next Meeting: October 19th, 2023, 7:00 pm, via Zoom and in person at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cay Room.

IX. The meeting adjourned about 9:10.

Steve Johnson
Secretary
Campbell Park Community Council