

ANCHORAGE DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Virtual Meeting

[Downtown.c.council@gmail.com](mailto:Downtown.c.council@gmail.com)

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Welcome & Introductions

**Participants:** Silvia Villamides, Jason Motyka, Richard Irwin, Alexandria McCormick, Tom Begich, Tristan Walsh, Margo Bellamy, Amanda Moser, Kristine Bunnell, Joy Boston, Daniel McKenna, Elizabeth Appleby, Sami Graham, Kim Stalder, Megan Moffitt, Karen Klass, Pedar Dalthorp, Steven Callahan, Bridget Sanders, Chris Rapan, James Toussaint, Brian Neilson, Briana Glasionov, Barbara Block, Niko Conteros, Mike Robbins, Charlie Watson, Cliff Burnett, Dan Knops, Mike Robuck, Philip Elm, Robert Manley, Sven Fedorow, Tina Morris, Troy Holland, Adam Blomfield, David Hall, Jared Hayes, Amber McDonald, Nicole Cusack, John Snead, Bob Neumann, Jon McNeil, Julie Saupe, Lawrence Michael, Mark Glasionov, Mike Robuck, Renae Kennicot, Quinn, JC Durante, Brandon – (Bernies Bungalow), Eric Ritner, Fernando Lee, Robert Alexander, Russ Reno, Jamey Walker, Robert Manley, Steve Rader, Ritesh Laud, Tina Morris, Terri Rossy, Doug Farris, Mary Rohlfing, Buzz Rohlfing, Logan Rammell, Jamey Walker, Dave Syren, Cliff Groh, Michelle Klouda, Kristin Anderson, Malena Hausinger, Jeffrey Petersen, Jessica Rostad, Richard Shafer, Doug Holton, John McManamin, William Ehelebe, Jesse Ackerson, Mark Zorbin, Roy Habib, Rominy Dob, David McCarthy, Clayton Murray, Susan Knowles, Daniel Volland, Christopher Reynolds, Wilma Klass, Jeff Peterson, Robert Good, Terrance Shanigan

- Additions/changes to the agenda. Approval of agenda.

Richard Irwin made the motion to approve the agenda. Amanda Moser seconded the motion. Motion passed. Agenda approved

- Approval of February 2, 2022 minutes.

Amanda Moser made the motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 2, 2022. Russ Reno seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting minutes approved.

- **Reports:** 3minute limit

- **Assembly Report** – Chris Constant n/a
- **Senate Representative Report** – Tom Begich
  - Working on Budget issues – the legislature is working on negotiating budget items
  - CAPS applications are in – previewing them now
  - Considering using ARPA, federal money
  - General obligation bond is being considered
  - Pre -K reading bill being introduced
  - Essential Workers - Free college tuition for up to 4 years with Covid money – for those loosing jobs or going part time or working during Covid
  - Back log in doing background checks on childcare workers is holding up people being hired. Drafted letter addressing back log to Adam Crum
  - Ukrainian – trying to look at not investing in Russia. Have some invested there already

