



# GOVERNMENT HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

c/o Community Councils Center • 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Jody Sola, President

Stephanie Kesler, Vice President

Peter Partnow, Secretary

Susanne DiPietro, Treasurer

Bob French, FCC Representative

Pete Murphy, Belinda MacIntire, Ron Clark, At-Large Board Members

## GHCC Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Peter Partnow

**Meeting conducted via Zoom called to order at 6:34 p.m. by President Jody Sola.**

### 1. Approval Agenda

**Motion to Accept as amended—Stephanie Kesler**

**Second: Bob French**

**Motion passes unanimously**

### 2. Approval of May minutes of May 19, 2022 meeting

**Motion to accept: Stephanie Kesler**

**Second: Ron Clark**

**Motion passes unanimously**

### 3. Introduction of Christy Terry, Alaska Railroad Corporation Representative

### 4. Introduction of Dan Volland, new(and our second!!!) Assembly Member

### 5. Legislative Update: Sen. Tom Begich –Tom is not running for re-election.

Discussed events that occurred since our May meeting including the enactment of preK in the foundation formula. Discussed meetings with the Governor and staff to avoid vetoes of matters such as expanded blood bank, expanded food bank, funding of downtown library, housing for teachers and public safety personnel in rural Alaska, major maintenance for education, University of Alaska It system, and the long trail project's Anchorage section. (Funding for the remainder of the project was vetoed.) Noted significant federal funding to be coming. Discussed status of the former Tesoro store and relationships with the Department of Transportation. Bob French requested copy of letter

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from the Commission of that Department. Chris Constance discussed his frustrations with dealing with the DOT.

**6. Assembly Update: Dan Volland** discussed the recognition of Hispanic and Latino heritage month. Reviewed confirmation of two appointees by the Mayor and rejection of the appointee to be Municipal Attorney. Discussed upcoming ballot proposition to increase residential real property tax exemption up to 75K. Reviewed on-going situation regarding homelessness in Anchorage including the rejection of the use of recreational centers for housing and introduction of an ordinance to prohibit such use unless there is a major disaster.

**Chris Constant** -Discussed the various projects and potential projects regarding housing of the homeless, and reviewed his frustration with the Municipal Administration (for spending money on project not yet authorized) and the DOT regarding this issue, including actions regarding the former Golden Lion

**7. Summer Updates:**

**A. Update: Tract J dog park:** Chris Constance reports no changes since last meeting.

**B. Update Port Lights:** Jody has photos re the cement terminal. Port is going to shade them. Supposedly to go on only with vessel are at the cement terminal, but that apparently has not been the case.

**C. Update: hedge along Suzan NM park:** No update re need to replant the hedge that was killed by Port activity.

**D. Letter to J. Vogel re: off-road 4 wheelers in SNM park:** Apparently tenants at East Cook were responsible for riding four wheelers in the park. Since reporter, there appears to have been no further such activity.

**E. Resolution re Tesoro & letter along with drawing:** Suzanne DiPietro provides background. Steve Gerlek displaces possible re-use of the property to make it more presentable and not a blight at the entrance to Government Hill neighborhood. Susanne presents a draft resolution re same.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-03resolution and letter to dot—asking to fix the condition of the property. It need not be a blight. Steve g did a visual of our proposal. Steph moves to adopt the resolution 2022-03—Steve Gerlek

Second: Melinda Gant

Melinda suggests checking with the adjacent property owners. Friendly amendment to the resolution language offered by Chris Constance is accepted. Christy Terry provides information not previously known that the lease from the Railroad to DOT requires a convenience store to remain at the Tesoro location, and that the lease may be in violation.

Motion to Table pending receipt of information regarding the status of the lease:

**Stephanie Kesler**

Second: **Melinda Gant**

Motion tabled by voice vote

**8. Treasurer's report: Susanne DiPietro--** Business Saver Account: \$719.30; Share account \$2315.38

**9. JBER update: Joy Boston** had to leave early by left the follow information on the chat section:

Happy 75th birthday to the US Air Force on September 18!

RAPID HIRING EVENT Fri 30 Sept • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. • Gold Rush Inn, Bldg. 655

JAF Human Resource Office • 552-4563

Join our team of dedicated workers driven to provide the best experience here at JBER. During our rapid hiring event, qualified applicants will be interviewed on-site. Selected candidates will receive tentative job offers and start pre-employment

Air Force Recruiting Service's Aim High Flight Academy application will open on/about October 1 for 60 days until December 1, 2022. This is an opportunity for high school students age 16-18 to attend a 3-week flight introduction program that includes up to 15 hours of flight instruction. More information at <https://www.recruiting.af.mil/Aim-High-Flight-Academy/>

73d Air Base Wing and Anchorage School District reached an agreement to provide active-duty Airmen as supplemental school bus drivers for the installation starting in September for up to 90 days

Questions about JBER, email me at joy.boston.2@us.af.mil

**10. ASD School Board: Pat Higgins-** discussed the up-coming budget short fall. Attendance down. Flat funding and drop in enrollment. Discusses need for better outcomes despite the funding challenges. Mentions the new superintendent and the challenges to obtain school bus drivers. Thomas notes the significant number of teacher and support staff vacancies.

**13. Business Updates**

**A. Alaska Railroad:** Christy Terry strike was averted in lower 48. Summer season closing out. She appreciated the opportunity to walk the trails on the Hill with Bob French. Advised that the Real Estate Committee and the Board will be addressing the lease issue discussed above and she will monitor.

**14. Committee Updates: FCC/AMATS/Parks update: Bob French** notes upcoming meetings. Jody indicated she has spoken with Nicolai Dent re master plan for the parks.

**15. Other Community Concerns:** Discussion of concerns with speeding over the the bridge. APD has been advised.

Melinda mentions concern over a homeless person who has been at the tennis courts, and discussion of possible assistance for that individual.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Tom Brennan

**Second:** Stephanie Kesler

**Unanimously passes.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.**