

**Campbell Park Community Council
Minutes
February 15th, 2024
Via Zoom and in-person at
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cay Room**

1-3. Call to order, agenda, and minutes Chairwoman Nicole Cupp began the meeting at 7:05PM. Quorum was present. The agenda for this meeting and the minutes of the January meeting were approved without objection.

4. Nomination and election of officers - After a call for additional nominees, officers were elected as follows:

FCC Delegate - Kevin Fimon
Treasurer - A.J. Andrew
Secretary - Steve Johnson
Vice Chair - Andrew Satterfield
Chair - Nicole Cupp

5. Guest Speakers

Zakary Hartman - Anchorage Traffic Engineering

Traffic Calming Study Draft results of the traffic calming study funded under a 2022 legislative grant show that speeding was a problem in relatively few parts of Campbell Park Community Council area. Excessive speed was documented on Chirikof Street, an average 31 miles hour from Becharof and Shelikof, and on Waldron Drive, 28 miles per hour driving east toward Lake Otis and 36 miles per hour driving west into the neighborhood. Long term solutions requiring additional funding include narrowing the roadway, installing radar speed signs that flash speed back at drivers, and adding a speed cushion/speed hump. Use of remaining grant funds might include temporary radar speed signs or obtaining more design services for projects

requiring additional funding. The community council should send recommendations for spending the remaining funds.

Beth Nordlund -Anchorage Park Foundation. Summary of Chugach Access SVC Area (CASA) and other bond issues. Ballot proposition 9 would provide four million dollars for improving Canyon Road for access to Flat Top, Rabbit Lake and other parts of Chugach State Park. Proposition 3 would provide \$4.3 million for improvements to Anchorage parks. Proposition 8 would provide five million dollars for public rest rooms in parks.

6. Old Business

Sanctioned Homeless Camp Resolution - TJ Andrew

After reading of the resolution, and brief discussion, voting was deferred pending Assembly member Rivera's comments on current municipal policy on permitted camps. Due to lack of quorum later in the meeting, a vote on the resolution was not held.

Discussion of saving a blessing at the beginning of CPCC meeting After discussion, members agreed to Vice-Chair' Satterfield's suggestion that meetings begin with an expression of gratitude, such as those given in family gatherings.

7. Reports Legislature

Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson. January report is included in the appendix to these minutes

Sen Forrest Dunbar Assistant James Holzenberg stood in for Sen. Dunbar. His January report is included in the appendix.

Rep. Andy Josephson. For Rep. Josephson, Lisa Keller summarized his current assignments; Finance Committee and subcommittees for Dept. of Health, Dept. of Family and Community Services, Dept. of Law and Judiciary, and University of Alaska. These government departments have difficulty recruiting and retaining employees. Other current concerns include residential rent increases, Cook Inlet gas supplies, and the governor's executive orders abolishing boards for massage, midwives, and hairdressers and barbers. He supports continuing these boards because they are working well.

Rep. Andrew Gray Assistant Deirdre Goins reported on HB 198, which would increase the SNAP benefit period from six months to twelve months before renewal is required and to 18 months for seniors and people with disabilities. HB 298, the Alcoholic Beverage and Cancer Act would add a one sentence cancer warning to existing warning signs at points of sale for alcohol.

Mayor's Office - no report, not present.

Assembly

Meg Zaletel Not present.

Felix Rivera In response to a comment on the Muni's credit rating, , Rivera noted that the city's credit rating was reduced due to delays in FEMA reimbursements and reductions in funds on hand, not because of bonded debt. Two Education bond issues are on the spring ballot, one for capital expenditures and one for operational expenses. There is also a revenue bond to support continued expansion of the port. The bond would be funded by increasing the tariff on goods shipped through the port. The Administration

no longer supports allowed camping in public parks and a budget amendment to support allowed camping failed.

E. School Board Carl Jacobs reported on plans to use savings to offset 70 per cent of the deficit in the coming school year budget. Other economies will include reduction of teacher position. larger class sizes in grades 4 through 12, reductions in supplies, eliminating travel, and reductions to ASD administration.

F. Housing & Homelessness Committee T.J. Andrew - no report.

G. FCC Delegate No report.

H. Treasurer T.J. Andrew. No report.

I. CPCC Chair Nicole Cupp. No report.

8. Open Forum

Remaining attendees discussed limiting length of reports and possible alternative meeting locations

9. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:35.

