

# ABBOTT LOOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 30, 2014

Next ALCC Meeting: November 20, 2014 at Abbott Loop Elementary School

**Since this is ALCC's last meeting of this year until after the New Year, we would like to end it with an end-of-year holiday potluck & meeting!**

**A Note from the Secretary, Connie Carlisle-**I apologize for the last-minute notice, and no one is under obligation to participate, however since this is our last meeting until after the New Year, I thought it would be a great way to end, and enjoy our last meeting of the year with an ALCC Potluck on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Connie and anyone who would like to assist in setting things up and light decorating, please plan to arrive 1/2 hour earlier at the school.

Letters A-E (Dessert)

Letters F-J (Beverage)

Letters K-O (Meat Dish/Tray)

Letters P-T (Vegetables/Veggie Tray/Vegetarian/Vegan/Chips & Dip)

Letters U-Z (Cutlery, Plates, Cups, Napkins, Condiments, Plastic Wrap/Foil)

**Feel free to call Connie Carlisle at 907-337-0047 if you have questions, or to let her know what you plan to bring to avoid duplication of effort and waste. Thank you!**

**Meeting called to order at 7:15p.m., by Ray Metcalfe, Chair. Meeting adjourned at 9:20p.m.**

**Connie Carlisle, Secretary, took & transcribed the minutes.**

**Board members present:** Ray Metcalfe, Connie Carlisle, Linda Zaugg, Dan Boland, Faith Alexander, Michael Moeglein, Trish O'Hara, Dan Boland, Bruce Roberts, Pixie Siebe, John Weddleton, and Gordon Wetzel.

**Minutes from last month:** September minutes were approved.

**Treasurers' Report:** No treasurer report provided this month. A report will be provided at the meeting in November.

**Legislative Report:** Senator Meyer, introduced Juan San Miguel as the State PTA President-elect. Juan is replacing Al Tamagni Jr., in this position. Senator Meyers stated he was able to get the Whisper Faith Park improvements approved when he was on the Assembly, and the Meadow Brook project on E. 64<sup>th</sup> was fully-funded. Senator Meyers stated there is not much funding going to capital projects. A community member asked if would be possible to be included in meetings related to capital projects. Senator Meyers stated he would look into it. Senator Meyer stated they are gearing up for re-election, and are meeting with constituents to address issues, and concerns in the areas with access. They are spending a lot of time in schools, and legislative help is working at the state level with the Service High School project. An Anchorage Caucus is scheduled in February and March at the Loussac Library. Senator Meyers will provide updates and feedback on

the session. There were no questions from the floor.

**Assembly Report:** Representatives Dick Traini, and Elvi Gray-Jackson reported items the Assembly is currently working on. Representative Dick Traini informed Mark Butler that the budget will be approved, and said great work!

Assembly Report for October submitted by Representative, Elvi Gray-Jackson. The Assembly is currently working on the following:

- The Mayor's 2015 General Government and Utility Operating and Capital budgets were introduced at the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Highlights follow:
  - The Administration faced a \$1.8M Budget Shortfall
  - Majority of Services reduced to cover shortfall were within other services i.e., contracts, travel, supplies and equipment (computers, printers, etc.)
  - Total Budget - \$471.4
  - Funds acquired through attrition will allow for two police academies
  - Number of Sworn positions within both Police and Fire remain static
  - Seven full-time vacant positions eliminated within the following departments: Chief Fiscal Officer (1), IT (1), Community Development (2), and Health and Human Services (2). One position in Mayor's Office will be eliminated July 2015.
  - Seven full-time positions added within the following departments: Employee Relations (2), Finance (4), and Public Transit (1)
  - Senior Center Funding reduced – Anchorage (\$67,207) and Chugiak (\$41,190)
  - One full-time position (filled) is eliminated in Parks and Recreation Department
- Work Sessions for department budget presentations were held on October 10<sup>th</sup> and October 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Work Session to review Assembly proposed amendments on November 24<sup>th</sup> – time TBA.
- Public Hearings – Assembly Chambers after 6:00 p.m. as follows:
  - November 5<sup>th</sup>
  - November 18<sup>th</sup>
- Special Meeting – November 26<sup>th</sup> to approve budget.
- SAP – The Administration requested and the Assembly approved another \$3M by way of a loan for the continued implementation of the Financial and Human Resource Enterprise Resource Planning System (SAP).
- Ms. Demboski and Gray-Jackson brought forward a resolution requesting a \$200,000 appropriation from Fund Balance to provide funding for an independent review of both the Payroll System (Kronos) and SAP implementation. The Public Hearing was held on October 21<sup>st</sup> and it was approved 7-4. In September 2013, a resolution was brought forward by Mr. Traini and Ms. Gray-Jackson for the same purpose but it failed 4-7. Current costs for SAP - \$34.6M.
- At the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, AO 2014-126 which extends the time period for the new Title 21 implementation to December 31, 2015 was approved 8-3.
- Chugach Access Plan (CAP) first public hearing was held on September 9<sup>th</sup> and continued to the meeting of September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Forty-eight persons testified – 38 in favor of immediately approving the plan and 10 concerned about property rights. The Assembly held two work sessions. The CAP Plan approval was postponed until the meeting of November 5<sup>th</sup> to allow for the Chugiak/Eagle River Advisory Board the opportunity to review the Plan as required by Code.

