

**Fairview Community Council**  
**Hybrid - Fairview Community Center and Zoom meeting**  
**Feb. 9, 2023 Minutes**  
**7 - 9pm**

Roll call - 30 people

Motion to approve. Loren Hill and Seconded by James Thornton.. Approved

Approval January 2023 meeting minutes - Karen motions to approve, and Laura seconds.

**Elected Officials**

**Senator Löki Tobin**

- Update of her Committees - five committees in total
- Introduced senate bill 52 - \$1000 increase to the base student allocation (BSA) formula.
  - In response to parents concerns on adequate funding for students
- Teacher retention and improvement is an issue
- SB 24 - focus on mental health
- Working on establishing legislation on renewable energy, mental health, and health care/pharmaceutical costs.
- More info available in the newsletter - link provided in the Zoom chat.

No comments or questions

**Representative Zach Fields**

- Community regional affairs committee
- BSA bill introduced - education bill HB 65
- Convened Anchorage Delegation meeting to push for Chester Creek greenbelt funds.

No Comments or questions

**Representative Cliff Groh**

- Newly elected and is currently sitting on three committees
- Interested in increasing funding to the BSA and is sponsoring House Bill 275
- Working on recruiting and retaining public employees due to lack of retirement benefits, etc. Due to turnover - there has been a gap in services.
- Alaska suffers from high rates of domestic violence and crimes. Looking into ways for rehabilitation and shelters/prevention to survivors.

No comments or questions

## **Anchorage Assembly members:**

### **Christopher Constant**

- Resolution passed for Black History month
- Hemp products will be reviewed based off regulations
- Muni staff shortage - public funds are going into private hands with Contracting out of public services.
- Appropriated funds to align Muni Assembly Districts to State Legislative boundaries. The clerk had to print 145 ballots in different styles. New boundaries are not in alignment with over 200 ballot styles. Purpose is to make them simple
- Fuel issues with the muni - the mayor requested \$4.2M purchasing authority for fuel. Assembly is paying attention.
- The Assembly hired additional outside counsel to sort through multiple personnel accusations in the Muni.
- Passed a series of emergency ordinances - slowing down the expenditure of money by the Administration that did not receive Assembly approval.
- Rec Center high-speed internet is delayed - Now expected in late summer or early fall for the public Recreation Centers.
- Holten Hills Project in Girdwood update - read about it now
- Snowstorm - need for snow hauling. Higher budget expenditures.
- Executive session held for allegations against the former HR director of Municipal Administration - Assembly wanted to release info from investigation and assembly authorized litigation.
- Special election - authorizing park improvements etc.

### **Dan Volland**

- Update on Black History Month speaker and history of Black Alaskans
- Recognized Elizabeth Petrovitch and Teen dating violence
- Muni is severely understaffed - 40 vacancies in the health department per example
- Park Bond - Fairview Rec center improvements, Chester creek ADA upgrades, etc on the ballot.
- Need for substance abuse resources in Anchorage.
  - Recover Alaska has \$900K raised, Assembly to donate \$100K
  - STAR suicide information campaign
- Juneteenth and Alaska Native day as paid holidays - looking into
- Fairview park renaming - Fairview Delgah park

*Comments:*

Karen - more beds available for substance, but you have to be sober. If some money could be used for detox, it would help provide options. Chris - I don't know of any program that requires this - I would like to know the source of this.

Working on the "Yes And" program to provide housing.

James - update on 400,000 and comments on what zero tolerance means. Will any funding go to the prosecuting office so things can be done? Chris Constant - Is there anyone near the Sullivan that could provide an update about the presence? Notice any improvements? SJ - After the accident at my building, street-level police have been instructed to pull anyone over in the area for anything? I can't say that I have noticed anything, and people have reported that it isn't much better.

Sharon - is this motor vehicle stopped? This approach seems misguided. SJ - they get pulled over for any indiscretion. Dan Volland - citations for everyone. No one is singled out. Chris Constant - we didn't ask for enhanced police response; we asked for security in the neighborhood around the Sullivan Arena.

James - response times are better, but we are seeing increased negative activity.

Allen - Denise has reported an increase in shoplifting of food at Carrs. People are mentioning that they are not fed at the Sullivan. This has a direct impact on one of our critical businesses in the neighborhood.

Public Comment - 15th and Gamble - needs to look into updates because there are major issues with pedestrians etc. Christopher Constant - working with the DOT&PF on this, we need to refocus improvements.

Ron - Rosa Parks was in Alaska. Dr. Williams did a wonderful job on history. Would like to contribute to a plaque to be made on that. (Donated \$100 to the Council)

Chris - It is very important to talk about jaywalking - think about the streets that they are talking about. Homeless do not always cross at the signal. Chris Constant - there is a great risk at these intersections.

Cal Williams - Is the snow removal coming through Fairview Mountain View areas being done in a fair manner. Chris Constant - the people that do the snow clearing are doing great - cannot say what the contractors are doing. Our staff fights for fairness in delivery of public services.

