

# Spenard Community Council

Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 6:30-8:30pm

Zoom Meeting Recording:



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27WveUJ7Uw8&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27WveUJ7Uw8&feature=emb_logo)

## Agenda

	Topic
6:30 pm	<b>Zoom Happy Hour</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● SCC Secretary Meg Mielke welcomed council members and guests.</li></ul>
7:07 pm	<b>1. Welcome/Call to Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Orientation to Zoom: Lindsey Hajduk led an orientation to Zoom.</li><li>● Consent Agenda (Minutes from previous meeting 09/02/2020, Agenda for current meeting).<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Motion:</b> Arina Filippenko moved to approve, Jerry Sparkman seconded. Consent agenda passes.</li></ul></li><li>● Hajduk introduced Executive Board council members.</li></ul>
7:10 pm	<b>2. Brief reports, Airport Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● John Johansen: Encouraged people to use cell-phone parking lot and noted that the airport has vacancies for employment. Airport traffic is down 45%-50% from this time of year.</li><li>● Irene Perrson-Gamble: Inquired about funding source for new signage directing folks to airlines.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Johansen: Airport paid for them (users of airports: airlines, tenants, and passengers to some-degree.) Airport does not receive any state general funds; self-supporting other than FAA airport improvement grants received annually. Goal was to provide more flexible signage other than highway signs; can change the messages, and wanted to do this for many years.</li></ul></li><li>● Peggy Auth: Inquired about campaign signs that appear to be on airport property.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Johansen: Noted that he will have to look into airport policy; unclear about property lines, noted property along Lake Hood is under lease to tenants. Will provide information to the SCC president via email.</li></ul></li></ul>
7:19pm	<b>3. Special Topic: Anchorage Police Department, Community Patrol Officers' Spenard report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Lt. Mark Patzke: Shared data from August (last month of data collated). 1,000 calls in SCC. Most common one is "disturbance" (generic term), second is "suspicious circumstances" (something that looks illegal, not sure how it fits); noted that "suspicious circumstances" demonstrates that calls are being made by community members. Recognized the persistent problem of bike theft (even with best bike locks</li></ul>

and security measures, there is technology that will defeat it.) Urged to not lose hope; echoed Tahnee Seccareccia's earlier advice for people to write down bikes' serial numbers.

- Paul Berger: Noticed that there is a lot of foot traffic between 3am to 6am; how to change behavior to prevent bike thefts. Inquired about recovered bike rate.
  - Patzke: Policies mirror case law out of the US Supreme Court; in order to stop someone against will, police need to have reason to think they have or will commit crime. Someone walking down the street cannot be stopped; no obligation to talk to police, answer questions, or permit searches. Protects innocent civilians. Encouraged suspicious circumstances calls as that can allow police to investigate. Do not aggregate data on bike thefts; estimate that is likely low.
- Sparkman: Complimented increased police presence; noticed people seem to be moving around more.
  - Patzke: Noted that SCC's top area for calls is the intersection of Spenard/Minnesota; environmental changes have happened to lessen this.
- Elana Habib: Voiced fear of suspicious activity in an RV parked outside of home (people bringing new-appearing bikes in and attracting different kinds of people who appear to be struggling). Inquired if she should keep calling daily if there appears to be a problem. Asked about referring to resources such as treatment.
  - Patzke: Encouraged to not give up. Noted that they do triage call (life safety is priority). For example, 39 calls are on hold, but everyone who has life safety is being responded to. Noted that the justice system is often used as a foray into treatment (admitted that it is a mixed success.) Officers do not have pamphlets to refer people. Law enforcement agency is not set up to do social services; expanding to some extent in the next few months to include more of a focus on mental health.
- Seccareccia: Shared about problem property of Chelsea Inn; asked for advice for community members.
  - Patzke: Please call if you see an issue. AMC 880 bills for excessive police response. Community action team gathers all calls for service at a particular address, as it reaches a certain threshold, property owners will receive bills from the city. Noted that law is not structured to hold property owners accountable.
    - Seccareccia: noted that she had conversation with Chelsea Inn who knows about AMBC880; expressed their hesitancy to call in
- Peggy Auth: Voiced concern about cars traveling very fast along Spenard (emphasized part of roadway between International and Wisconsin, typically early afternoon until 6pm), it is getting dangerous; asked if police could do traffic enforcement
  - Patzke: Will forward information to the traffic department. Encouraged to contact Patrick Roberts, Traffic Department:  
[Patrick.roberts@anchorageak.gov](mailto:Patrick.roberts@anchorageak.gov)
  - Patzke: Municipal traffic engineers are a good resource to consider implementing design changes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jerrod Dunbar: Inquired if community members can contact someone in police department to assist police department in reducing crime. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Patzke: Noted that there are some established community groups (Mountain View and Fairview); encouraged to contact Gila Burington, Community Policing: <a href="mailto:Gina.burington@anchorageak.gov">Gina.burington@anchorageak.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7:45 pm	<p><b>4. Education Topic: Ballot Measure 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hajduk: Shared that SCC was approached by group Alaskans for Better Elections who asked to speak. Typically host a candidates forum, but not doing so this fall; decided there were enough questions to host discussion for ballot measure.</li> <li>● Shea Siegert, Campaign Manager for Alaskans for Better Elections: Summarizes 3 parts of ballot measure. (Creates open primaries that lists all candidates for state and federal office. Creates ranked choice voting in general elections. Requires campaigns to disclose “true source” of contributions. Both donors and recipients are required to report donations above \$2,000 within 24 hours. Any group receiving more than 50% of its funding from outside of Alaska ust include that info/disclaimer on all communications.)</li> <li>● Dunbar: Spoke to length of ballot measure and statutory changes. Noted non-affiliation of voters is because registration is now tied to PFD. Voiced concern that many voters do not know enough about candidates to vote for 3 or 4 choices. Noted that Maine is the only state that has adopted this; rather see other states do it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Siebert: Noted that typically when initiatives are filed, it is in suggestion type format, and once it passes it goes to the legislative drafting committee. Alaskans for Better Elections wanted to do this work up front so that it was clear from the beginning. For undeclared voters, cannot speculate as to why; but we do have the highest percentage of voters in the US that are not registered as Democratic/Republican. Maine did exit polls on voter confusion: worst result: 6% were confused, most were closer to 1-2% confusion. Noted that ballot measure encourages candidates to educate more voters.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Hajduk: Highlighted future events to educate the public from Alaska Common Ground on both ballot measures.</li> </ul>
8:00 pm	<p><b>6. Education Topic: Historic Preservation Commission’s draft Local Landmark Ordinance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jenny Blanchard, vice chair of the historic preservation commission (advisory board that advises municipalities on cultural resource and historical preservation issues). Commission has been working on a local landmark ordinance to recognize the municipality's history and create a local landmark registry. Will have a public hearing draft up for comment within the next 2 weeks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Local Landmark Ordinance Link</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
8:09 pm	<p><b>5. Education Topic: W. 32nd Ave. &amp; E. 33rd Ave Upgrades Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Holly Spoth-Torres: Invited members to an open house on Thursday, October 15 from 5pm to 6:30pm via Microsoft Teams (can call in or do independent walk through.) City is getting ready to start the first phase. Will be some interim changes (bike lane improvements) between Arctic and C Street. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Website and link to participate in meeting</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