**Next Assembly Meeting: November 5th**

**School Board Report:** Anchorage School Board Member, Pat Higgins Pat Higgins reported that the School Board had not received information from the State regarding the Alaska Army National Guard. A meeting with representatives is being scheduled to evaluate what took place, and for placement of precautions for the kids. Pat also stated there will be flat funding for five years, 100 positions may be cut each year, and the School Board asked for “all” of the options. In addition, a pro-forma meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2014 to decide where to place the focus. The graduation rate dropped 3 percent, academic scores increased a bit, math has declined, and Alaska ranks 27<sup>th</sup> in math in the world. Summer school programs have been cut, and goals and resources of 20/20 are losing to the graduation rate. A facilities management review is expected soon. The Anchorage School District would lose money by closing Eagle River High School to provide electives. Rilke Schule is requesting to relocate by Polaris. The Board will need to look at that.

**Abbott Loop Principal Report:** Thanks to Mr. Sosa for the use of Abbott Loop Elementary for our meetings! Abbott Loop Elementary School is in need of volunteers if anyone is interested, or knows of someone who may be interested. Please contact Abbott Loop Elementary School at: 742-5400.

### **Update on Business and Previous Presentations**

- A. Update of change of signatures to add Ray Metcalfe, Chair, and Janice Park, Treasurer to ALCC’s bank account. Al Tamagni suggested adding Janet Zaugg, Vice-President to the bank account. Please provide an update. A motion regarding adding additional check signatures on ALCC’s behalf will be discussed and is listed under new business.
- B. Representative Dick Traini provided an update regarding the H. A. “Red” Boucher plaque located in the Egan Convention Center. Representative Traini stated there is nothing to discuss at this time, and that he will need to speak with Dave Donnelley regarding the plaque who was not available prior to the ALCC meeting.
- C. Pat Higgins, Anchorage School Board Member, stated at last month’s meeting listening sessions were scheduled at Wendler, Alpenglow, and Lake Hood, as well as the first reading of the school district’s budget. In addition, a community member expressed an interest regarding news footage on the Channel 2 evening news broadcast that a teacher had voiced approval of legalization or marijuana. Please provide an update on these.
- D. A check for \$1,500.00 was received by the ALCC from (Bicentennial) Soil Conservation District. The check will be deposited into the ALCC’s bank account. A community member asked, “How the funds came about?” There was no response to this question. Another community member asked, “What will Abbott Loop do with the \$1,500.00?” The ALCC will determine whether there are stipulations regarding the funds before considering the best use of the funds. Al Tamagni stated there is no stipulation on how to spend the funds, and does not think there was an agreement. A community member asked, “How did you get the money?” There was no response to this question. The ALCC was informed to contact Ryan Stencil for additional information. The ALCC is taking all questions regarding the funds into consideration and will provide updates as information is obtained.
- E. Patti Higgins stated Al Tamagni was going to write a letter to the Parks & Recreation board for the installation of a swing set at Whisper Kovach Park. It is now too late to have it installed this year. Al Tamagni responded the ALCC would need to make sure it is on the Parks & Recreation agenda. The questions of adding a swing set in Whisper Kovach Park for young children with infant/toddler seats was presented in previous ALCC meetings. In previous ALCC meeting minutes, the Board indicated The Parks Department will support this request through defined community support and site assessment as was to have been addressed at the September meeting with Parks and Recreation. Please provide an update on this.