The next meeting is on Thursday, March 21st, at 7:00 PM, at Cay's Room, St. Mary's Episcopal church, and by Zoom.

Appendix

Sanctioned Homeless Camp Resolution

Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson. February report.

Sen Forrest Dunbar February report.

CAMPBELL PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL Resolution 2023-03

November 16, 2023

A RESOLUTION THAT ENDORSES AN ALLOWED DRY-ONLY NON SUBSTANCE USE CAMPSITE LOCATED AT THE TUDOR AND ELMORE NAVIGATION CENTER LOCATION

WHEREAS, the Campbell Park Community Council is composed of residents, property owners, business owners, and representatives from the Campbell Park Community Council neighborhood designated by the Anchorage Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the community councils is to provide a direct and continuing means of citizen participation in government and local affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage is experiencing an ongoing crisis due to the large number of homeless residents and a shortage of places to shelter the homeless population;

THEREFORE, BE IT NOW RESOLVED, that the Campbell Park Community Council endorses the establishment of a permitted camping site on the location of the proposed Navigation Center near the Intersection of Tudor Road and Elmore Road, said site to be limited to a population of 50, with room for expansion to 100, and to be operated as a dry, non-substance use site for women, children, families and people with mobility issues.

RESOLUTION VOTE

____ FOR ____ AGAINST ____ ABSTAIN

Nicole C. Cupp, Chairwoman of Campbell Park Community Council

Steve Johnson, Secretary

Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Campbell Park Community Council
February 15, 2024

Education

The Alaska State Legislature has been working on increasing the Base Student Allocation (BSA) for this year. The proposed legislation, Senate Bill 140, includes a smaller public education funding boost than advocates requested. The bill proposes a permanent \$300 increase to the BSA, which is a 5% increase but less than what school districts have said is needed to keep up with inflation. However, the Association of Alaska School Boards has recommended a permanent \$1,413 increase, and some lawmakers have called for a permanent increase of \$680. The legislature's work on this issue indicates ongoing discussions and potential changes regarding education funding in the state.

This Session

The following is a list of my current legislative priorities for this session.

Juneteenth (SB 22) — Make Juneteenth an observed legal state holiday. This bill was heard and held in House Finance Committee on February 6th with a deadline of February 13th for amendments. The bill will head to the Rules Committee then to the House Floor for a vote.

Use of Force Registry (SB 23) — Establish a use-of-force database that will be overseen by the Department of Public Safety which will collect reports of use of force by a municipal police officer, municipal correctional facility employee, probation officer, parole officer, correctional officer, state trooper, village public safety officer or regional officer.

Public Schools: Mental Health Education (SB 24) — Amends existing health education curriculum to include mental health in K-12 health classrooms to adequately educate students on vital information pertaining to mental health symptoms, resources, and treatment. This bill was heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee on February 7th.

Asian American/Pacific Islander Program (SB 131) — Teaching students in Kindergarten through 12th grade about the contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States. Several other states across the country have passed similar bills which allows students to feel empowered and to understand their ethnic identities as well as their personal civic duty. This bill was heard and held in Senate State Affairs on February 8th.

Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Campbell Park Community Council
February 15, 2024

Education for Deaf & Hearing Impaired (SB 143) companion to HB111 —

This bill is a deaf and hard of hearing children's bill of rights that establishes consistency in the information provided to parents by the school district, allows parents to choose the best method of communication for their child and requires the school district to provide services using the parent's chosen method of communication. This bill is currently waiting to be heard on Senate Education committee.

New Legislation

Stay at Work/Return to Work (SB 206) – Was introduced on January 24th, and it has been referred to the Senate Labor & Commer Committee. This bill adds a Return-to-Work Coordinator to State Statutes to assist with planning for individuals who experience on the job injuries resulting in compensable time loss injuries. The program will help supervisors manage employee injury, illness and disability and ensure that employees can return to the workplace as quickly and safely as possible. This bill will be heard on February 14th in Senate Labor and Commerce.

Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness Month (SR 3) – This Senate Resolution was introduced on January 24th, and it has been referred to Senate Community & Regional Affairs. This Resolution aims to recognize March as Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness Month in Alaska to raise awareness of the need for research, screening programs and access to care for individuals who suffer from chronic kidney disease.

