

Downtown Community Council
Wednesday, July 12, 2023
5:30pm
Meeting Notes

President calls the meeting to order

Introductions- Thank you for everyone being involved

Additions to agenda:

1-Coalition to end homelessness.

2-Solid Waste Services

First: Richard

Second: Jason

No opposition

Approval of agenda

First: Jason

Second: Mike

No opposition

Approval of May meeting minutes

First: Jason

Second: Mike

No opposition

Assembly report by Assemblymember Volland:

-Resolution to celebrate anniversary of the Americans with disabilities act. We need to do better in winter

-Golden Lion to be used as low-income housing. Henning to be the operator. 475k ish.

-Resolution of clean slate strategy. Setting criteria of where homeless can be housed.

-Allowed camp resolution, 4 versions put forward. 1 allowed camp to be permitted for the summer.

-Ordinance regarding body worn camera policy for APD. 1-Clean reporting (officer not allowed to watch video before first report). 2-when will footage be released.

-Bike ordinance which 1-defines transportation code. 2-defines types of protected bike lanes. 3-removes fines. 4-decriminalize j walking. 5-bikers don't have to stop at stop signs.

Senate Report by Senator Tobin

- Presentation on veto overrides.
- Appointed to Gov task force on child care. Head Start cuts are hurting low income families
- Appointed to a youth fellowship regarding homelessness
- Possible special session in October.
- As long as oil stays above \$70/barrel the state is looking good
- Employment roadshow to invest in young people
- State license renewal dept. is bogged down, let her know if you are infected.
- Mike Ward asked for help changing the dramshop laws to turn the state into a shared liability state from a strict liability state
- Silvia has requested help in changing the reports for the funding formula for federal aid. Currently it is decided by the overall population instead of the homeless population.

House Rep report Zach Fields: N/A

House Rep report Cliff Groth: N/A

Mayor office report: we received notice Mayors office is working on new schedule for attending community council meetings

APD report: N/A

AFD report: N/A

ASD report: N/A

ADP report: summer season in full swing. Solstice festival was a success. H3 playing live after 5 at town square park. Movie in the park Friday night. Positively activating park space to keep the negative use out. West End block party coming up. Monthly meetings with the mayor regarding public safety issues: APD increased foot patrol at night. New port potys have been put downtown. If you see anything beyond a tent it is not allowed.

Our downtown report: N/A

JBER report: N/A

3rd Avenue Radicals: Let's get services and dumpsters into allowed camps as well as outreach so that we can help people. A lot of criminal activity happening in East downtown that is not only campers. Community garden and farm has been permitted for the former ANMC hospital site. Seeds of Change is pulling out, future is up in the air. Stickleback Farm's future is in question. There are still

people willing to reinvest in the area, but starting to question. Ice cream social in August

AK Railroad report: N/A

PAC report: 10 plus groups can get \$40 tickets for Hamilton. Supporting live after 5 by giving away tickets. PRIDE event was a big success. Aurora show is held daily. Music Machine coming. Hamilton opens soon. David Brooks will hold a speaking event.

ACDA report: Easy Park is having an open house. Survey available. Great Streets Facade goes live tomorrow. 6th ave hotel is working on land use permit. Conditional use permit must be done by September 3rd. MOA is purchasing the APD building. Block 102 will be developed by ACDA. Boundary review mapping has been completed, resolutions will be presented to CC councils this fall/winter.

Anchorage Coalition To End Homelessness:

-43% are native

-27% white. Single adult between 25-54. Very unlikely to be a veteran these days approx. 4%

-Mental health issues represent 47.3% of the homeless population

-3600 people are experiencing homelessness

-Approx. 914 are unsheltered

-5 facilities downtown housing at least 262 people

-Please support the municipality and non-profit efforts to increase the supply of housing.

Guest House - MASH: disability lawyer helping out the tenants. Community outreach meeting every Thursday at Lake Shore. Henning Cafe waiting on Health Inspection. In talks with Barret Inn to utilize that space. MASH is a property management company; Henning is the company there to support tenants and provide outreach.

Draft resolution protected bike lane approval amendment letter

First: Mike

Second: Richard

No opposition

Assemblyman Volland asked to add a couple recipients to the amendment letter

A&M committee update:

Current renewal pending approval^[SEP] Liquor license:

Liquor:

-Tent City

-Pioneer Bar

-Sheraton

-Muffin Man

-Marx Brothers

Marijuana:

-Pakalolo

-Tundra herbs

-Northern Cannabis

- The Green Room
- Denali Dispensary

First: Jason
Second: Mike
No opposition

Treasurer update: We have 3347.10. We'll be bringing back the donation jar.

New business:

Adding to DTCC by-laws that all resolutions must be voted on in the next meeting after being presented and a procedural measure that each resolution must have both sides be able to present before being voted on.

First: Mike
Second: Richard
No opposition

Downtown Homeless Challenges and Situation

MOU between Covenant House and DTCC-Steve Callahan said Covenant house kids are vandalizing surrounding properties. Graffiti, defecation.

MOU was stopped until CHA and Neighbors can meet to discuss resolutions. No vote was taken.

Motion to extend meeting till 8pm

First: Mike
Second: Richard

D Street Area Wide Plan: Muni has brownfield grants for planning. Looking for a positive vision for the area. Alleys vacated, utilities underground etc. Big question about how much parking will be there. Streets engineering study is in the works. RFP is coming. Traffic engineering will present at the DTCC when ready.

Downtown Transit Center: Kinney Engineering and the Public Transportation Department. Public Transit Study is coming to see what we need to do to better help the community after the project on 5th Ave is complete. Looking for a permanent home.

-Phase 1 will be looking at the current operations of the transit center and what we need to change, including sites which could work. Public outreach

-phase 2 will be conceptual site plans for options and look at operational costs and conclude with a resolution.

-For more info or to sign up for the project email list, go to www.AncTransitCenter.com

-In September a list of sites will be available for comment, then the list will be shortened and presented in February.

Solid Waste Services:

Worm composting class coming up for free held at the new central transfer station. 7/15/2023. Get a sneak peek at the new facility which will be opening this Fall

Trash to Treasure. Taking plastic #1 and #2 and turning it into plastic lumber.

Announcements:

Andrea McCormick, DTCC Secretary resigned from her position due to health conditions. A huge thank you to her for all of her hard work!! We wish her the best in her health struggles and miss her greatly already.

Motion to adjourn

First: Mike

Second: Richard

President called meeting to adjourn 8:30pm