

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL
General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2020
On ZOOM

Call to Order 7:04

Welcome and Introductions

Agenda moved by Dave Rittenberg and seconded by Leslie Kleinfeld. The agenda was approved with no objection.

December 2020 General Membership Meeting Minutes moved by Karen Gonne-Harrell and seconded by Jerome Lopes. Minutes were approved with no objection.

Elected Officials

Representative Zack Fields

The area around Charles Smith Park on the Chester Creek Greenbelt hasn't been improved. There are many homeless encampments there. He reached out to Christopher Constant and Josh Durand with Muni Parks and Recreation to put other facilities there to displace homeless encampments. Zack drafted a resolution and sent it to Allen Kemplen. He would like a member of the council to introduce the resolution for consideration at a later meeting. Zack would like to see the city continue to invest in the greenbelts and Eastchester Park.

Q from Leslie Kleinfeld – what things would you like to see at Charles Smith Park? Zack Fields – a link to the single-track bike track that runs by the area. It may also be a good area for a pump track for kids, there is a housing development nearby with lots of children and it would be good if they could just walk to the park and use a pump track. The resolution is broad to allow for different options.

Q from David Rittenberg – is there a deadline for when the council should pass the resolution? Zack Fields – my plan is to put it in Parks and Rec's court. There is no immediate need to pass it right away.

Q from James Thornton – has thought been given to where the people in the encampments will go after they are displaced? Zack Fields – Anchorage cannot abate encampments unless there is housing for the people in the camps. Anchorage has made a lot of progress on the homelessness issue.

Upcoming session, there should be a core group in House and Senate that will protect the Permanent Fund. If we drain down the Fund, we will lose the ability to fund required state services. We will go into a fiscal death spiral.

Q from Dave Rittenberg – what are your thoughts about some of your colleagues who were involved in what happened in Washington? Zack Fields – my feeling is that anyone who participates in an effort to overturn the results of a democratic election doesn't deserve to sit in a democratic body.

Anchorage Assembly member Christopher Constant – sends regrets but had to attend a special Assembly meeting.

Anchorage School Board member Andy Holleman

On January 19 there will be some resumption of face-to-face schooling for younger grades, special education, and Whaley School. Distance options are still available.

Vaccine clinic at ASD building on Boniface was a big hit. They put about 1,000 people through. One can go to the ASD website to get an appointment; the clinic may also take walk-ins. Nurses are on hand in case anyone has a bad reaction. Teachers are not higher on the vaccination list, but ASD thought it would be good to make it easier for anyone to get the shot.

Standing Reports

President Allen Kemplen

- Met with Muni Planning Staff regarding the resolution that was passed regarding the update of the Neighborhood Plan. Moving forward.
- At the January Executive Board meeting Karen Gonne-Harrell shared that she has been in contact with DOT about a permit for community garden at 14th and Ingra. It is a lengthy process and it may be 6 months to a year before we can get a permit to put a community garden on that vacant lot.
- Met with Merrill Field manager regarding working in cooperative way to improve interface along Orca St. Merrill Field has hired a consultant to look at their properties along Orca to come up ideas to make it nicer for residents who live around there.

Treasurer Sharon Chamard

\$7 bank fee

Current balances:

General \$239; Comm. Dev. \$1013; Beautification \$274; A Better Fairview \$7930. Total \$9,456

Presentations

Elizabeth Appleby, Sr. Planner, Municipal Planning, Homeless Shelter Ordinance

This was a presentation of a PowerPoint that is available here:

https://www.muni.org/departments/ocpd/planning/siteassets/pages/title-21-homeless-and-transient-shelters/t21%20shelters_2020-11-18_fcc_presentation.pdf. Discussion and question-and-answer followed.

More information about the proposed homeless shelter ordinance can be found here:

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/Pages/Title-21-Homeless-and-Transient-Shelters.aspx>.

Löki Gale-Tobin – for Sen. Begich

She is in Juneau in quarantine, and after that will be tested every three days. Because of security concerns, staff are not allowed to go to the Capital building until after the Biden inauguration.