Budgets

My focus continues to be developing a comprehensive and sustainable fiscal plan. During the last legislative session, we made some progress but still have lots of work to do.

Capital Budget. As usual, you can submit your priorities through the legislative capital budget website. The deadline for submittal is February 14th.

- The Capital Project Submission & Information System (CAPSIS) is now open until mid-February so I am encouraging my community councils to consider what projects they might want to submit for consideration.
- The Capital budget has been relatively thin the last few years due to the State's current fiscal climate, but it is important that projects are noted so that when the fiscal climate recovers, we can address the most pressing projects. The reality – even without current funding, listing needed projects serves as

Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Campbell Park Community Council
February 15, 2024

placeholders for the future.

- I'm hopeful that some of the projects that were not funded during the last session, will qualify for funding through the infrastructure funds.

Committee Membership

I currently serve on the following committees.

- Legislative Council, **Chair**
- Education, **Member**
- Community and Regional Affairs, **Member**
- Labor and Commerce, **Member**
- Commerce, Community and Economic Development (*Finance Subcommittee*), **Member**
- Health (*Finance Subcommittee*), **Member**
- Labor and Workforce Development (*Finance Subcommittee*), **Member**
- Family & Community Services (*Finance Subcommittee*), **Member**

Governor's Joint Session:

During the 50-minute speech, the Governor asked legislators to pass bills related to education, agriculture, home ownership, and the supply of natural gas for Southcentral Alaska. He urged lawmakers to approve cash bonuses to teachers who stay in Alaska. That idea, introduced in legislation by the Governor, has been included in SB 140.

Other Governor-proposed bills mentioned Tuesday night included a proposal to reduce the down payments for first-time homeowners who seek loans from the Alaska Housing Finance Corp. and legislation that would reduce costs for farmers.

Senate District G Office

My staff and I are in our Juneau office for the session. We are always available to assist you with your concerns so feel free to stop by, email me or call the office at 907-465- 4930.

Always representing your interests!



Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-6944

**Alaska State Senate
Senator Forrest Dunbar**

Interim: 1500
W. Benson Blvd. Anchorage,
Alaska 99503
Sen.forrest.dunbar@akleg.gov



**Session 2024 Community Council Update
February**

Education Funding

On January 17th, I voted for the override of Governor Dunleavy's veto of half the proposed \$175 million boost in education funding. The vote failed with a 33-26 vote in favor of the override. The override required three-fourths of lawmakers, or 45 votes, to proceed.

Pension Funding Vote

My vote to pass Senate Bill 88 was one of my proudest as a senator. Senate Bill 88 will reinstate a defined benefit pension for public employees. This will boost retirement benefits and help resolve the workforce shortage by ensuring employees will have a secure retirement plan, motivating them to apply for and remain with public sector jobs. SB 88 made it out of the Senate Finance Committee and was passed through the Senate Floor on Wednesday, January 26th. It is now in the House.

Legislation Updates

Since session began, three of my bills and one resolution have been heard by their respective committees of referral.

SB 56 AK PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP; ELIGIBILITY is a bill that would update the current Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS), ultimately increasing access to post-secondary education in Alaska. A bill hearing was held in Senate Finance on January 30th. The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) provided testimony and answered questions from the committee. The bill was passed out of Senate Finance on Thursday, February 15th.

SJR 13, AMEND NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT was passed unanimously out of the Senate February 14th; the resolution expresses the legislature's support for federal legislation that would return lands currently held in trust by the state of Alaska to Alaska Native communities.

SB 166, MENTAL HEALTH/PSYCHEDLIC MED. TASK FORCE, was heard in Senate Labor and Commerce. This bill does not legalize any drug; it is a response to the likely FDA legalization of psychedelics for therapeutic purposes that many mental health advocates, especially veterans' groups, are anticipating. Testimony was positive and the bill will be heard again on Friday.

SB 159 ALASKA VETERAN' POPPY DAY was moved out of Senate State Affairs on February 13th. It is waiting for a vote on the floor; the bill would designate the Friday before Memorial Day as "Alaska Veterans' Poppy Day," encouraging Alaskans to wear red poppies in gratitude for the sacrifices of those who served in wars.

CAPSIS

The CAPSIS deadline is Friday, February 16th. We are working on Capital Budget Requests for several in-district organizations, including Southcentral foundation, Catholic Social Services, and Habitat Alaska.

<https://tinyurl.com/SenDunbar-Newsletter>