- F. Anchorage Fire Department fireman returned to urge a “No” vote to prevent putting politics in charge of the number of staff needed to respond to emergencies, how less staff will delay and hamper response time, and will increase the risk of unsafe situations for fireman, including human life, and safety with less staff. Representative Traini responded that if it were his home, he would want as many fireman on the truck as possible. A fireman stated, “If this is not repealed, I don’t what will happen.”
- G. In response to the information provided by Juan San Miguel, a community member who has taught, and tutors in math, spoke to a need to allow our children excellence in mathematics curricula. Stated was he created a one-hour timetable method. He expressed the importance to advocate, and stated he plans to speak with Mr. Miguel.
- H. Update on the South Anchorage and Hillside Intersection Study from Joann Mitchell, Kinney Engineering. Kinney Engineering submitted a draft report to DOT&PF in November 2013. Many of you took time to review the report and submit comments-thank you! DOT&PF requested additional studies and analysis for the intersections along Elmore Road. Kinney Engineering contract was amended this fall and the additional work is nearly complete. Kinney Engineering will be issuing a Revised Draft Reconnaissance Engineering Study in the next week and posting it to the project website ([www.southanchorageintersections.com](http://www.southanchorageintersections.com)). An email will be sent when it is available for review. (A list of what’s changed since the last report will be sent so you won’t have to review the entire document).

An Open House to share the recommendations of the revised report, answer questions, and take feedback will be Thursday, **December 4th from 4 to 7 PM at the Alaska Zoo**. Notices about the meeting will be going out but Kinney Engineering want to give community council members a heads up.

Kinney Engineering thanks everyone for their continued interest (and patience) in this important study.

- I. Committees were formed to work on current and future projects. The committees and members on the committees are listed. Would committee members like provide information or an update?
- **Project Tracking**-Mark Butler, Federation of Community Councils, Ray Metcalfe, Chair, and Connie Carlisle, Secretary.
  - **Transportation Committee**-Bruce Roberts, Nancy Smyre, Mike Moeglein, Dan Boland, John Pfaff.
  - **Parks & Recreation**-Patti Higgins, Al Tamagni, Faith Alexander, Gordon Wetzel.
  - **Planning & Zoning**-Dan Boland, Connie Carlisle, John Weddleton

### **New Business and Presentations**

- The ALCC requests a motion for any combination of two of the four officers be able to sign checks as needed to carryout the stated intentions of the ALCC, the Board of the ALCC, or the Executive Board of the ALCC.
- To continue to hold the council meetings at Abbott Loop Elementary, a Conditional Use Permit is needed. The ALCC is requesting a volunteer to take charge of this.
- The Chair requested a resolution to vote to amend minor sections of the by-laws. Representative Traini suggested the Chair contact Daryl Hess, an expert on by-laws, and for information regarding the process. The resolution is tabled until the Chair speaks with Daryl. This was seconded by all.

- Expressed interest regarding timing of building a new Rilke Schule school, at a time when we are looking at potential savings from closing schools. Interest expressed regarding careful morning and afternoon drop off plans in any new location, as the current Rilke Schule location was very disruptive to businesses on W53rd. Rilke Schule has submitted plans for a proposed new facility on 64<sup>th</sup> across the intersection from Burlwood. Traffic for over 1,000 students on such a small and quiet two-lane neighborhood is an obvious concern, and traffic studies have not yet been ordered. The School Board will vote on November 17, 2014.

Thanks to John Weddleton for your excellent summation, and recommendations regarding some of current Planning and Zoning projects underway in the community. Would you like to share information on your summation and recommendations?

As Chair, I want those who carry responsibilities that come with chairing a committee (or the Chair Person's designated Committee member) to be empowered to act at their digression to attend and/or comment as they deem necessary to speak for the Council on any issue arising and needing reply prior to the next meeting of the ALCC.

Comments, or a summation of comments, should be circulated to the entire Council's email list prior to the next Council meeting, should clarify whether they are the Chairman's comments, comments approved by the Chairman's full Committee, or comments delivered at the direction of the full Council.

I propose a resolution to empower all Chair Persons to act on their areas of responsibility, only subject to review by member request at the full council at the next meeting of the ALCC.

Chairing committees are responsible for proposing agenda items covering their areas of responsibility to include review of decisions made in the interim between Council meetings and upcoming issues. All proposed additions to the agenda should be directed to Council Secretary Connie Carlisle at [cconstanceh@gmail.com](mailto:cconstanceh@gmail.com).

## **Announcements**

If you did not receive a copy of the minutes of the meeting or agenda via email, the print quality was very light and almost unreaable. Please print using a pen and/or more legibly on the sign-in sheets.

Juan San Miguel, new State PTA President-elect, introduced himself and stated some of the reasons for his decision to become PTA President. He stated the one child, one voice initiative, that there is an improvement in learning of 23% when men are involved in PTA and in their children's learning, spoke briefly about National Military Family, and an All-Pro breakfast at Abbott Loop.

Al Tamagni reported police retirement plans came in under-budget by 8.77%, and should free up money for the Anchorage School District budget next year.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

**Have a Happy, Enjoyable, and Safe Holiday Season!**

**Our Next Abbott Loop Community Council Meeting will be January 29,  
2015 @ 7:00p.m. at Abbott Loop Elementary School**