
TURNAGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting | January 13, 2022, | 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Chaired by Anna Brawley, TCC President

WELCOME & APPROVE AGENDA, MINUTES

- The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. About 30 people (members and guests) attended.
- Rules for membership: must be 18 or older. Must live or own property in Turnagain. Turnagain attendees are considered voting members the evening of their first meeting.
- Zoom Guidelines: All attendees must sign in with their name and designation of member or guest. When not speaking or presenting, keep personal microphones on Mute. Use the “Raise Hand” function on your Zoom screen if you wish to speak. Please be brief, respectful and relevant to the subject at hand.
- The January agenda was reviewed.
 - Motion by Sen. Mia Costello to approve the agenda. Second by Pat Redmond.
 - Vote: no objection. Agenda approved.
- **Announcements:** Anna Brawley and Cathy Gleason made general announcements. *See flyer, available as a handout in the meeting and on the TCC website.*

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

- Check out Turnagain CC on Facebook and NextDoor! Join the Facebook group “Turnagain Community Forum” or watch for posts to Turnagain North and South neighborhoods on NextDoor.
- If you have not already done so, sign up for e-mail updates from TCC and other community councils: visit www.communitycouncils.org and scroll down to “Sign Up!”
- **Officer Updates:** Anna Brawley, President, introduced the new officers and board members of TCC: Cathy Gleason, Vice-President; Kathleen Bielawski, Secretary; and Jackie Armstrong, Treasurer. Members-at-Large are Carolyn Hall and Stephanie Quinn-Davidson.
- **Treasurer’s Report:** Jackie Armstrong is working on the Treasurer’s Report. Anna commented that TCC has a two small accounts, with End-of-Year balances in the accounts: Checking, \$285.05; Savings, \$1614.57. Total assets held by TCC: \$1899.62.
- **Federation of Community Councils:** Cathy Gleason gave updates from the December 15, 2021, FCC meeting. FCC heard reports from the Mayor’s Office, the Anchorage Assembly and the Anchorage School Board. Subjects discussed:
 - Noisy vehicles (motorcycles; cars with malfunctioning mufflers, etc). FCC created a draft resolution for community councils to consider passing. Resolution supports a request that enforcement of that kind of vehicle noise violations be reinstated. To be put on agenda for February 2022 TCC meeting.
 - Reapportionment of Anchorage Assembly districts.
 - Update by John Weddleton, Anchorage Assembly, on Homelessness Task Force.
 - Proposed changes to fee structures within Title 21. (FCC does not take any action on this.)
 - Anna reminded everyone that TCC designates its FCC delegate for the coming year soon.
- **Spring 2022 West Anchorage Candidates Forum:** Anna gave a brief update on history of Turnagain, Spenard, North Star, Sand Lake and Taku Campbell community councils holding a joint candidates forum for upcoming elections. (Can include Mayoral, Assembly, School Board and Alaska State Legislature elections) Are we interested in participating in this year in February or March of 2022? Call for volunteers for an Organizing Committee.
 - Cathy Gleason supplemented the history of candidates’ forum. She encouraged continuing to hold the forums and volunteered to help, as did Sara Haley.

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STATUS UPDATES

- Hillcrest Drive / Forest Park Drive - Safety Issues on Forest Park Drive and Hillcrest Drive. A group of parents approached TCC a couple years ago; in November 2021 a couple on Forest Park Drive attended the TCC meeting to seek advice on, and support for, traffic control. We asked them to update us; they will come to the February 2022 meeting to provide an update. Anna is hopeful that TCC we will proceed to assist with this issue following the February 2022 discussion.
- Heritage Land Bank (HLB) Annual Work Plan — Cathy Gleason. The public hearing on 2022 annual [INAUDIBLE] work program hearing for comments is February 15, 2022, [INAUDIBLE.] Cathy is not sure if the 5-year management plan is going to be done, due to low staffing. She stated that the plan looks similar to previous plans. Cathy volunteered to review the plan since there are HLB parcels west of the airport that are within Turnagain or adjacent to Turnagain Coastal Trail. She suggested that the TCC? Land Use Committee look at the plan and attend the February 3, 2022, to develop a resolution with regard to any amendments or a comment letter.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

