

Anchorage Downtown Community Council

Wednesday, January 5, 2022 @ 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Virtual Meeting

Downtown.c.council@gmail.com

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- **Welcome & Introductions:**
Participants: Silvia Villamides, Mike Ward, Jason Motyka, Richard Irwin, Chris Jones, Alexandria McCormick, Chris Constant, Zach Fields, Portia Noble, Amanda Moser, Kristine Bunnell, Joy Boston, Melinda Gant, Josie Wilson, Tristan Walsh, Mercedes Colbert, Steven Callaghan, Margo Bellamy, Daniel Volland
- **Additions/changes to the agenda.**
Approval of agenda – Mike Ward made a motion to approve the agenda. Amanda Moser seconded the motion. Motion passed. Agenda approved.
- **Approval of November meeting minutes.** Amanda Moser made the motion to approve the November meeting minutes. Mike Ward seconded the motion. Motion passed. November meeting minutes approved.
- **Reports: 3minute limit**
 - **Assembly Report** – Chris Constant
 - Approved budget last month.
 - School district bonds and bond packages, ballot issues deadline Jan. 25th
 - reapportionment in process. Meeting tomorrow at 11am. –New maps anticipated in March.
 - Neighbors have concerns regarding transfer of liquor license to 420 3rd Ave. Transfer has not been in front of the assembly but received approval from Downtown Community Council.
 - **Senate Representative Report** – Mercedes Colbert for Tom Begich
 - Capital projects important this year. Feb. 1 – deadline. Important to include details and realistic projects
 - Working on getting good funding
 - **House of Representative Report** – Zach Fields – Tristan Walsh
 - February 1st – applications due for Capital projects
 - Met with Transportation commissioner. Advocating for downtown and south end.
 - **Mayor's Office** – Portia Noble
 - Mayor is preparing to present his priorities for Capital budget projects.
 - SB-91 crime bill –discussions on how can it be impacting our community today.
 - Mayor and assembly working on election reform – more is needed
 - Mayor visited Alaska Native Charter School K-8 now operating within East High because their building is in need of repairs.
 - Mayor would like to identify at least 2-3 very important Capital budget items for each community council area.
 - Focusing on infrastructure – port
 - Food Security
 - Working on boards and commissions – still some vacancies
 - ARPA funds – land trust received some funds. Putting on virtual courses. They help small businesses.
 - Financing long-term low-cost energy efficient equipment
 - **Anchorage Police Department** – n/a
 - **Anchorage School Board** – Margo Bellamy
 - Back in school with masking
 - Low on staff due to 500 employees living in Mat-Su area – caught up in the travel with weather
 - Staffing for teachers is being met with subs and various other staff members
 - Not sure of Omicron effects – possibly going back online as last option and/or adjust schedule
 - 80% attendance returning from vacation
 - Search for new superintendent. Looking for public and employee input.
 - ASD has submitted a bond proposal

- Mainstream meetings and workshops are online. May sign up to testify in person or online
- **Anchorage Downtown Partnership** – Amanda Moser
 - New Year's Eve celebration went well – in person and on radio.
 - Safety First ended at the first of the year. Call 911 or 311. Reach out to us for snow removal help.
 - Working in coordination with 3rd Ave. Radicals to advocate for downtown area
 - Monthly Meeting - Anchorage Museum
- **Our Downtown Update** – Kristine Bunnell
 - Conversations today with Peach Investments regarding the lighting on 4th.
 - CRRSA funding coming it can be used for planning also available for Capital projects.
 - Downtown Plan went to the Planning & Zoning Department – recommended for adoption
 - Fund Gap committee working for options for downtown development
 - Phase 2 for the Knik Arm Connection Project
 - Met with Ron Thompson – on parking amendment. East downtown and Fairview will be effected in positive way.
 - Working on codes and amendments with Planning and Zoning Department in regards to capacity level for downtown.
 - Working on action items.
 - First of March presenting to the assembly – the Downtown plan.
- **JBER** – Joy Boston
 - Arctic Thunder open house end of July 30-31
- **ACDA** – Melinda Gant
 - New parking director hired, Jeff Reed
 - Will be reviewing discounted downtown employee parking
 - JC Penney garage – working on putting in place a user agreement to move forward in purchasing it. Demolish right away or run 3-5 years and then demolish it. Not sure of the future use.
- **New Business: 6minute limit**
 - **Alcohol and Marijuana Committee Update** – Silvia Villamides
 - The following establishments have applied for renewal of liquor license;
 - Gaslight
 - White Spot Café
 - Kobuk
 - Fat Ptarmigan
 - Tent City Taphouse
 - Mike Ward moved to approve renewal of liquor licenses for above listed establishments. Chris Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed. Renewal of liquor licenses for above listed establishments have been approved.
 - The following establishment has applied for renewal of marijuana license.
 - Tip Top
 - Mike Ward moved to approve the renewal of the marijuana license for Tip Top. Chris Jones seconded the motion. Motion approved. Renewal of the Marijuana license for Tip Top has been approved.
 - **Treasurer Update** – Jason Motyka
 - Reported account balance
- **Presentations: 6minute limit (3minutes – to speak / 3minutes – for questions)**
 - **Seward Glenn Mobility: Community Advisory Committee Update** – Josie Wilson
 - PEL Project – Josie.wilson@hdrmrc.com
 - Jan. 27 4:30- -6:30pm first public meeting – virtual
 - To educate everyone on the project. Field any questions/concerns. Needs, criteria, problem areas.
 - Online open house – access through the website – guided presentation and you can add comments
 - E-mail updates can be signed up for
- **Announcements / Neighbor Comments: 2minute limit**
 - **Third Avenue Radicals** – Update – next month
 - Daniel Volland – optometrist and business owner across the street from the Snow Cafe
 - Running for downtown assembly seat

ADJOURN MEETING

Richard Irwin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at: 6:56pm