

## AHCC Meeting - 18 May 2023

### **Attendees**

#### Residents:

Chelsea Ward-Waller (President)  
Jena Ferrarese (Secretary)  
John Whitlock (Board Member at Large)  
Emily Weiser (Board Member at Large)  
Joan Fisher  
Sheri Whitethorn  
Kalen Saxton  
Karlene Leeper  
Ed Brewer  
Emily Becker  
Carolyn Ramsey (Vice President)  
Paige Coatney  
Brita Mjos (Committee Chair)  
Mikhail Siskoff  
Larry Hayden  
Amanda Moser (FCC Rep)  
Tyler Boyes (Committee Chair)

#### Guests:

Joy Boston - JBER  
Karen Bronga - Anchorage Assembly  
George Martinez - Anchorage Assembly  
Lt. Colonel Doug Tollerud - Salvation Army  
Meg Zalatel - Anchorage Assembly  
Rich Sewell - Merrill Field Airport Member  
Katy Giorgio - staff for Genevieve Mina  
Dora Wilson - Anchorage School Board  
Eric Boyer - Mental Health Trust Authority  
Carl Jacobs - Anchorage School Board  
Joey Sweet - Anchorage Assembly  
Forrest Dunbar - State Senator  
Felix Rivera - Anchorage Assembly

## **Approve April 2023 Agenda**

- Executive board approved April 2023 Minutes

Moved to approve by E. Weiser, seconded by J. Whitlock

E. Becker - Motion to add item about community garden spaces

No opposition; approved by consent.

## **Assembly/Legislative/School Board Reports and JBER**

Member Martinez - please know you can reach out to him (907-343-4120 george.martinez2@anchorageak.gov); co-chair of community and economic development committee; may look into beautification project on SE corner of Bragaw and Debarr

Member Bronga - co-chair Health Policy, on Ethics and Election committee; bicycle equity ordinance coming soon; can contact her (907-343-4119)

K. Giorgio (for Rep Mina) - the budget passed! Legislature adjourned until January. One time addition to BSA for \$680/student; \$1350 PFD; does not draw from Reserve. Rep Mina will be back in Anchorage next week. 1st bill passed (HB 23) to recognize October as Filipino-American History Month. The SNAP bill for Jan will hopefully preclude the current situation from developing again by changing eligibility to just income not assets. Capital Projects added today (5/18): <https://www.akleg.gov/PDF/33/A/HB0039-S038.PDF>

Member Zalatel - public hearing on May 23rd for \$822,000 in legal settlements for employment claims (standard public hearing procedures apply for testifying); Port of Alaska has 2 big issues - soonest they will come to hearing is June 20th - #1 Cargo docks design came through and is expensive as design is for both terminals to be both LOLO and RORO (lift/roll on/off) - intermediate option would be LOLO on one, RORO on one - smallest option also available but unlikely as no one really likes this one - #2 Tariff Surcharge would allow Port to borrow money for modernization program - how much depends on needs based on which design is chosen

Member Rivera - Sullivan Arena ramped down from 360 to 90 mobility issue folks on May 1; 68 stayed there Wednesday (May 15). "Impacts" from that reduction - Assembly approved outreach funding (contact outreach, housing-driven outreach, mobility and medical needs outreach, mobile navigation outreach) - 200+ housing units coming online this summer (former Barrett Inn, former Lake Shore Inn, former Golden Lion) - sanctioned camp committee/task force - Clean Slate strategy ramping up (establishment of year-round, low barrier shelter) - full info on Muni web site

School Board Member Wilson - Congrats to Class of 2023! Online registration for fall has started. Professional Learning Communities will start next year for all grades - 1 hr late start on Mondays. School start times won't adjust until the 2024-2025 school year. School Board reorg meeting: M. Bellamy is President again (other officers also stayed the same). Our reps will be D. Wilson and C. Jacobs.

School Board Member Jacobs - BSA increase for only one year; ASD will receive \$49 million - 60% of deficit is covered. No budget cuts to education. School bond reimbursement is still not applicable, so will be taxpayer funded until it resumes. Proposal for one hour of opioid education annually.

