

Sand Lake Community Council (SLCC) Meeting

October 21, 2024 | 6:30PM - 8:30PM

- 1. Welcome / Call to Order - 6:38pm**
- 2. Approval of the Minutes - Approved.**
- 3. President's Report**
 - a. Two changes to today's agenda:
 - i. Item #6 will be renamed "Alaska Bar Association Committee on Fair and Impartial Courts"
 - ii. Item 10 will include a sub-item to discuss people living around Delong Lake and the airport.
- 4. Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Current Balance: \$682.15
 - b. \$164.90 reimbursed to Allie Hartman for 1 year Zoom subscription.
- 5. Election of Treasurer - Carolyn Overstreet nominated; unanimously approved.**
- 6. Alaska Bar Association Committee on Fair and Impartial Courts - Suzanne DePietro (Alaska Judicial Council) with Superior Court Judge Hartz**
 - a. Civil judges hear family law, contract dispute, civil protection matters, etc.
 - b. The Court system belongs to you. Most trials are public and are often livestreamed.
 - c. The Alaska Judicial Council is established by Article 4 of the AK Constitution, a 7-seat council of volunteer, non-political Alaska residents from all over the state.
 - d. The judicial selection process is about merit. After a vigorous screening and selection process, the Council submits 2 or more names to the Governor, who selects the final appointment. The judge then serves a "short term" and then is added to the statewide ballot for confirmation by voters and continuation to a full term.
 - i. District Courts 2-year short term; 4-year full term
 - ii. Superior Court 3-year short term; 6-year full term
 - iii. Court of Appeals 3-year short term; 8-year full term
 - iv. Supreme Court 3-year short term; 10-year full term
 - e. 19 judges on the Nov. 5 ballot. The Council provides detailed information about the judges on the ballot for retention on the [Alaska Judicial Council website](#).
 - f. The Council has recommended all 19 be retained in office, based on the following performance measures:
 - i. Legal ability
 - ii. Fairness
 - iii. Temperament
 - iv. Diligence in administrative skills

- g. There is a code of conduct that applies to *all* judges. Disciplinary action, including removal, is possible in the event the code has been violated.
- h. Judges aren't allowed to campaign, including themselves, unless there is "active opposition" to their candidacy.

7. Anchorage School Board Report

- a. No report available.

8. Municipality of Anchorage Report

- a. No report available

9. Alaska Legislature Reports

a. **Senator Claman**

- i. Biggest state government issue is the election this November. Two issues have been getting a lot of attention:

1. Much of the AKDOT&PF State Transportation Implementation Program (STIP) was rejected, causing delays for construction season, the economy, and our state's credibility. Legislators and the public should watch this process closely this year.
2. Shortage of municipal prosecutors is leading to significant dismissals of cases. This is a sign of an overwhelmed system which has been systematically underfunded for years.
3. Up for election in November.

b. **Representative Josephson** - via Aide

- i. Two Assembly Committee meetings happened recently of note:

1. [Housing & Homelessness Committee Meeting](#) - discussed Mayor's strategy for emergency cold weather shelter this winter
2. [Transportation Committee Meeting](#) - discussed snow removal strategy for this winter
3. Attended a panel with Police Chief Case to discuss reporting of bias-motivated crime.

- ii. Up for election in November.

c. **Senator Gray-Jackson**

- i. Provided a [written report](#).

10. Ted Stevens International Airport Report - Erik Petersen

- a. Provided a written report to cover updates since July. Of note:

- i. Triannual Exercise Completed; means that the airport is prepped in case of an emergency
- ii. Four new Cargo Carriers have moved in; busy season is picking up now through the end of the year.
- iii. Summer construction is over; construction updates provided:
 1. phase 1 of a **new taxiway** on the south side of the airport is complete, phase 2 is coming next year, and phase 3 in 2027.

2. **Northlink** construction did not occur this summer; they have committed to constructing their “large airplane parking lot” next year, as they now have customers waiting.
 3. Nearly 50% of our cargo freight is from **Atlas**, who is building a new hub to establish a long-awaited footprint at Ted Stevens, on the west side of the N/S runway.
 4. New **ATC tower** coming between the airport and Lake Hood, as the tallest building in the state (10ft taller than the Conoco Phillips Building); construction begins in 2025, ETA 2028.
- b. Sub-Item RE: marshes around Delong Lake -
- i. Giant mounds of uncontaminated dirt are being piled between the airport and Delong Lake; neighbors have said “construction” in the area is the reason why the flood water hasn’t been pumped out as usual.
 - ii. There are wetlands surrounding Delong Lake, because the lake (and the smaller lakes around it) don’t have a natural outflow.
 - iii. Neighbors experienced significant financial impacts as flooding in the neighborhood has caused property damage.
 - iv. The airport has the ability to pump water through to Lake Spenard. There was a brief period of pumping (3 days), but stopped due to lack of permitting. Interim Director Angie Spear has visited the site, as has Municipal experts.
 - v. The airport owns the property, Army Corps of Engineers oversees the wetlands, the city stormwater permit map shows the water from the surrounding area flows into the wetland
 - vi. When the airport was construction, the “Tug Road” effectively dammed the flow between the wetlands area and Spenard Lake. In doing so, they constructed a pump that
 - vii. Next Steps
 1. Need immediate relief
 - a. Lay a temporary culvert to move water... tomorrow.
 - b. Chain of Command:
 - i. Interim Airport Director Angie Spear needs to say “go”
 - ii. AKDOT Commissioner Ryan Anderson is her boss
 2. Need a long-term plan for use of the pump, thresholds, etc.
 - viii. As President, Liz will call a special meeting to take place via Zoom to adopt a resolution, which will be distributed with these meeting minutes.

11. Ted Stevens International Airport Subcommittee, Linda Swiss

12. Federation of Community Councils Update, Evan Leaf

- a. FCC is providing Community Council 101 series

13. Other Business

- a. Chitose Park Subcommittee Update - Melanie Hess: CIP-funded improvements to the waterfront will not have the budget to rebuild a dock. Melanie will be organizing a fundraiser. Written update provided. Will link when ready.

14. Move to Adjourn: 8:29pm

Next Meeting: November 11

Last Meeting of the Year: December 9