

Campbell Park Community Council Minutes

via Zoom and in-person
7:00PM start time - September 19th, 2024
at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cay's Room

I. Call to Order by Vice-Chair Andrew Satterfield at 7:00 PM. A quorum was not declared.

II. Approval of agenda: Despite lack of a quorum, the agenda was adopted as presented.

III. Approval of Minutes: Lacking a quorum, no action was taken on the minutes of the August meeting. It was noted that the July minutes were not approved in September, also due to lack of quorum.

IV. Expressions of gratitude: Andrew Satterfield expressed gratitude for the work of our chair, Nicole Cupp; Kevin Fimon expressed gratitude for the presenters and visitors to the recent Improving Lives Conference of the Mental Health Trust.

V. Guest Speaker: Don McClintock described the history and purpose of Alaska's non-partisan judicial selection and retention process. Retention votes on 15 judges will be on the November ballot. McClintock urged voters to read retention statements in light of the purpose of the system, to provide Alaska with qualified, impartial judges.

VI. Unfinished business.

Kevin Fimon noted that FCC will have a series of three hour long Monday evening training meetings on community councils organization and process in person at the Wilda Marson theatre/Loussac Library and online at YouTube.

Michael Burke announced updates to St. Mary's workforce housing proposal at dreamingourfuture.com, including a letter seeking potential developers. So far the project has no funding, no developer, and no identified population. The website does have good numbers for infrastructure on the property and what zoning would permit.

VII. Reports

Housing and Homeless Committee TJ Andrew said that, according to a recent municipal meeting, police will be participating in visits to homeless camps in the future.

FCC Kevin Fimon reported changes in officers at FCC, and reports at the FCC meeting on plans to merge public schools and on a review of 2040 land use plan details that do not meet municipal code.

Vice-Chair - Andrew Satterfield - no report.

Treasurer - TJ Andrew - no report.

CPCC Chair - Nicole Cupp - not present, no report.

Legislature

For **Senator Gray-Jackson, Deirdre Goins** reported on recent activities on environmental toxics, the role of Covenant House in issues of homelessness, signing of the Community Energy bill, recent invited travel to Taiwan, and an upcoming townhall meeting with constituents.

For **Senator Dunbar, James Holzenberg** reported on legislation signed into law, including HB 228, task force to study the regulation of psychedelic medicines approved by the FDA; HB 103, allows law enforcement and first responders to receive mental health counseling from trained peers while protecting their privacy; SB 159 designates the Friday before Memorial Day as Alaska Veteran's Poppy Day; HB 148, increases the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) by nearly 50% and expands eligibility to part-time and graduate students,

career/technical schools, and more. HB 344 took effect without without the governor's signature. Amendments from Rep. Mina and Sen. Giessel raise the income threshold for food stamp applicants, remove restrictions on asset ownership, and allow schools to provide Medicaid-covered health services to students. These changes take effect in July 2025.

For **Representative Andy Josephson, Alexander Schroeder** reported on their office need to hire an intern; on meeting with the Alaska Housing Finance Committee on issues of housing and homelessness; on Mary Peltola's meeting on out migration; and on public safety as a common denominator among several bills passed into law this session. These bills include Hb. 11, increased penalty for assault in the presence of a child; Hb. 238, creating a class C felony, rather than a simple property crime, to vandalize a place of worship, a church, a mosque or a synagogue; and a bill establishing coverage of PTSD for first responders under Workers Compensation.

Representative Andrew Gray announced that the governor vetoed his bill for a cancer warning sign at alcohol points of sale, because the bill was passed after midnight of the last session. Rep. Gray will introduce the bill again in the new session. The situation at the East High swimming pool is not yet resolved, but resolution is expected soon. For the East Anchorage Book Club podcast, he has interviewed Arianna Bellizzi, new head of FCC. A representative of Weidner Apartment Homes has agreed to be interviewed on the next East Anchorage Book Club podcast. In Anchorage, Weidner owns all of the apartment complexes with more than 50 units.

Assembly Member Meg Zaletel The Port of Alaska contract for construction of Terminal One should occur about the end of October. Construction should begin about July of 2025. The Governor's decision on the Eklutna Dam proposal—an alternative to the portal valve proposal-- should be available by October 2nd. She has asked AMATS and DOT for a plan to reduce pedestrian death through improved lighting and reduced speeds. Details will be provided in the full budget on October 2nd or 3rd. The 120 day memo does include a list of capital projects that might be included in next year's bond.

Assembly Member Felix Rivera stated that we are in the 2025 budget season and have received the 120 day memo, laying out the goals of the new administration and the preliminary numbers for the tax cap. Details will be provided in the full budget on October 2nd or 3rd. The 120 day memo does include a list of capital projects that might be included in next year's bond. On homelessness: In the first phase of the muni's Next Step program, 150 individuals were moved from winter shelter to housing. In the second phase, about 45 individuals were moved from camps to housing. We will know more about the metrics of success of those efforts at the twelve to fourteen month and two year evaluation benchmarks. In the third phase of the effort we will be looking at an unhoused population about about 500 individuals, down from 900 previously. The muni plans to bring online 500 non-congregate beds by October 23rd. In response to a question, he stated that the decline in the number of homeless individuals might not be obvious because more homeless individuals are living in a larger number of smaller, more dispersed camps.

Mayor's Office - not present, no report.

School Board - Dave Donley spoke about five major concerns: school safety and the number of school resource officers (SROs); projected budget deficit and its impact on class size; state proficiency scores which are slightly down from last year for all schools; proposals that would close ten schools next year; and the school board's watering down of his proposal to promote patriotism through requirements for schools to play the national anthem and the Alaska flag song.

VIII. Open Forum Kevin Fimon introduced Heather Gotschall, candidate for House District 13 in the November election. Tony Andrew spoke about the death of a pedestrian who was a friend's relative.

IX. Next Meeting October 17th, 2024 at 7:00pm at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cay's Room, 2222 E. Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK and via Zoom.

X. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

DRAFT