

Hillside Community Council Meeting
Minutes for Monday December 21, 2020, 7:00pm
Location: Held via Zoom

Board Roll Call: Present: Bruce Vergason, Todd Brownson, Paul Gionet, Carmela Warfield, Robert Redlinger, Zac Johnson

Board Co-President Carmela Warfield opened the meeting at 7:00pm

- Call to order & welcoming remarks.
- Membership & voting requirements.

1. The agenda and HCC November Draft meeting minutes were approved.
2. Legislative Updates:
 - No Legislators present.
3. Anchorage Assembly Reports:
 - Assembly Member John Weddleton:
 - Update on Cares Act funding allocated to the MOA.
 - The Sullivan Arena is being utilized as a homeless shelter.
 - Houses approx. 400 people, at a cost of approx. \$700k/month.
 - The only homeless shelter that is operated by the city.
 - Co-President Warfield asked about children returning to in-school learning.
 - Assembly Member Weddleton stated the Assembly does not have the authority to mandate such a change.
 - School Board Candidate Dora Wilson stated she supports a phased transition to getting children back into the schools.
 - Candidate Wilson stated she does not support school choice vouchers, as they take resources away from public schools.
4. Anchorage School District Report
 - No School Board member was present.
5. Mayoral Candidates:
 - No Mayoral Candidates present.
6. Presentation by Municipal Assessor Jack Gadamus
 - The Assessor's Office is required by code to inspect properties every six years.
 - Market value/realtor valuation may be considered, but appraisal carries more weight.
 - The value increase associated with new construction is typically a small fraction of the cost.
 - Garages do not have a major effect on value (value per square foot is approx. one third of a living room, e.g.)

7. Business Updates:

- Co-President Carmela Warfield's Report:
 - HCC is looking for community service projects.
- HCC Treasurer Paul Gionet's Report:
 - HCC spent \$119.62 for a Zoom Pro account.
 - Approx. \$1,866 in the HCC account.
- FCC Delegate Zac Johnson's Report:
 - No FCC Meeting in December.

8. Community Updates & Information

- Resolution to recommend repeal of EO-16, submitted by HCC Member Dia Matteson.
 - Member Matteson read the proposed draft resolution, to recommend immediate repeal of EO-16, related to the severity and impacts on the community brought about by the closure of businesses in the restaurant and hospitality industries.
 - A lengthy discussion ensued. Submitting HCC member Matteson was asked whether she would accept friendly amendments to the document. Member Matteson agreed to accept friendly amendments.
 - Additional discussion ensued, as the membership worked through amendments to the resolution and crafted the final draft.
- A vote of the membership was conducted. The resolution to recommend immediate repeal of EO-16 was passed and approved by the HCC with a majority vote of the 28 members in attendance.
- The next Assembly meeting will occur the day after this meeting, on 12/22/20. In order to ensure the HCC's resolution reaches the Assembly in a timely manner, HCC Secretary Brownson will attend the Assembly meeting, present and read the resolution into the records.

9. Announcements:

- HCC now has a Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/HillsideCommunityCouncil>
- The official HCC website is still the official source for information: HCC Website & official source for information: <http://communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/20.html>

10. Open Discussion:

- Co-President Warfield expressed concerns about the repeated delays for Anchorage School District students to return to in-person learning. Discussion ensued. The concerns included:
 - Many Anchorage private schools have successfully operated with in-person learning since the beginning of the 20-21 school year, while using varying mitigation protocols to safeguard students, staff and families.
 - Children that attend Anchorage School District schools have not had in-person

learning since March 2020, and are suffering from numerous and severe impacts, including:

- An inability to thrive and meet learning standards for many students in the virtual learning environment, especially young learners;
 - School employees are mandatory reporters of child abuse and neglect; and during virtual learning they are unable to fully interact with, observe and help at-risk youth;
 - State of AK DHHS is reporting higher numbers of youth suffering from suicidal ideation, suicidal attempts and suicide deaths;
 - Youth are experiencing many challenges related to isolation in the virtual learning environment, while they are unable to attend school or sports and extra activities in person, including: depression, cyber bullying, substance misuse and more.
- HCC members determined that, given the time sensitive and immediate nature of the concerns shared by some HCC members, a resolution would be drafted to request a return to in-person learning for all youth in ASD, immediately following the winter holiday break, and a vote of the HCC membership would be held regarding the resolution.
 - The Council members worked through the language of the Resolution, crafted the draft document and a vote was conducted.
 - This Resolution was passed and approved by the Hillside Community Council with a majority vote of the 28 members in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48pm