- **House of Representative** – Tristan Walsh for Zach Fields
  - Wrapping up budget process
  - Dealing with federal money
  - General bond
  - Homecare workers – trying to help those vulnerable and in need.
  - HB 133 – updates savings accounts for disabled – without effecting their money through programs of assistance.
  - HB – links between colleges, apprentices and high schools. Work force readiness.
  - HB 149 – Childcare workers to collectively bargain with the state. Vote on forming a union or join a union. They could have benefits. Better reimbursements, more training.
- **Mayor's Office Report** – Alexis
  - Women's month – round table Tues March 15, Thurs. March 19, Wed March 23 at noon, Facebook page will have these noted
  - Tues April 5 - election
  - Coffee with a cop
  - Tax Help – AARP Tuesdays and Thursdays at Lousaac Library
- **Anchorage Police Department** n/a
- **Anchorage School Board** – Margo Bellamy
  - Feb. highlights; agreements with 2 unions, Totem and Teacher's
  - Search update for superintendent - 23 applications received. Narrowing down to 11. March 14 start interviews. 2-3 candidates will be brought forth to the community
  - Lottery open for schools
  - Friday joint meeting with the assembly
  - Encouraging input from public
  - Next week is spring break
  - Superintendent update to Covid – choice masking for students, children can travel domestically now, graduations in person this year
- **Anchorage Downtown Partnership** – Amanda Moser
  - Team working last month – removed snow and ice from sidewalks
  - Downtown conversation times
  - Getting ready for summer events
  - Museum and PAC teaming up with ADP for events
  - March 11 5-8pm town square park ice skating
- **Our Downtown Update** – Kristine Bunnell
  - Work session March 11 @ 1:00 pm. Anchorage Assembly March 15<sup>th</sup>
- **JBER** – Joy Boston
  - Updates March 1 – mask mandate is in line with CDC. Low medium levels in Anchorage do not have to wear a mask when on base if vaxed.
  - Arctic Edge going on – mixed military groups
  - Great Alaskan Sportsman Show – Deniana Center – tables there along with recruiters
  - Arctic Thunder this summer
  - National Cemetery for those vets without family.
- **ACDA** – Mike Robbins
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. project on track and on time. Construction begins October 2022

- JC Penney garage project coming up – not purchased yet
- 6 – 12 potential projects being looked at for downtown
- **New Business: 6minute limit**
  - **Alcohol and Marijuana Committee Update** – Silvia Villamides
  - LED and neighbors meeting on zoom March 9<sup>th</sup>. Mike Ward will run the meeting
  - **Treasurer Update** – Jason Motyka
  - \$4,066.
  - **CIP Update** – Jason & Mike
- **Presentations: 6minute limit** (3minutes – to speak / 3minutes – for questions)
  - **MOA Planning Department** – Daniel McKenna Foster
  - Shared screen. Reinvestment Focused Area, (RFA) March 14 – going to planning & zoning department. Many variants of property and ideas on how to do this. Public investments used. RFAs in 2040 LUP. Can happen in any area of the town. Can target neighborhoods. Identified areas in 2016. Downtown area factored in heavily. Small Area Implement Plan, (SAIP)
  - Update to the R-4A citywide mixed use zoning district project.
  - **MOA Planning Department** – Elizabeth Appleby
  - Public information center on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Planning and zoning meeting for approval. This looks at neighborhoods besides downtown area. Lowering parking requirements in these areas. Title 21 parking and site access code amendments
  - **Downtown Library within Old City Hall** – Sami Graham
  - Mayor Bronson's administration and the Anchorage Library Foundation have agreed to collaborate on incorporating a Downtown Library within Old City Hall.
  - **Anchorage Equal Rights Commission Outreach** – Megan Moffitt
  - AERC – investigator Megan Moffitt. Sharing resources they offer and what they do. Housed 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the City Hall. Law enforcement for people being discriminated against.
  - **Resolution opposing the relocation of transit stops from the Downtown transit center to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue between C Street and E Street.** -Kim Stalder
  - 6 businesses will be affected for 12-18 months. Businesses would like the transit center relocated elsewhere. If not, they would like accommodations.
  - Tent City Tap House – lose deliveries, business bus parking and curbside pick-up
  - Mike Robbins – when bus stop relocates there will be bathrooms and they will be maintained and clean, security will be present.
  - Kim – talked with Acton (transit center) this morning. New software coming onboard in the fall. New software could help to find another location for transit center.  
Kim - Would like to suggest not relocate transit center until the project actually breaks ground.
  - Recommendations: meet with Mayor's office, Mike Robbins, Transit and businesses effected to mediate.
- **Announcements / Neighbor Comments** (2minute limit)  
Mike Robbins – growing, hiring for admin. assistant

• **ADJOURN MEETING**

Richard Irwin moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Robbins seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at: 7:30pm