- **Sen. Mia Costello,**
 - Sen. Costello congratulated Anna on becoming president of TCC and stated that she appreciated all who serve.
 - Sen. Costello is in Juneau, setting up for the legislative session. The session begins 01/18/2022. She has already attended a committee meeting of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.
 - Sen. Costello once again will be chairing the Senate Committee on Labor and Commerce (Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson is also a member). Hearings begin next week.
 - Sen. Costello hopes that a budget is passed for the State of Alaska during the upcoming session, along with many components of a fiscal plan. She has pre-filed a bill to allow Alaska residents to renew their wish to be organ donors when they renew their driver's license.
 - Sen. Costello recently participated in a ride-along with the Anchorage Police Department. She thanked APD and encouraged all Anchorage residents to sign up for a ride-along. Dave Wier also encouraged everyone to do a ride-along. He also recommended signing up for the Citizen's Academy, sponsored by APD.
 - Please contact Sen. Costello at (907) 269-0117, or senator.mia.costello@akleg.gov. Sen. Costello welcomes all input.
- **Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson**
 - Sen. Gray-Jackson also commented on the APD ride-along experience and stated her appreciation of APD.
 - Sen. Gray-Jackson will pre-file two new bills. The first is a bill to increase the wages of caretakers, "restore hours and reduce barriers to access and provide care". The second is a bill that requires age-appropriate sex education be taught in schools. A third bill is a companion bill to Rep. Josephson's HB-17, that would make it illegal to discriminate against anyone based on sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Sen. Gray-Jackson also has five public safety policy change bills, also known as "police reform," several of which have already been heard in First Committee. Last session, she

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introduced Senate Bill #5 to make Juneteenth a paid State holiday, as it is at the federal level. For further information, see her handout.

- Please contact Sen. Gray-Jackson at (907) 465-4930, or sen.elvi.gray-jackson@akleg.gov.
- **Rep. Matt Claman (absent)**
 - Rep. Claman sent thanks to TCC for those who attended his constituent event on January 12, 2022. Rep. Claman was absent since he was celebrating his 32nd wedding anniversary. The TCC wished him congratulations.
- **Questions and Comments**
 - Cathy Gleason asked Sen. Gray-Jackson about Gov. Dunleavy’s intent to split the Department of Health and Social Services into two departments and if she supports it. Sen. Gray-Jackson said she could not speak for the Governor. She feels now that Commissioner Adam Crum has addressed constituent concerns about the split. It remains to be seen what happens in the upcoming session.
 - Jonathan Galin asked about public safety and increasing the number of State Troopers, particularly in rural areas. Sen. Gray-Jackson said she is eager to see how the monetary figures are broken down once the session begins.
 - Sen. Gray-Jackson requested an email from Mr. Galin with his comments.
 - Dan Gleason asked Sen. Costello her thoughts about the splitting of DHSS and if she supports it. Sen Gray-Jackson commented that the Anchorage Senior Center wrote her with many concerns about the proposed split. Sen. Costello met with Comm. Crum about splitting the departments. While she is not in favor of growing departments in government, she is looking forward to hearing more about the proposal. Her mind is not yet made up.

MAYOR’S REPORT

- A Mayor’s Report was not available for January 2022. A Mayor’s Report will be available next month.

ASSEMBLY REPORT | AUSTIN QUINN-DAVIDSON

- Austin Quinn-Davidson and Kameron Perez-Verdia were both in attendance on Zoom. On December 10, 2022, the Assembly finalized the MOA operating budget for calendar year 2022. Mayor Bronson attempted to make numerous changes to the budget, including reduction and elimination of the Mobile Crisis Team. After review, the Assembly reinstated it. This program takes pressure off of AFD, with mental health counselors working concurrently with AFD officers to meet people in crisis where and when they need assistance. The Assembly regards this as more effective than having APD involved. Other funding cuts made by the Mayor’s Office, including, among others, cuts for 1) prevention of domestic violence and 2) early education were restored by the Assembly.
 - The Assembly is currently working on bonds and getting everything set up for the April 2022 election. In Fall 2021, the Assembly included many parks on the bond that the Mayor hadn’t included in his proposed budget; the Mayor’s Office then cut them. The Assembly is working on restoring those items to the budget, including working with

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Anna (TCC) and Lindsey (Spenard CC) to discuss West Anchorage priorities on the road bond and the parks bond. Austin and Kameron have worked on a slightly larger bond package that would include some public safety projects (including the Lois Dr. and 32nd upgrade, which would acquire a right-of-way for pedestrians and students around Aquarian Charter School). A public hearing is scheduled for January 19, 2022. Voting will take place on January 25, 2022.