Tom Begich thinks the House and Senate will be organized by Jan 21. He has prefiled nine bills; they can be seen at akleg.gov. The bills focus on areas such as free pre-K, free tuition for first responders, mill rate increase for oil companies, increasing the minimum wage to \$15, mechanisms to narrow the gender wage gap, community property language cleanup, and a Vic Fischer and Jack Coghill Constitution Day.

Q from Leslie Kleinfeld – What is the state of the budget? Löki Gale-Tobin replied she believes this session will be very budget oriented. Some discussion about doing budget first then policy, or staying in Juneau until all the work is done. Governor Dunleavy says it's a flat budget, but there are some big cuts.

It is clear that we need new revenue streams. Biden's stimulus plans has funding for states and municipalities.

Comment from Dave Rittenberg – His interest was peaked about the idea of free tuition for front-line workers. He encourages inclusion of people who were on front-line in homeless service delivery and food banks. Löki Gale-Tobin said she will share this with Tom Begich and with the sponsor-substitute in the House, Geran Tarr.

Q from Dustin Sherman – The population in AK has declined. Has there been discussion in the legislature about ways to attract new businesses, such as film industry? Löki Gale-Tobin replied that there is legislation called the Rapid Recovery Act, which would bundle state projects for clean energy and offer them to businesses. Sen. Begich is working on a net metering pilot project with ASD looking at how to store solar energy for long-term. There is a particular focus on areas that are disadvantaged, because they use the school buildings year-round.

Unfinished Business

Fairview Community Council Resolution 2020-08 Requesting the Municipality of Anchorage to modify its Snow Management Plan for the Karluk and Medfra Street hills south of 15th Avenue to resolve an unsafe pedestrian streetscape issue and to provide a safe snow-free sidewalk throughout the winter.

Allen Kemplen asked if the sponsor Leslie Kleinfeld would be okay postponing the resolution to the February meeting to allow for a presentation by the Muni regarding snow management. She did not object.

Fairview Community Council Resolution 2020-09 Regarding the proposal by the Municipal Planning Department to Amend the B-3 Zoning District

Moved by Dave Rittenberg. Seconded by James Thornton. Following comments by the mover and a brief discussion, the resolution passed without opposition.

New Business

Fairview Community Council Resolution 2021-01 Regarding improvements along Chester Creek Park – introduced by Sharon Chamard

Report and Updates

Update from Karen Gonne-Harrell on community garden. She has made contact with people from the Anchorage Community Land Trust and has some ideas for design. She is continuing to make progress.

Community Comments

- Dora Wilson, Fairview resident, talked about her background and why she is running for Anchorage School Board.
- Maria Crawford – Off-the-Chain is donating bikes, wanted a way to figure out how to distribute them. Maria and others came up with the idea of a reading challenge. She wants to fundraise with the FVCC to get helmets, locks, and bells.
 - Roger Sgraves pledged \$500. James Thornton matched that and also thanked Maria for all her efforts helping the school and Fairview's children. Fit4Life also pledged a

donation. Tom Begich (in chat box) pledged \$100. Dustin Sherman said he manages the Jewel Lake Bowling Center and they would like to help out too.

- Lindsey Hajduk– the AMATS non-motorized plan is out for public comment until March 5th. Would love to talk with a group of interested people from Fairview on those comments.
 - *Resolution 2021-02 regarding public comments on the AMATS Non-motorized Plan*, introduced by Sharon Chamard. Allen Kemplen will refer to committee. Lindsey Hajduk volunteered to be involved on the committee.
- Jerome Lopes asked about the Neighborhood Stabilization program. It's a federal program that targets neighborhoods. Is this something the state is handling or administrating? How could some of the money come to Fairview? Tristan Walsh – it's a federal program and in the past the funds have gone to AHFC. We will track it to see what happens.

Leslie Kleinfeld moved and Dave Rittenberg seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned with no objection.

Adjourn 8:44 PM