

## AHCC meeting minutes

December 19, 2024, 7:00 pm

### Attendees:

#### Residents:

Chelsea Ward-Waller  
Aaron Jongenelen  
Emily Weiser  
David Gardner  
Rayette Sterling  
Karl Kisser  
Michael Galginaitis  
Larry Hayden  
Matt Carlson  
Ed Brewer  
Brita Mjos  
Tyler Boyes  
Sheri Whitethorn  
John Whitlock  
Nicolette Dent

#### Guests:

School Board Member Dave Donley  
Assembly Member Felix Rivera  
Seth Tigarian (staff to Senator Dunbar)  
Representative Genevieve Mina  
Assembly Member Meg Zaletel

Approval of agenda: Moved by Carl, seconded by Larry, no opposition; approved

### Elected officials' reports:

Rep Mina: Will be back at legislature next year, in the House majority coalition, focus on Southcentral energy crisis, education, pension, workforce crisis and attracting/retaining residents. Will be chairing the House Health and Social Services Committee. Prefiling bills: enacting a statewide transit plan within DOT&PF to ensure they're mindful of multiple transportation modes as well as taking local and tribal feedback. Constituent meeting Tuesday Jan 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm at Jamiko's in Mountain View.

Seth for [Sen Dunbar](#): Senator will be back in the legislature next year, part of the bipartisan majority in the Senate. Will be chairing the Senate Health and Social Services Committee. Priorities for Dunbar's office: Housing development, public safety, education, summer EBT funds.

#### Assembly Member Rivera:

- Approved asks to the state legislature: “safe and secure Anchorage” (particularly snow plowing on state roads, and energy/natural gas); attracting a workforce, particularly by boosting public education and benefits for state employees.
- Homelessness: standing up additional warming center, which is the last piece of the winter plan.
- Project Anchorage (proposed sales tax) is ongoing, with several versions that the Assembly will consider in January, with a public hearing Jan 7<sup>th</sup> and deadline of Jan 21<sup>st</sup> to approve what will be on the ballot for April.

#### Assembly Member Zaletel:

- Port: court of appeals reversed most of the previous money that had been awarded by another court due to faulty work. Litigation will continue. Does not make or break plans for the port and rebuilding Terminal 1.
- Legislation in progress to pause residential design requirements for multifamily housing for 2 years. Public hearing at the Assembly meeting on Jan 7<sup>th</sup>. Planning Department supports; Planning & Zoning Commission heard it but did not comment.
- Sponsoring the S-2 version of the Project Anchorage options. Still proposing 3% sales taxed, divided evenly across 1) property tax relief, 2) cool projects, 3) affordable housing and public transit, 4) maintain public facilities, address issues brought by the community, and leverage state and federal funding. Will also exempt low-income households from the sales tax.
- Assembly Resolution on the agenda for Jan 7<sup>th</sup> that would direct a special election for the public to vote on Project Anchorage in August/Sept/October to allow more time to develop the proposal and do outreach.

#### School Board Member Donley:

- 2 schools selected to close down: Lake Hood and Nunaka Valley. Those buildings will go to charter schools.
- School bond will be on the April ballot, \$65m, largely for safety upgrades to schools. Will increase the net debt for the school district.
- Now starting on the budget for next year. Will have some carryover from this year due to being unable to fill 150 staff positions, including teachers.

#### AFD – Matt Carlson

- Pulse Point app to notify nearby first-responders of cardiac arrest: was used last week to save a patient’s life. AEDs can be registered on the app to make them available for response (if you see an AED, you can register it on the Pulse Point app)
- Ongoing trial of drug to help with heart attacks: first administered last week and will continue for 3 months.

Eastchester Park Master Plan update: Nicolette Dent, MOA Parks & Rec

- Website: [bit.ly/eastchesterparkmasterplan](https://bit.ly/eastchesterparkmasterplan)
- The park is along Chester Creek from Lake Otis to Seward Hwy. Includes Woodside Park, Hillstrand Pond
- 2 municipal park bonds support this, and is on the draft bond for April 2025
- Plan was developed along with community advisory group to guide development of the park over the coming years.
- Proposing several new amenities on Woodside Park, including de-channelizing Chester Creek (letting it meander more naturally), community garden, picnic pavilion, playground, fitness area, singletrack trails
- Planning a trail connection from Chester Creek Trail to Sitka Street Park, with a spur to the end of East 20<sup>th</sup>
- Hillstrand Pond recently got a new viewing platform to reduce erosion. Planning to improve the playground, add low-key skateboard features
- Plan includes strategy for seeking funding
- Timeline: starting with Woodside Park playground and garden in 2026
- The plan will be out for public comment for the next couple of months, then the Parks & Rec Commission in January, then to Planning & Zoning Commission for approval in March 2025. Both of those are public meetings with opportunity to comment

AHCC resolution in support of the proposed master plan for Eastchester Park:

- Approving it today would let it be part of the packet going to Planning & Zoning Commission
- Larry moves to approve, Dave seconds, speaking in support of the park amenities and realigning the creek. Michael points out this is a conceptual plan with details TBD.
- Resolution passed: In favor: 15, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 0

AHCC resolution to support pedestrian and driver safety improvements in the municipality of Anchorage:

- Chris moves to approve, John seconds
- Resolution passes: In favor: 13, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 2

AHCC resolution in support of the proposed Community Council boundary changes

- Emily moves to approve, Aaron seconds
- Sheri moves to support moving Boundary Study Area #18 into Airport Heights, but there is no second so the motion fails
- Resolution passes: In favor: 14, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 0

FCC report: delegate absent so no report, but Chelsea saw they received the traffic safety presentation that we had last month.

Community concerns:

- Chelsea: Seward to Glenn Connection is open for 45-day public comment period until Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, so we can consider a resolution as a CC (the project would still accept a CC resolution after the deadline), and individuals can submit comments. Chelsea is inviting the project team to our January meeting, and is convening a CC working group on the project (let her know if you want to join the group... Dave, Emily, Sheri).
- Rayette reminds us that Mountain View Library is just down the street and has winter activities lined up for kids, adults, and seniors.

January meeting will be Zoom-only due to an event at the school.

Emily moves to adjourn, John seconds, adjourned 8:35 pm.