- Reapportionment. Every 10 years, after the municipal census, the Assembly reevaluates Assembly districts to even them out according to current population numbers. All districts must shrink somewhat due to the increased population in the Downtown district. A contractor was hired to produce independent maps, resulting in five or six different ideas of how Assembly districts will be drawn. Public feedback is welcome, including third-party maps. Deadline is January 20, 2022. Town halls will take place on January 26 and 27, 2022. One will take place in person at Loussac Assembly Chambers; the second one will be via Zoom. The Assembly Reapportionment Committee will put forth one map that they think best reflects all submitted maps and public comments and is fair. To be voted upon on March 1, 2022.
- Homelessness. John Weddleton, Christopher Constant and Meg Zelatel have joined together to work with the Mayor's office on a facilitated process to discuss the next steps to be taken with regard to homelessness. This small group, working with the Mayor's office, has had a lot of success that has led to a plan much like Ethan Berkowitz's plan of several years ago to purchase a variety of buildings; scattered sites for different homelessness services throughout the city. Austin, as Acting Mayor, had presented a similar plan in May 2021. Mayor Bronson originally wanted to locate all homelessness services at Tudor and Elmore in a large facility. Through the facilitated process, the Assembly has been able to educate the Mayor and his team "a little more" about homelessness services and the reasons for scattering sites and making them smaller, which produces a lower impact on the communities around each site. Everyone is now on board and supports those sites, including purchasing the Sockeye Inn and the Barrett Hotel. The Barrett is the site closest to Turnagain, on Wisconsin Blvd and Spenard Road. It will provide permanent, supportive housing for people who can live on their own but who need some assistance. The Assembly has the support and partnership of Weidner Apartment Homes, the Rasmuson Foundation and Providence.
- **Questions.** Cathy Gleason inquired about the selection of contractors or managers for the operation of facilities, including the Sockeye Inn and Barrett Hotel. Kameron replied that the Sockeye Inn is for the medically fragile. Services provided there will be, he believes, eligible for medical billing. This requires a specific type of contractor to run the organization. The Barrett's intention is to provide transitional housing, but also to provide workforce housing (intended to provide a stable environment for residents who can contribute to the cost of their housing). The City is still in the process of procuring those sites. Kameron is unsure about the process for developing RFPS and beginning to identify organizations that can provide those services. Typically, this is how the process unfolds. Kameron is not aware of any movement on that front yet. Austin stated that one of the "pros" of having a small group to work with the Mayor's team is that the group is nimble and that they meet all the time. However, she expressed disappointment she and Kameron, because they are not part of the small Assembly Committee, learned about the acquisition of the Barrett only when the public did. They were not able to answer the public's questions and have asked the Committee for more information and updates,

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which have been provided. John Weddleton attended the Spenard CC last week to give a detailed update; Austin believes that Weddleton would be willing to do the same for TCC.

- Pat Redmond requested information regarding putting the Municipal Clerk's position on the ballot. A separate hearing on this will take place on August 23, 2022. Pat asked if, between now and then, constituents can discuss this with Assembly members since it is a major change. Pat stated that, having been involved with the original Charter, she knows there are reasons why the Clerk position is placed where it is. Currently, the Municipal Clerk works for the Assembly and is appointed by the Assembly. It is a very non-partisan position. Kameron stated that the hearing date was set far in the future specifically to allow public comment. The process was rushed. The Assembly will take time between now and August 2022 to research, discuss and hear public comment.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT / MARGO BELLAMY

- **Mask mandate.** Margo stated that Superintendent had released her COVID-19 update. The mask mandate will stay in place for ASD. The School Board is searching for a new superintendent. Please see the link for the Superintendent search work page, which includes a survey and a series of public town hall dates. The Board's next meeting in January 18, 2022. The Board's next big project is to put together the 2022-2023 ASD Budget. Two Board seats are coming up for re-election. The Board is offering a Board Leadership Academy. Please see the link for meeting dates and Margo's report in the meeting Chat. Testimony may be done in person, telephonically and online. The ASD Covid website is up to date. Currently the ASD is experiencing teaching and substitute shortages.

