

MINUTES

May 18th, 2023 meeting

Held at Abbott Loop Elementary and via Zoom



Call to Order 6:32 pm

- Round of Introductions
- Changes or additions to agenda- Add in Resolution in Support of Anchorage Assembly Resolution 2023-54/Roads.
- Approval of minutes from April 27th, 2023: Kathleen Easley. No changes, approved as submitted.
- Treasurer's report: Heather Schrage- Not in attendance, bank balance \$331.36, funds for picnic, pass the hat.

APD Report-Report and Q & A, can request and will attend if duties permit. Not requested this month.

Legislative Reports: Q & A

- Senator District F: James Kaufman- not in attendance, no report.
- Representative District 11: Julie Coulombe- Daniel Robbins staff reporting.
 - HB 89 DAYcare reform Bill, HB 116 Restorative Justice Bill-increases the percentage of funding that the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse receives from the Restorative Justice Account. HB124 Removes the one year wait requirement of having a driver's license before getting a CDL-helps immigrant workers and those from rural communities that might not have a driver's license that long before being able to get a CDL (still have to get a DL first). This is a companion bill to Senator Kaufman's SB 123. HB 134-Preemptively prohibits any new transfer fees or taxes on real property transfers. Boards and Commissions- Appointed to the Governor's childcare task force- plan to improve childcare. State Council for Interstate Adult and Juvenile Offenders Supervision, and AK Commission on Post-Secondary Education- promote access to education beyond high school. Into a Special Session now- didn't get a budget until yesterday, the last day of the session. 24 hour rule to be able to vote on the budget. Governor called a special session to complete this.
- Representative District 12: Calvin Schrage- not in attendance, no report.

Community Reports and Q & A:

- [Assembly member\(s\)](#)
 - Meg Zaletel-
 - Port of Anchorage- Design Terminal One (for cargo)- decisions on this will direct the Port modernization. Cement terminal is up and running. What started as a \$68 million job has turned into a \$200+ million project. Make sure we are clear on design- there is a Design Advisory Board. The June 20th meeting Assembly will look at options moving forward: 1) Design Advisory Board's design, 2) Intermediate design, and 3) No changes to the original 2013 plan. Considering a "Surcharge" which would be added to the existing tariffs collected for use. Port Bonds would be paid back by this surcharge. What we figure out now will help direct this, lots of steps to go still.
 - Public hearing on two settlements- the two suits related to the mayor. The assembly asked for more transparency- this is a cost of \$822,000. Email, sign up for testimony, or in person if you have thoughts on this. McAlpine- is a lawsuit that is filed in court, if the Assembly doesn't act- it is going through the court system. Demboski's demand letter- is not a filed case at

this point- if we don't pay, she would likely sue the municipality.

- Felix Rivera-
 - Homelessness- Sullivan is closed for the larger census of 360, now max 90 individuals with mobility or daily activities concerns. About 68 individuals are there now. First quarter budget revisions funded outreach- for folks that are in camps now. Outreach and connect- "Housing driven approach," use of vouchers to help fund housing. Funded mobility outreach- funding vulnerable populations, like a mobile navigation center- services go out to where people are at.
 - Coming online in May-July we have Barrott Inn-with 96 housing units- in the Spenard area undergoing repairs now, will be mixed housing. Lakeshore/LakeHouse Hotel is open now/came online earlier than expected. This is 45 units (currently 15-20 are being used). Spenard area, workforce housing-some income/work and some payment is part of this housing. Determined by HUD levels: \$840/1 person, \$1120/3 person. Golden Lion-Midtown- goal is for 85 units- will be used for those with disabilities/complex care type of housing. Has had repairs. Needs to get an operator and tentative end of June opening.
 - May 24th meeting with people in the housing industry- real estate and those who have been funded by the Assembly the past three years with federal funds (CARES Act/American Rescue Plan Act). See where these people are at if they have openings/housing options and can assist with housing now and if we can minimize barriers to getting people into housing they may have.
 - Task Forces- Sanctioned Camp Task force, Behavioral Health needs Task Force- have met 3 times already and will give recommendations. Clean Slate Strategy- pick permanent low barrier year round shelters. Time to make this happen. A process to do this and get it right- with involvement by the community. Snowfall- low barrier shelter set up before winter- that is everyone's goal. Stop worrying about this every winter as it becomes emergency shelters at a cost of 11.8 million for cold winter shelters. Press conference with the Mayor and Susan LaFrance- 1st that the mayor has done- crisis now is housing, still active debate using the Golden Lion now for housing- original plan was a treatment facility, we are shelving that for now and possibly later it can be.
- Randy Sulte-
 - Bodycams- APD/Union- came up with a policy that works, now up to APD to get the body cams going.
 - Want to get Chugach State Park bonds on the April ballot-would be \$10 million- gathering info to see what those projects could be and if there would be matching funds from the State of Feds.
 - Question- Short term rentals- pulled back in permitting process, gathering data to see how this impacts- this is a safe step to short version. Mr Gates, the Muni attorney, is reviewing. Looking to have on the agenda June 6th or so- a light version.
- [School Board member\(s\)](#) Pat Higgins-
 - We don't know about funding right now. Should soon. Updates are start times for school changing, waiting until 2024-25 as people are trying to sort out child care and other issues that come up because of this time change. Kids should do better- National data shows that earlier start times have better education outcomes.
 - 6th grade going into middle schools over a two year plan. Mondays will have a delayed start time- this provides time for staff training and working together/two way communication to happen.
 - REading curriculum changes to follow state guidelines.
 - Graduations- attend West HS. Many graduations and celebrations. Large concern is

that AK Airlines Center is the biggest facility to hold these ceremonies, not everyone got tickets or could attend. Proud of all the graduates.

