

**Federation of Community Councils, Inc.  
Board of Delegates Meeting  
In-Person at the FCC Office and via Zoom**

**October 16, 2024, Draft Minutes**

**1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum:** Daniel George, Vice Chair

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. Quorum attained.  
Zoom meeting being recorded, including the “Chat”. There is no expectation of privacy.

**FCC Delegates in attendance (21)**

Abbott Loop - Lizzie Newell	Mountain View – Daniel George
Airport Heights – <i>Not Present</i>	North Star – <i>Not Present</i>
Basher – <i>Not Present</i>	Northeast – Monica Schwingendorf
Bayshore/Klatt – Bob Laule	Old Seward/Oceanview – Gary Meaders
Bear Valley – <i>Not Present</i>	Portage Valley – <i>Not Present</i>
Birchwood – Carol Perkins	Rabbit Creek – Mike Kenny
Campbell Park - Kevin Fimon	Rogers Park – Marilyn Pillifant
Chugiak – <i>Not Present</i>	Russian Jack – Kathleen Plunkett
Downtown – <i>Not Present</i>	Sand Lake – <i>Not Present</i>
Eagle River – Cliff Cook	Scenic Foothills – Patrick LeMay
Eagle River Valley – Alex Jorgenson	South Addition – John Thurber
Eklutna Valley – <i>Not Present</i>	South Fork – <i>Not Present</i>
Fairview – James Thornton	Spenard – Sarah Preskitt
Girdwood (GBOS) – <i>Not Present</i>	Taku-Campbell – <i>Not Present</i>
Glen Alps – <i>Not Present</i>	Tudor – <i>Not Present</i>
Government Hill – Bob French	Turnagain - Cathy Gleason
Hillside – <i>Not Present</i>	Turnagain Arm – Michael Packard
Huffman/O’Malley – Jason Norris	University Area – Al Milspaugh
Midtown – <i>Not Present</i>	

**Others in attendance:**

FCC Arianna Bellizzi, Executive Director  
FCC Ali Rambo, Office Administrator  
Marie Husa, Representative of the Mayor’s Office  
Assembly, Christopher Constant, Chair  
Andy Holleman, President of the Anchorage School Board  
Jon Glover, AFD Wildfire Manager  
Mandy Honest, Municipal Clerk’s Office  
Liza Spano, Municipal Clerk’s Office  
Elizabeth Appleby, Municipal Planning Department

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to amend & approve made by Cathy Gleason, seconded by Kevin Fimon, approved by unanimous vote.

**3. Approval of Minutes – August 2024**

Motion to approve made by Cathy Gleason, seconded by Marilyn Pillifant, approved by unanimous vote.

**4. Executive Committee & Staff Reports**

**a. Chair Report**

- i. Chair not present for report.

**b. Treasurer Report**

- i. Treasurer seat vacant

**c. Executive Director Report – Arianna Bellizzi**

- i. Reported on successful events and ongoing projects, including website updates, fiscal sponsorships, and open grants
- ii. Upcoming initiatives were discussed, such as training sessions and partnerships with other organizations, along with new standard policies such as a retention policy, & privacy policy.
- iii. The Council boundary plan was delayed, & will be sent out as soon as it is available

**5. New Business**

**a. New Treasurer Election**

- i. No new nominations. Will address again at the next meeting.

**6. Comment Period**

**Part II – FCC Community Council Collaboration Meeting**

**7. Meeting Opener**

**a. Vice Chair – Daniel George**

**8. Government Reports**

**a. Mayor’s office – Marie Husa**

- i. Outlined the mayor's achievements, including increased staffing and funding for homelessness initiatives, and confirmed prioritizing public safety on homeless camps.

**b. Assembly – Christopher Constant, Chair**

- i. Addressed postponing confirmations, repurposing the sprung tent, addressing prosecutor understaffing, and the State's offer to assist with domestic violence cases.
- ii. Shared his optimism about the Mountain View project and efforts to secure funding for property improvements.

