

AHCC Meeting - 19 October 2024
See recording for more details on any topic

Attendees

Residents:

Chelsea Ward-Waller (President)
Carolyn Ramsey (VP)
Rayette Sterling
Dave Gardner
John Whitlock (Board Member at Large)
Conrad Frick
Taylor Willing
Matt Carlson
Amber Morris
Kathleen Heiskell
Brita Mjos
Larry Hayden
Jo Anne Hayden
Emily Weiser (Board Member at Large)
Sheri Whitethorn
Diane Harps
Kate Yenik Ksok
Ed Brewer
Mikhail Siskoff
Paige Coatney

Guests:

Genevieve Mina - State House Rep, District 19)
Daniel Volland - Anchorage Assembly
Forrest Dunbar - State Senator
Julie Greene-Graham - guest
Felix Rivera - Anchorage Assembly
Meg Zalatel - Anchorage Assembly
Dave Donley - Anchorage School Board

Call to Order, establish quorum, introductions

Approve Oct 2024 Agenda

Motion to include AFD report with Assembly/etc. reports

Moved by J. Whitlock, seconded by E. Brewer; approved by consent

Assembly/Legislative/School Board Reports and JBER

Assembly Member Bronga - not present

Assembly Member Volland - expanding Mobile Crisis Team to 24/7; improving recruitment and retention in Prosecutor's office; new grants team; raising plow operator pay; more money for traffic calming in Mayor's budget; proposed fleet upgrades; Sprung structure sale to Port; pedestrian safety on State roads

Assembly Member Rivera - budget public hearings; homelessness winter plan; Project Anchorage 3% sales tax

Assembly Member Zalatel - Budget season- opportunities to weigh in; Port revenue bonds; new park designation in Rogers Park CC

State Senator Dunbar - diaper pantry in Mtn View; Chugach battery storage; Psychedelic medicine task force bill passed into law; UA internship during Spring semester in Juneau

State Representative Mina - Happy Filipino American history month!; PFDs are out, contact if questions/issues; SNAP card scams; voting coming up

School Board Member Donley - proposed school closings; deficit projection; teacher/staff shortages

JBER Representative Boston - not present

PTA Rep Kate Yenik - Oct 19 Halloween festival fundraiser

AFD Reps - Oct is fire prevention months, check your fire and CO2 alarms; mobile crisis team staffing is supported by AFD; hiring 21 new firefighters, hard to keep staff in AK; PulsePoint app for CPR-certified community members and AFD call following; trial location for new drug for heart attacks (under very specific criteria)

In Our Backyard

Julie Greene-Graham

Providing safe interim homes and connections to resources for unhoused senior neighbors.

Occupant criteria (i.e., not a no-barrier shelter) are met by 314 people as of the end of May. Building 6 individual units just next to the Central Lutheran church parking lot. Matson donated shipping costs. Bean's Cafe doing meals. Lots of community partners/supporters. Open house Oct 26.

Board Nominations

Amber Morris

Open to any additional nominations (on the spot during the meeting).

Current nominations: Pres: C. Ward-Waller; VP: C. Ramsey; Secretary/Treasurer: E. Weiser;

Member(s)-at-Large: J. Grover-Whitlock, B. Mjos

Motion to approve slate for year term: A. Morris; seconded by D. Gardner.

No discussion.

Yay 20 Nay 0 Abstain 0

Transit-Supportive Development

Emily Weiser

High enough density of housing and mixed use, in an easy and pleasant organization, so that transit demand is sufficient to support a robust transit system.

Transit-supportive corridors (TSC) are designated in 2040 LUP, but documentation can be confusing/missing, and existing zoning doesn't allow needed density to meet transit demand goals.

Next preferred action is to modify zoning to facilitate goals - more housing per acre and mixed use. Assembly process with public input.

In Airport Heights specifically, TSCs are along Debarr (south to 16th/17th - buffer follows Debarr curve) and Bragaw (west to Wintergreen).

Seward to Glenn Connection PEL Update

C. Ward-Waller

Another public involvement period is coming up. Quick report on recent meeting at which Airport Heights CC had one seat.

Federation of Community Councils (FCC) report

Report from A. Moser - not present

Community concerns

C. Ramsey - Community Council Boundaries

AHCC boundaries are in review as part of the 10-year review. Fairview wants Sitka St. Park to be part of Fairview CC. Eastridge needs to be part of this discussion. AHCC will consider if/when it becomes an official proposal.

E. Brewer - Parks has been very responsive about picking up bagged garbage in Tikishla Park.

C. Ward-Waller - traffic calming follow up: 5 speed studies done this last summer. Of all of those, Primrose had the highest 85th percentile metric at 29 mph and Norene was 28 mph. None had a median speed over 25 mph. The Department is crunching numbers and working on traffic calming for the coming year. Note from K. Kosk that the Rosemary speed test was done when 20th was under construction and blocking normal traffic patterns.

Motion to adjourn - made by C. Ramsey, seconded by A. Morris; no objections