- Pat is now our School Board rep, he will be reporting at ALCC meetings.
- [Mayor's Office Report](#) -not in attendance, no report. The mayor did attend/speak at the FCC meeting 5/17, Bruce reports on this in the FCC meeting report.
- [JBER Community Engagement](#)
 - May 4th-19th Exercise Northern Edge- military training, they will be done by 11pm, making an effort to stay clear of homes and minimize noise.
 - May 29th, Memorial Day- 9:30-10:30 am Delaney Park Strip Event
 - Fort Richardson, sign up for access to July 22-23rd airshows.
 - Isportsman- <https://jber.isportsman.net/> information for recreating on JBER.

Candidate Introduction

- **Harold Hollis**- Chugach Electric Association Board

Reports

FCC Representative: Bruce Roberts

- May 17th FCC meeting at BP Energy building.
- Mayor Dave Bronson stopped by, for the first time since he was elected. Introduced that he would be putting out a newsletter, reported on Port of ANchorage is a high concern for him, mentioned JBER info.
- Training for Community council boards/members- rules and guidelines training. Last one was 2017. This is being organized, more information to come.

HALO Report: Lizzie Newell

- HALO stands for the Home and Landowners Organization <https://anchoragehalo.org/>
- Firewise event last Saturday.
- HALO has four reps seats for each HALO district- Lizzie and John Weddleton have two seats, there are two more seats open if anyone is interested in volunteering.

Roads & Projects Committee: Mary Miner

- ALCC annual CIP list review: Update on list of projects and ALCC prioritization
 - Meetings held to review in early May, final input due by June 15th. BRuce, Marc, Patti, and Mary met to prioritize. Asking for council support so they can add these to the list for the Muni.
 - Current list: [Community Council Survey 2024 Capital Improvement Program \(CIP\)](#)
 - Selections agreed to add as our top three were:
 - Roads- 1) Elmore/Coventry traffic signal & crosswalk. 2) Abbott/Ruth Arcand crosswalk & signal lighting. 3) 64th Ave upgrade, Brayton to Quinhagak.
 - Parks- 1) Meadow Park/68th- Capital improvement plan. 2) Spruce/Winchester Parks Master plan. 3) Whisper Faith Park- Improvement of parking lot and lighting.
- Seward Hwy Project- Resolution read by Mary Miner. The Resolution is in support of the Anchorage ASsembly Resolution 2023-54 regarding the Seward Highway, Rabbit Creek to Dimond Boulevard Reconstruction project. Motion to support ALCC resolution Susan Soule, seconded by Mark Miner, no further discussion. Vote: 9 yes (2 online/7 in person), 0 no. Passed. Will get this sent to the Anchorage Muni clerk. Signed by Bruce Roberts (President) and Kathelen Easley (Secretary).

Parks & Rec Committee: Mark Miner

- Ruth Arcand tree cutting has caused damage to the trails. Contact P&R with any concerns. Removing Spruce Beetle Bark damaged and dead trees to mitigate fire hazards to Hillside. Wood will be gathered for public use, funded through Capital Projects funds. Abbott Loop Community Park and Ruth Arcand parks are big fire hazard areas that have dead trees and are close to homes.

- Winchester Park-John Roter to speak about it, work party to establish a work trail in through the easement by Coventry area. More info coming, tentative 8/24 Park and Recs meeting that will be advertised later.

Planning & Zoning Committee: Mary Miner

- No additional report

Cannabis & Alcohol Committee: Yolanda Meza-no in attendance, no report.

- No renewals this month

Membership & Events: Lizzie Newell

- Sign up Genius link for June 29th picnic - sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/oKPPUyQ>

Abbott Loop Community Patrol: Dan Rudder, Lead <http://www.accpatrols.org/>- not in attendance, no report.

Old Business

- Update- Solid Waste Services/new Central Transfer Station project-Whitley Laws, DOWL.- They did not attend to report.
- Update- ALCC requested traffic lights and cross walks at Ruth Arcand Park Entrance/Abbott Road intersection and the Elmore/Coventry intersection- Bradly Coy, MOA Traffic engineer.
 - Crossing to Ruth Arcand Park- two options for lights/crossing. Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) or Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB). Other concerns brought up are ditch between road and trail- would need some sort of path. Group attending tonight likes the Pedestrian Hybrid. Recommendations: Having this on CIP helps prioritize this. Looking at the Recreations Trails plan/how do you safely access these parks and recreational trails. How are adjacent trails being accessed? Not clear where on the road this crossing should be, look at this Veco Road, trailside camps, vehicle access areas. Thresholds like amount of traffic, how many vehicles per hour/per day or certain time of day. All documents are uploaded to ALCC documents by year.

New Business

Announcements/Comments

[SIGN UP HERE](#) to bring something to the June community picnic! Follow us on [ALCC Facebook page!](#)

Upcoming Meeting Dates

ALCC monthly meetings are usually the last Thursday of the month.

- June 29th, 2023 Abbott Loop Community Park Picnic at 8101 Elmore Rd, 4-8pm
- July Park gathering TBA

Adjourn 8:42pm