

AHCC Meeting - 16 November 2023
See recording for more details on any topic

Attendees

Residents:

Chelsea Ward-Waller (President)
Emily Weiser (Board Member at Large)
Carolyn Ramsey (Vice President)
Brita Mjos (Committee Chair)
John Whitlock (Board Member at Large)
Paige
Kim Milet
Mikhail Siskoff
Genevieve Mina (also State Rep)
Karlene Leeper
Emily Becker
Ryan Seekatz
Larry Hayden

Guests:

Dora Wilson - Anchorage School Board; wilson_dora@asdk12.org; 907-884-8584
Genevieve Kukukawa - Assembly Member Bronga aide
Forrest Dunbar - State Senator
Felix Rivera - Anchorage Assembly
Seth Tigarian - Sen. Dunbar staff

Call to Order, establish quorum, introductions

Approve November 2023 Agenda

Moved by C. Ramsey, seconded by E. Weiser; approved by consent

Approve October 2023 Minutes

Moved by C. Ramsey, seconded by E. Weiser; approved by consent

Assembly/Legislative/School Board Reports and JBER

Assembly Member Bronga - (emailed update shared by C. Ward-Waller) Theresa at Cyrano's plow explanation; Noreen snow condition call in; asked for JBER help and reimbursement for private plowing

Assembly Member Rivera - Snow plowing: policy and operations perspectives, will increase budget in upcoming budget; asked Mayor to open Operating Engineers (which covers plow operators) contract to increase wages; special meeting of Enterprise and Utilities committee which has oversight of Maintenance and Operations. APD has begun body-worn cameras, shooting for 30 by the end of the week/next week. Budget hearing Nov 21. Homelessness emergency cold-weather shelter is ongoing; 50+ beds added and about half have been taken. Looking at standing up warming areas (Fairview aiming for Dec 1) - also recommended for Midtown and Russian Jack/Mountain View. Housing Action Strategic Plan up for vote in Assembly in Dec; comments accepted until Dec 4.

Assembly Member Zaletel - (emailed update shared by C. Ward-Waller) Member Rivera will update on snow; Nov 21 vote on budget - final hearing; proposed budget amendments; additional budget info shared

State Senator Dunbar - Covenant House vigil happening; office open for questions; snow removal issues noted; snow discussion happening Sat the 18th with the Alaska Landmine; State DOT has wider state-wide lens but needs more attention to Anchorage; State DOT may be accessing the emergency fund; bill for AIDEA to provide loans for multi-family housing construction back from legal and proceeding; electronic version of his update sent out; AK film industry conversation about re-invigorating; pre-filed bill to establish task for to regulate psychedelic drug use in treatment situations

State Representative Mina - SNAP bill (HB 196) to increase income limit and waive asset test; can reach out to her office if anyone is having troubles with their benefits; she sits on committees related to transportation and funding; call Muni street maintenance hotline for blocked roadways; Thanksgiving blessing on Monday; Port Mackenzie rail extension meeting coming up

School Board Member Wilson - Multiple remote learning days due to student and staff safety concerns with snow conditions; working on 2024 bond, budget planning; Academies Community Convening Dec 6; Nov 21st is next board meeting

Federation of Community Councils (FCC) report

No report

Community concerns

C. Ward Waller - update on Clean Slate Strategy for low-barrier shelter location process. Site criteria were approved; locating properties that meet criteria. Look for town hall sessions when properties are identified.

Resolution around winter maintenance coming forward at next meeting (Dec) - open to input from neighbors.

Happy to share winter city transportation insights with anyone.

K. Milett - lost glasses in pink and green sunglass case between Birchwood alley and APH Elementary; PLEASE return to her or turn into APH Elementary if you picked them up

C. Ramsey - sewer drain overflow on 15th near Merrill Field; smell is reminiscent of landfill leachate; would like to get it tested. Assembly Chair Constant says "they" know about it and it should be on the bond. Past effort was a super deep wall installed to contain the leachate because of its composition. Idea from G. Mina to reach out to ACAT.

E. Weiser - cat missing on Garden/Kinnikinnick/Sunrise area; may be trapped under building by snow. "Yoshi"

Final budget hearing is a great place to voice opinions; not many people attend and speak. First 2 sections are usually most relevant (e.g., Section 1, Operational budget, includes snowplowing). Section 2 is Capital budget which is facilities, infrastructure, etc.

Please dig out fire hydrants.

R. Seekatz - APH resident for 12+ years at the end of 18th. Too many close calls with traffic speeding and cars losing control and ending up in his yard. Wants to address traffic slowing and calming for residential safety. Pleased to hear that Rosemary was on the traffic calming resolution passed at the last meeting.

Plan to not meet in December

Won't meet; see you in January.

Motion to adjourn

Made by E. Weiser, Seconded by C. Ramsey; Passed with no objections