Karen - emergency routes are first, then school buses and then etc. there is too much snow, and can't be seen. You have to walk in the streets.

### **Anchorage School Board Kelly Lessons**

- The upcoming school year will be planning for changes to 6th-grade middle school.
- Presentation on benefits with school times starting later in the day - ASD will be looking to discuss

- Looking to revise policies as a response to ChatGBT or use of artificial intelligence
- Overhaul on the wellness policy - time for lunch/recess/physical education
- \$68m deficit and looking to bring the deficit down.
  - Closing of Abbott loop elementary school
  - Cutting positions etc.
  - As property values increase - the local contribution increases by \$8M but the State will not have to pay that instead.
  - HB 65 and 45 increases funds to Anchorage
- More information is located on the school website.

### **Standing Reports**

#### **President Allen Kemplen**

- Push back the dark - end of month to submit nomination for award
- Civic heroes - submit people to Allen asap
- Submitted comments to the Muni on the site access regulations
- 3rd avenue - Dave Rittenberg provided a tour of the new Navigation Resource Center - very informative.
- Check out the Voices of Fairview videos [www.fairviewak.org](http://www.fairviewak.org)

Janel - The videos were really great - what is the plan with them? Allen: There are being posted on-line. Evidence of positive community steps happening - key thing was people make the difference.

#### **Sharon Chamard Treasurer**

(update)

Motion to authorize Derral Hess to audit - Sharon moved, Loren seconded. Motion is passed and approved.

Presentation:

Taylor Keegan, MOA Parks and rec Planner - Fairview Community Recreation Center Strategic Plan DRAFT and East Chester Park Master Plan Kick-off

- Collecting feedback and will be returning back next month to request support from the community.
- Conceptual Resolution introduced.

### **Unfinished Business**

- Memorandum of Agreement with AWAIC
  - All shelters have to be licensed beginning this year. Good Neighbor Policy

SJ - reviewed and appreciated the effort. Meets all the standards for a Neighborhood Responsibility Plan.

Sharon - minor edits suggested.

Ron - Need a MOA not a MOU - no wiggle room. Should be MOA

Allen - since this is being done outside our area, I am comfortable with a MOU.

Sj moved - Karen seconded - Motion approved.

- Resolution 2022-12 Regarding support for locating a new Regional Technology and Innovation Hub in the Fairview Innovation Area

Introduced in Dec. meeting. Motioned by Laura and seconded by James.

Allen - Congress has passed a bill to fund technological advancements. Perfect fit for our proposed innovation area. Investment in our knowledge and opportunity infrastructure.

- Resolution 2023-01 Regarding use of Sullivan Arena as a Mass Shelter facility for homeless persons

Motion to approve by James and seconded by Karen.

Discussion - Cal: there is a lot about the problems but concerned about the Be it Resolved section - Is there and opportunity to put in that the council needs funds to be sufficient. Adding the solution to the problem to the resolution. Resolution was amended so as to be more clear.

Motion to extend to 9:15pm, Allen and James

- Fairview Community Gardens
  - Sign up for garden plots, putting together information on needs and requesting donations.
  - Poster will be posted on Facebook and council sites.
- Suggest going to your places of work and encouraging establishing a volunteer day to help out in local places such as the Community Gardens.

### **New Business**

- 1% for Art project at the Anchorage Senior Center - Gideon
  - Public art jury, project at the Anchorage Senior Center.
  - Seat open - looking for Fairview community residents with interest in art.
  - Budget \$19K
  - History of the Public Art program in Anchorage
- Council Elections next month
  - All Executive Board seats are open in March.

### **Report and Updates**

- Merrill Field Airport
  - Met with the manager and his consultant doing building design work this month. Spending Cares act funds and looking at opportunities.

Encouraged them to do some beautification of the outside of their buildings.

- Seward to Glenn PEL Study Project
  - Information put in the chat
- Environmental Justice – EPA Grant
  - Continue to move forward - check out the Fairness for Fairview website
- Ad-Hoc Homeless Committee Community
  - Increase in calls 300% at the Sullivan and 60% around.
  - 375 people for the warming area.
  - Housing and homeless meeting presenting next week - discussion on the exit strategy.
  - Healthy Spaces have staff - they are cleaning up trash around the facility.

### **Comments and Concerns**

- Activities at the local library - check out the website for more info
- Ron Alleva- the North campus at Chugach electric is being sold. That campus would be a good location for a homeless campus. Should consider that FVCC gets done with those properties. Selling my property due to the homeless situation. Will be presenting to the Federation of Community Council presidents.
- James - Motion for the president of the council to write a letter for clarity of the exit strategy for the Sullivan arena. Approved to be done.
- Karen - is concerned about 4-plexes, and condos being sold. Anchor gardens is helping to write a grant on composting.

Motion to adjourn by Loren and Karen seconds. 9:16pm