
TURNAGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting | September 1, 2022, | 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Chaired by Anna Brawley, TCC President

WELCOME & APPROVE AGENDA, MINUTES

- The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Approximately 26 - 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 first and last 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 September agenda was reviewed.
 - Motion by Mia Costello to approve the agenda. Seconded by Kathleen Bielawski.
 - Sara Haley moved that the Spenard Beach Park Committee Report be moved to just after the Executive Report. Seconded by Stephanie Quinn-Davidson. Vote was 11 to 1 in favor of amending. The amendment passed.
 - Cathy Gleason moved to add to Council Business that TCC consider a motion to support a couple of benches along the Coastal Trail and the placement of one Dena’ina illustrative sign. Steve Montooth seconded. Anna said that the Board had discussed this at their last meeting and that Cathy Gleason was raising this issue not as a Board member, but as an individual member. The motion passed, with a vote of 7 - 1. Item will be added under Council Business.
 - The agenda was approved with no objections.
- The June 2022 meeting minutes were approved as submitted, with the understanding that remaining typos would be corrected.
 - Kathleen Bielawski moved to approve May 2022 minutes. Mia Costello seconded. The minutes were approved with no objections. Final minutes will be posted on TCC website.
- **Announcements:**
 - Cathy Gleason said that Portia Erickson, of the Mayor’s Office, will introduce the naming of Lyn Ary Park items at the September 13, 2022 meeting. This item is “finally moving forward.”

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

- **Notice of Vacancy of the office of TCC Treasury.:** No candidates yet, but TCC is still looking for someone to volunteer for this position. Please contact TCCPresident@yahoo.com to volunteer. If we have interest, we will conduct a special election to fill the position of Treasurer.
- Two notices:
 - Renewal of VITUS Energy liquor license;
 - Marijuana license application for Catalyst Cannabis, at 4707 Spenard Road. This is in Spenard TCC area; FYI to TCC.
 - The Board is not taking any action on these items at this time.
- **FCC Delegate Report.**
 - Anna Brawley shared that officers were elected at the June 2022 meeting.
 - Cathy Gleason attended the July FCC picnic on behalf of TCC.
 - Next meeting of FCC is September 21, 2022. Meetings are open to the public.

TREASURER’S REPORT - CATHY GLEASON, TCC VICE-PRESIDENT

Northrim Bank Accounts: Checking Account: \$285.05; Savings Account: \$1,614.89.

- Anna reminded everyone that we are looking for someone to fill the office of Treasurer for the remainder of 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORT - SPENARD BEACH PARK - SARA HALEY

- TCC and the committee have worked for 4 years to improve this park. Spenard Community Council also participated and contributed.
- Sara Haley presented a slide show on the improvements, including a bike path (donated by Cook Inlet Housing). Includes three benches, concrete pad for a second bike rack (donated by a TCC member), two picnic tables, including one ADA-accessible table and an additional bench.
- Lunch at Spenard Beach Park on Friday, September 9, 2022, from 11:30 - 1:00 p.m., to celebrate the completion of Phase One.
- Tanya Hitchcock, Senior Park Planner of MOA Parks Department, provided visuals to Sara of aviation-themed park amenities. Sara said that something like this is “about double what we normally would spend,” (approximately \$200,000.00) to fund this. Sarah is asking Exerplay to draw up plans reflecting a 50% reduction in price. Sara said that Tanya had stated that this item will need to be added to the TCC TIP list as well.
- Thank you to everyone who volunteered over the years and especially at the three recent work days to bring this project’s Phase One to completion. Volunteers were, among others: Jean Bielawski, Matt Claman, Mia Costello, Cathy Gleason, Dan Gleason, and the donors, including Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage Parks and Rec, Alaska Trails, and the Rasmuson Foundation.
- Installation will be on Thursday, September 8, 2022.
- Anna thanked all volunteers, especially Sara Haley.
- Meeting Chat: Austin Quinn-Davidson asked about seeking Parks Foundation funds for playground equipment for the next phase.
- Anna stated that we would like a lot more amenities to be purchased in Phase Two.
- Sara Haley’s email: haleyjays@gmail.com