Joy Boston (JBER) - Memorial Day is Monday, May 29; Richardson National Cemetery Memorial Day event; Pre-registration for Memorial Day access will be available May 24 and 25 only. Individuals interested in registering should call (907) 552-6910 between 8 and 11 a.m. or noon and 4 p.m. You may experience long wait times during the phone call, depending on time of day, but pre-registration will eliminate waiting at the VCC.; More info at <https://www.jber.jb.mil/News/News-Releases/Display/Article/3398989/jber-offers-expedited-memorial-day-access-to-fort-richardson-national-cemetery/>; Anchorage Memorial Day event Join us at the Anchorage Veterans Memorial at the Delaney Park Strip, on I St between 9th Ave and 10th Ave; Music starts at 9AM, ceremony begins at 9:30AM MG Eifler will be the keynote speaker; Eielson AFB air show July 22-23

### **Seward-Glenn Mobility Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study**

Emily Weiser

Still in the gathering info stage - lots of community input options; more information will soon be posted on the website. No hard plans yet - nothing shown on maps. The Connecting Communities project is having a voice in the development process.

### **Community Council Boundaries updates that may affect Airport Heights**

Emily Weiser

CC Boundaries get updated every 10 years. There were five proposals that, if implemented, would impact AH. Advisory Committee creates proposal that gets sent to Planning Dept, which will develop proposals sent to CCs in Fall

- 15 - Move AHCC north of Debarr into Mountain View CC; not yet considered by advisory committee
- 16 - Move Anchor Park from Roger's Park CC to AHCC; advisory committee recommended implementation
- 17 - Move Eastridge from AHCC to RPCC; not recommended by advisory committee
- 18 - Move 24th st houses from RPCC to AHCC; not yet considered by advisory committee
- 21 - Move Sitka Park from AHCC to Fairview CC; not recommended by advisory committee

Contact Emily with questions: [Emily.L.Weiser@gmail.com](mailto:Emily.L.Weiser@gmail.com)

### **The Salvation Army 3.1 Transitional Housing Program**

Lt. Colonel Doug Tollerud

3600 E. 20th property - currently houses several different programs; looking at reopening residential facility with 32 beds for graduates from addiction treatment programs; most likely to be female-only, but TBD; timeline would be end of Sept 2023 if goes well for first 15 beds and then rest in next 90 days

## **Airport Heights Gardeners**

E. Becker

Maintenance has started at spaces around the neighborhood. Betty at the 'T' (by Fire Island) would definitely like help. The Triangle (16th and Lake Otis) has haskaps and apple trees; trying to keep vetch down. Birchwood and 16th Circle; Kay is the champion and would like help. All along 16th east of Sunrise are cement planters open for adoption (C. Ward-Waller may be interested in this). Bean on Sunrise is mostly a food forest; E. Becker is the champion. Also school gardens championed by Kay, Emily Becker, and more.

## **Airport Heights summer picnic - June 10**

John Whitlock

Grill and tables all set. Still looking for door prize donations. Will need help for flier distribution. Contact him at: [jgroverwhitlock@gmail.com](mailto:jgroverwhitlock@gmail.com) or via FB Messenger

## **Community concerns**

C. Ward-Waller - Yes Bistro (or whatever the new name is) is renewing their liquor license; Heritage Land Bank is doing review of management plan; Clean Slate strategy will have CC reps and Chelsea will share that role and hopes to keep our CC involved as well; Spruce seedlings from Audubon Society will be available at many locations but not specific to AHCC; this is last meeting until fall.

E. Weiser - Fire Island Farmer's Market on Wed 3-7 pm starting May 24th. Arctic Organics will likely still be there for order pickup.

J. Fisher - question about 20th sidewalk status and maybe widening Tikishla trail? Brook Blessings is PM and can provide details.

J. Ferrarese - Anchor Gardens & Anchorage Permaculture Guild seedling exchange Sunday May 21, 2-5 pm, 3509 Willow St (Across from the Boys and Girls Club)

J. Whitlock - any bear sightings? Yep, sure have been.

Move to adjourn E. Weiser, seconded by J. Whitlock  
Passed by unanimous consent.