8:14 pm	<p><b>7. Special Topic:</b> Spenard Work Group updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trick or Treat Fish Creek event, Meg Mielke: Shared that Trick or Treat Fish Creek has been cancelled. Anchorage Park Foundation contacted the permit office who noted that they may not be able to get insurance for the event due to CDC classifying the event as “high risk” and even if insurance was granted, the event would have to follow cumbersome rules such as required logs. Asked for feedback about ways to virtually celebrate. Encouraged folks to email ideas to <a href="mailto:mielke.meg@gmail.com">mielke.meg@gmail.com</a></li> <li>● Beach Park Challenge Grant: Sara Haley, Turnagain CC: Created flyer for vision of Spenard Beach Park. Need to raise additional \$5,000 then can accomplish goals with matching grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Link to donate</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
8:20 pm	<p><b>8. Neighborhood &amp; Community Announcements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Julia Makela, Project Administrator for West Anchorage Snow Disposal Site: Current site is short-term lease from Anchorage Airport; procuring a lease annually is difficult, often having not gotten it before the first snowfall. This would be a permanent site to be municipally owned. Goal is to find a 24/7 operation. Have created a draft site selection study. Preparing for public comment (accepting comments through November) and public meeting for October 29. Requesting feedback. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Website for West Anchorage Snow Removal Site</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Hajduk, Spenard Corridor Plan: Will be on agenda tomorrow and then will go over to the Policy Committee. Serve as a coalescing vision for the community. Draft budget is out for the city for 2021. SCC put in proposals for capital improvement projects. Spenard road from Benson to Minnesota is up for improvements, \$160,000 for design/construction. 32nd/33rd project would go on a bond for \$1.5 million. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Capital Improvement Plan Draft 2021 Budget</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Dunbar: Voiced concern about Ballot Measure 1. Shared personal story of working on the North Slope for 10 years, noticed that when new taxes are passed it makes it harder to do projects. Believes taxes would discourage investors. He did not want to tell anyone how to vote; wanted to share personal opinion.</li> <li>● Sarah Preskitt: Speaking on behalf of Anchorage Public Library. Community members can put books on hold and pick them up during business hours, M-F 10am to 6pm. APL launching new services: personal librarian (research help.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Peggy Auth: Noted that signage for pick-up is confusing. Encouraged to improve signage.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
8:35pm	<p><b>9. Adjourn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 4th; moved to approve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Motion:</b> Peggy Auth moved to approve. Meeting adjourns.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>