AIRPORT REPORT | JOHN JOHANSEN

- *See Airport updates on the handout provided at the meeting or online at: www.anchorageairport.com*
- Main priority continues to keep travelers safe. The focus is on cleaning and ensuring a safe environment. Vaccines are still available at the airport. DHSS has provided a contractor. Vaccines are available to anyone over the age of 12. Vaccine location is to the left of the B Concourse ticketing area. COVID-19 testing has moved into the area past Security, towards C Concourse. The testing site will shut down near the end of January 2022. It has been two years since the last Airport Community Outreach Update. (This plan was developed 4-5 years ago with the Airport Master Plan.) The Plan is updated every two years. Please see the link at www.anchorageairport.com. Please share your comments and suggestions by March 18, 2020. Airport is still having issues with people not using the Cell Phone Parking Lot. Be careful at the Lake and Seaplane Base. Please keep your family and pets off of these areas. The People Mover is no longer serving the North Terminal, due to lack of ridership. People Mover service is still available at the South Terminal. The Airport will have a job fair on January 29, 2022, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the North Terminal. In addition to airport entities, the State, airlines, tourism vendors and others will be hosting booths. No updates on cargo developments at the big airport, or leases at the small airport. John asked Megan Peters to answer questions regarding the upcoming liquor license approval to a vendor at the airport. Megan currently has no answer, but will get back to TCC. Jonathan Galin commented that the liquor license is for a saké producer; it is not a license for a liquor outlet. Cathy Gleason commented that the liquor license will be up for approval next month. The TCC Board will discuss inviting the vendor applicant to the February 3, 2022, TCC meeting. Cathy thought that the application seems like a non-aeronautical

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use. The airport property is for airport functions. Perhaps the Airport could be ready by February 3, 2022, TCC meeting to discuss why this liquor license, which is “highly non-aeronautical.”

Megan will look into it further.

NEW BUSINESS

- Beluga Monitoring Lease Extension at Airport. Cathy Gleason made a motion that TCC support extension through 12/31/22 of the State of Alaska Dept of Transportation and Public Facilities land use permit (ADA-32342) at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport Park to the Municipality of Anchorage/Port of Anchorage for beluga monitoring station located northwest of the intersection of Point Woronzof Drive and Postmark Drive. Motion was seconded by Pat Redmond. This is just a formal lease extension request. As work is continued at the Port of Anchorage, whales are monitored at the beluga monitoring station to ensure that if whales are present, the Port of Anchorage stops any compromising functions. Cathy encouraged support for this motion. Vote: For - 19. Against - 0. The motion passed. A brief comment letter will be sent to the Airport.
- Approve TCC delegate to Federation of Community Councils. The delegate provides updates from FCC, shares information from the FCC monthly meetings. The FCC approves the FCC budget. Cathy Gleason has been the delegate in the past and would like to continue. TCC needs a delegate and an alternate.
 - **Nominations**
 - Anna Brawley nominated herself. Stephanie Quinn-Davidson seconded.
 - Cathy Gleason nominated herself. Anna Brawley nominated Cathy Gleason serve as alternate. Pat Redmond seconded.
 - Pat Redmond moved that TCC unanimously approve the unopposed slate. Jon Isaacs seconded. With no objections, the slate was approved.
 - All FCC meetings are open to the public. Only one TCC representative can act as the delegate, but all are welcome to attend as observers. Meetings are on Zoom and are recorded.
- Proposed Resolution regarding the 2022 Bond Projects. Jon Isaacs made a motion to introduce the TCC Resolution 22-x for purposes of discussion. Pat Redmond seconded. Dan Gleason requested waiving reading the resolution. Anna stated that this resolution recommends including various West Anchorage projects in the 2022 Capital Improvement bond. The language is drafted in a way to not say that we support these projects, because as a community council, we do not take positions on subjects on which the public specifically votes (ballot measures, bonds, etc.). Community councils can let the Municipality of Anchorage know what our priorities are regarding parks, roads, drainage, etc. This resolution states that TCC recommends and supports inclusion of these projects in the 2022 bond in order to give the voters an opportunity to weigh in on them. To

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summarize: each proposed project is addressed. Resolution includes projects in TCC area, but also four projects outside the TCC area.