**c. School Board – Andy Holleman, President**

- i. Discussed the process of consolidating elementary schools due to decreasing enrollment and surplus capacity, which may involve relocating students.

**d. Alaska Fire Department – Jon Glover, Wildfire Manager**

- i. Discussed AFD’s work on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for Anchorage, focusing on hazard fuel reduction and prioritizing projects based on risk to communities and access for firefighters.
- ii. A significant project was planned for the Basher Community Council, involving the removal of coniferous trees and ground fuel to improve access and control lines for firefighters. The recent increase in fires in urban parks was also discussed, with concerns raised about living near these parks and suggestions for providing controlled fire rings or facilities.
- iii. The organization is also working on funding from the State for fire mitigation on hillside areas and collaborating with Parks and Recreation and the municipality to prioritize projects. The balance between preserving natural open spaces and addressing valid concerns about fire risks was also discussed

**9. Council Updates**

**a. Scenic Foothills – Secured a grant with APF working with the Park’s Service for Baxter Bog – Had such an amazing turn out there was more help than work.**

**b. Turnagain – Working with the airport on the re-routing of Woronzoff Road & expressed concerns of the impacts this will have on many levels. Replat dividing Wood Lake subdivision into 4 lots to have more condos built – residents have concerns about the winter**

time problems that were happening last year with Wood Lake being used for snow removal & parking.

- c. **South Addition** – Had their first in person meeting in 3 years & thanks to the support of FCC Staff.
- d. **Spenard** – Focusing on Pedestrian Safety / awareness with the most recent meetings, as well as committees again.
- e. **Birchwood** – Ongoing problem in the Eagle River / Chugiak area – Muni doesn't recognize the Parks & rec is different. Acquiring funding has been difficult through the Muni. Eklutna Casino is currently in the process of getting permits, & there are concerns about egress out for residents.
- f. **Bayshore / Klatt** – Upgrading of the Chugach power station is the primary focus. The power station is completely out of date, & desperately needs updating. There was also pushback on clear cutting greenery in the area.
- g. **Russian Jack** - Homelessness issues in the parks, & surrounding areas, Russian Jack held a meeting with Parks & rec / Mayors office / APD – Unfortunately no resolution at this time.
- h. **Huffman O'malley** – Last meeting was all things ASD, members from the ASD Board came to answer questions, it went well.
- i. **Abbott Loop** – Next meeting will involve some zoning items, there's also a proposal to slow down the landscaping that will replace the greenery / sidewalks with parking lots.
- j. **Mountain View** – Had a very full meeting – 70/80 people. APD came out & talked about camping / abatements / enforcements / gun violence. There was also a vote of no confidence in the Boys & Girls club with the recent changes to the program.
- k. **Eagle River Valley** – Problems with Parks & Rec like Birchwood, recently had no on 2 present, Eagle River Road Service Area Contract is going up 24% this year, & funding has been reduced.
- l. **University** - Goose Lake has a facility that's becoming dilapidated & considering a resolution to have it rehabilitated / torn down.
- m. **Government Hill** – Has been active on the PUD issues, secured a grant to handle invasive Birdcherry trees – on track to remove them next spring / summer.
- n. **Eagle River** – Same as others, PUD issues are present, passed a few resolutions concerning the Eagle River Parks & Rec, as well as a resolution concerning the housing development referred to as Powder West.
- o. **Northeast** – Had a walk to discourage homelessness in Centennial Park last month, concerns about homelessness has been a topic lately within their meetings.

## 10. Old Business

## 11. New Business

- a. **How Councils are involved in the alcohol & marijuana license process – Mandy Honest, Municipal Clerk's Office**
  - i. Mandy Honest introduced Liza Spano and Elizabeth Appleby from the Municipal Clerk's and planning departments, respectively. They discussed the process of alcohol and marijuana licensing, with Liza handling notice emails and Elizabeth assisting with the special land use permit side.
  - ii. Mandy presented on the process that applicants go through, & highlighting where Community Councils input comes into play before the license goes to the Assembly for approval.

## 12. Comment Period – None

## 13. Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alison Rambo