

**Rogers Park Community Council  
Meeting Minutes  
October 7, 2024, 7:00-9:00pm  
Rogers Park Elementary School Library**

**Scott called the meeting to order at 7pm**

**David and Connie Morgan offered a Presentation of the Colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance**

Jill Klein read the **Land Acknowledgement**

AFD Station 4 - Eric Tuott - Oct 6-12 is fire prevention week. There are 3 things you can do for personal fire safety. 1: check fire and heating systems. 2: check smoke detectors. 3: check fire exit from your home and have a meeting place. There are 3 things you can do outside the home. 1: make house numbers visible. 2: consider keeping your gas meter and electrical meter free and clear of debris. 3: if you have gates, keep them free of snow to open and close in case firefighters have to enter. There are 3 things you can do for your neighborhood. 1: keep fire hydrants free and clear. 2: keep streets passable. 3: get the Pulsepoint app on your phone. AFD is in the middle of a hiring cycle right now. They are trying to hire 25 new firefighters this year. Station 4 is the busiest station in the state,

Scott McMurren read our housekeeping rules to the group.

**Officers:**

President, Scott McMurren

Vice President, Jill Klein

Secretary, Cassandra Raun

Treasurer, Beth Abisoror

Immediate Past President, Pete Mjos

FCC Representative, Marilyn Pillifant

**Establish quorum, established by Cassandra Raun**

**Review and approval of the September 9, 2024 meeting minutes.** Scott asked for any objections, no objections, minutes are approved.

**Treasurer's report,** Beth Abisoror - we have \$1111.38 in our accounts, we earned \$0.03 in interest in the last month, no deposits, no expenses, no donations

**FCC report,** Marilyn Pillifant - last FCC meeting Amanda Moser stepped down as the chair but is staying on as a delegate for Airport Heights. Mike Edington is now the new chair. He was the treasurer, that position is now open. The FCC budget has been presented, Marilyn has the information if anyone is interested. The FCC is doing a series of downhill meetings. The next meeting is October 21st from 7-9pm at the Wilda Marston Theatre, the topic is Navigating Community Council Meetings. She got an email from Tom Davis and he is the go-to guy for the council boundaries. The maps are delayed and they aren't sure when they'll be coming out. Not sure yet if Rogers Park will be affected by any of these boundary suggestions, but if so, we'll need somebody to follow the changes.

**Announcements:**

All meetings are held at the Rogers Park Elementary School Library, September through May, 7:00-9:00pm. in person and also on Zoom. Meeting dates are as follows:

November 4, 2024	February 10, 2025
December 9, 2024	March 3, 2025
January 13, 2025	April 14, 2025
	May 12, 2025

Be sure and sign up for our newsletter. Please encourage your neighbors to do so as well:  
<https://rogersparkcommunitycouncil.eo.page/vp1z2>

**School Board Report:**

-Dave Donley - Last meeting there was a discussion of creating a rubric to identify 10 schools to potentially close. The board is going to create criteria and use that criteria to identify which schools could close. Given that 6th is now in middle school these schools will likely be elementary schools. The board has adopted new reading and math goals for 4th grade, 46% reading proficiency by 2028, 42% proficiency in math by 2028, down from a goal of nearly 80%. Statewide testing over the last year has revealed that Student proficiency went down about 1% in L.A., down about 2% in mathematics. Projected deficit for next year continues to grow, already over \$80M. Last year we had 150-180 unfilled instructional positions, that pattern continues this year although we don't have hard numbers yet for this year. The district is considering a bond for April, mostly for roofs but also for security and safety. We continue to have SRO shortages, APD is down officers as well.

**Alaska Legislative reports:**

-Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson - Please see her written notes.

**Assembly reports:**

-Meg Zaletel - board and commission applications are open. If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, please apply! We are in budget season now. Look at the budget and if there is anything from community council that you don't see in capital improvement, please let Meg and Felix know. Overall the budget is primarily a continuation budget, there is some shifting and reorganization. There is a lot of work being done on replacement of vehicles, police, fire and snow. There is a substantial amount of work do to on the port. They went to open the bids for the first phase of construction and there were no bids. They are circling back and reevaluating to get new bids. She will have more on that in November.

Meg also gave a Beautification update - planter box clean up will be this Friday from 9:30-11:30am, text Mr. Zaletel 907-306-5062 for details, meet up at Latouche, Fireweed, Bannister corner

**Guest:** Farina Brown, special assistant to Mayor on homelessness and health. Homelessness has affected all of us, the Mayor realizes that we are in a very difficult situation, and we are one of the very few states that has such a significant winter. We find ourself in a situation where the homeless numbers are really increasing year over year due to Covid, opioid use and the housing

crisis. They have put together a strategy to address homelessness over the next 12 months. They are trying to address the crisis while coming up with a long term plan. They are working toward having 400 beds in scattered sites, not a single location. Golden Lion is going to continue operations until summer of 2025. Golden Lion will transition to treatment in the summer, not during fall leading into winter. The administration will work through the winter to start transitioning the current tenants of the Golden Lion.

**Guest:** Earl Malpass, General Manager of Merrill Field - he is new to the airport, came from Fairbanks. The biggest concern is the noise complaints, all complaints go to him. They are doing the best they can to address noise complaints. They are doing a refurbishing next summer that will result in different flight patterns. In 2030 Merrill Field will be celebrating its centennial anniversary. It's the oldest airport in Alaska. They want to be a good show airport, they want to be a good neighbor.

### **Committee Reports:**

Crime and Safety - Dave Morgan, please see attached written report

Transportation - Dave Evans, Wednesday, October 30th, there is an open house at Stellar Secondary, 5-7pm for the Fireweed Lane Project, [www.fireweedlane.com](http://www.fireweedlane.com) , Friends of Fireweed Lane is a group that is organizing to encourage the project to keep Fireweed Lane accessible for bikers and pedestrians as well as cars. If you are interested in "Friends of Fireweed" group, email [fireweed.lane.rehab@gmail.com](mailto:fireweed.lane.rehab@gmail.com)

### **Closing Comments for the Good of the Order**

**Beth Abisoror** - today marks 1 year since the massacre in Israel, rather than ask for a moment of silence, Beth asks that our community members commit to participating in small acts of kindness to bring back light and hope to our mourning neighbors.

Cassandra motion to adjourn, Jill second

**Next meeting: November 4, 2024, 7:00-9:00pm**

**Adjournment and Good Evening**