- Turnagain Street Upgrade (not in the bond. In TCC area.)
- Road safety improvements in West Anchorage that impact Turnagain residents as they travel through the area. Midtown - W. 32 and W. 33rd upgrades. Traversing Midtown without having to be on Northern Lights Blvd or 36th Blvd, especially if walking or biking. Helps connect Turnagain to those areas of Midtown.
- Fish Creek Daylighting feasibility study. Impacts Turnagain area.
- Balancing act between focusing on Turnagain area, but also recognizing that we do not just live within our boundaries. We interact with other areas of Anchorage.
- Historically, it is most common for TCC to address projects only within our boundaries. Dan Gleason is in favor of not going outside the boundaries of TCC. We need to be good community citizens, but doing so dilutes the focus of what needs to be done within Turnagain. Dan cautions that Lois Dr. and W 32nd and W. 33rd, as well as Fish Creek Daylighting, should not be included. Pat Redmond thinks that extra items should be included in the resolution as a support to Spenard. It does affect our community council, including Fish Creek, as we try get a trail all the way along Fish Creek to the Coastal Trail. That is part of our goal and part of that boundary is within our community council.
- Cathy Gleason moved to amend the resolution to delete “Be It Further Resolved #3”: W. 32nd and W. 33rd Ave upgrades, Arctic Blvd. to Old Seward Highway be deleted from the resolution. Cathy feels that multiple other community councils are closer to those areas and able to support. Pat Redmond seconded. Jon Isaacs stated he sees Cathy’s motion as a friendly amendment and he does not object.
 - Voting on the Amendment
 - For - 17. Opposed — 1. The amendment passed.
 - Voting on the main Resolution
 - For - 18. Opposed - 0. The resolution passed as Resolution 2022-01.

OLD BUSINESS

- West Northern Lights Truck Traffic update. Jackie Armstrong. No official updates available. Jackie is asking to get a hard copy of the weight restrictions. She stated that the problem is there are no weight restrictions on West Northern Lights, since it is deemed “a minor arterial.” Jackie feels the truck traffic is a serious safety issue, with trucks traveling through a residential area that includes an elementary school. She is not sure where to go for help on this issue. The truck that Jonathan Galin saw indicates activity that Jackie witnesses each day beginning at 4:30 a.m. Truck traffic consists not only of semi-trucks, but of fuel haulers owned by Shoreside Petroleum and Crowley. Jackie believes those trucks are traveling to the South Air Park. Why are they using Northern Lights instead of International

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Airport Road? Jackie thanked Jonathan Galin for contacting Carlile Trucking. Jackie has talked with either Carlile or Lyndon Transport and has been unsuccessful in getting a response from these entities. Anna commented that this is not a new issue; TCC has been discussing this for at least two years. This is ongoing and, despite a great deal of work done by a previous TCC committee who made attempts to discuss with the airport, elected officials and trucking companies, nothing has been resolved. Jonathan stated that he photographed a Carlile truck on W. Northern Lights. He contacted Carlile. Carlile acknowledged that that truck should not have traveled on W. Northern Lights with a large-size vehicle. Cathy Gleason stated that it has been 2.5 years since the signage from Lois Dr. to Postmark Dr. prohibiting truck traffic has disappeared. MOA and State DOT have denied taking down the signs. MOA Traffic Engineer has the authority to put up weight limit signs if a major safety hazard exists or if truck traffic started to degrade the roadway. Pat Redmond said that signs existed and that she thought they were State signs.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

As always, contact TCC (tccpresident@yahoo.com) if you would like to join a committee!

- **Land Use Committee**

- Next meeting: Last meeting with MOA Planning Dept. was on December 9, 2021. Questions were sent to the Planning Dept. regarding Title 21 Parking and Site Access requirements and code amendments. Committee will continue to meet on this issue.
-
- West Anchorage Snow Disposal Facility Design Study Report. No update available; no new timeline has yet been published.
-
- AMATS Long Range Transportation Plan. Currently moving through approval process. More detail to come.

Motion to Extend meeting to 9:05 p.m. - Jackie Armstrong. Seconded by Pat Redmond. No objections.

- **Spenard Beach Park Improvements**

- Sarah Haley stated that the final committee report has been submitted for the Anchorage Park Foundation Challenge Grant for Spenard Beach Park. Amenities have been ordered (picnic benches and picnic tables). A site evaluation will be performed in the spring for table and bench placement in the park.
- Sara stated that a date will be set for a work party in the park sometime in the spring.
- Anna discussed setting up Phase 2 for Spenard Beach Park planning and funding.

MOTION TO ADJOURN - PAT REDMOND

Second - Jackie Armstrong

CLOSING

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:05p.m.

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- **Next meeting: Thursday, February 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.**

Minutes prepared and submitted by Secretary Kathleen Bielawski on 01/25/22.

*If you have corrections or edits to this document, please submit them to tccpresident@yahoo.com by the Monday before the next Council meeting: **Monday, January 31, 2022.***