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

- **Sen. Mia Costello**
 - Please contact Sen. Costello at (907) 269-0117, cell: (907) 227-5276 or email:
 - senator.mia.costello@akleg.gov. Sen. Costello welcomes all input.
 - Thank you for the honor of serving you.
 - It was very fun to volunteer at the Spenard Beach Park project.
 - Legislature ended its session early, with a balanced budget.
 - Sen. Costello introduced House Bill 308. Governor will sign bill in Kodiak. Dementia awareness bill. Starts a dementia public awareness campaign. The bill will allow access to federal funding for this issue.
- **Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson**
 - Present on Zoom, but with COVID.
 - Discussed vetoes to the AK State Budget by Gov. Dunleavy.
 - Pres. Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act.
 - Two of Sen. Gray-Jackson’s bills were passed: Senate Bill 7 was signed into law. Senate Bill 222 - to be signed next week.
 - Sen. Gray-Jackson, if re-elected, will not be part of TCC any longer. “I will miss this community council; it is one of my favorites.” Sen. Gray-Jackson will serve TCC until January 2023.
 - Please contact Sen. Gray-Jackson at (907) 465-4930, or sen.elvi.gray-jackson@akleg.gov. Her website also lists her current committees.
- **Rep. Matt Claman**
 - Thanks to Sen. Costello and Sen. Gray-Jackson for comments on the Alaska State Budget. “Good fiscal management, with respect to the Budget.”
 - Critical issue: State Prosecutors and retention of prosecutors. Rep. Claman’s bill works to increase number of prosecutors and motivate prosecutors to stay.
 - Rep. Claman also sponsored House Bill 62 - changed the requirement of witnesses at weddings. Reduced the number from two to one. This bill eliminated the allowance of child mar-

riage under the age of 15. “A huge step forward for Alaska.” If anyone under the age of 16 and 17 wants to marry, they must now go to court and make their case before a judge.

- House Bill 99. Governor has elected not to sign the bill. Bill will become law without Gov. Dunleavy’s signature.
- Congratulations to Mary Peltola, our new U.S. Congressperson.
- Rep. Claman is hearing from citizens/residents of Anchorage that they approve the ranked-choice voting procedure. All elections in November will be ranked-choice voting.
 - **Comment: Sara Haley.** Requests that Rep. Claman keep the education going on ranked-choice voting and new voting machines. Sara served as an election volunteer during the August primaries and observed that ranked-choice voting “was overall confusing” for voters. Sara found the voting machines “intuitive.”

ASSEMBLY REPORT | AUSTIN QUINN-DAVIDSON

- **Austin Quinn-Davidson— introduced Kaley Reed as her Assembly aide.**
 - Stephanie and Austin had a baby. Wilder was born June 9, 2022.
 - **Distribution of ARPA Funding.** \$51 million to be disbursed into the community. Portia Erickson, Mayor’s Office, is working with a grants administrator to determine how funding will be distributed and to whom. The Assembly developed four pillars for funding: children and families, housing, healthy work force, economic develop. Example of funding: Anchorage Community Land Trust building a kitchen incubator building. 3) Fish Creek study as the creek flows into Turnagain from Spenard. 4) Campfire Alaska. 5) United Way, to develop a restaurant relief program, to keep restaurant workers employed and to feed people.
 - To see all projects for ARPA Funding:
 - <https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Documents/PENDING%20AR%202022-178%28S%29%20As%20Amended%20Attachment%20A%20ARPA%20Appropriation%20Project%List.PDF>
 - Assembly clarified the MOA code for implementing the city budget.
 - Assembly adopted provisions for removal any each type of elected official.
 - Currently, no low barrier shelter for the homeless in Anchorage. Assembly, in the absence of MOA leadership, passed a resolution to bring together a task force to evaluate what must be done to provide housing for homeless during the coming winter. Assembly passed funding to provide winter shelter. Assembly passed funding to work with United Way to get people into permanent housing.
 - Budget and Finance Committee, with Forrest Dunbar. Examining the alcohol tax allocations (currently approximately \$14 million per year). Mayor’s Office is not getting the grants out to non-profits through the Alcohol Tax program.
 - Assembly vetoed the Mayor’s position that the Municipal Clerk position be an elected position.
 - Cathy Gleason congratulated Austin and Stephanie on the birth of Wilder.
 - Austin congratulated Portion Erickson on the recent birth of her baby.

MAYOR’S REPORT / PORTIA ERICKSON

- MOA sponsored the first annual Alaska Native Potlatch on the Park Strip this summer.
- Thank you for turning in TCC CIP. Portia appreciates the work; noted the inclusion of improvement of erosion on the Coastal Trail.
- Friday, Sept 23, - Job Fair. Loussac Library, 11 am - 4 pm. To be held every quarter.
- Senior Program at Loussac Library. Matinee movies. Next one is Wednesday, September 28 from 1:00-3:00 pm.

- Second Property Tax deadline is due on 9/30/22.
- Vacancies on MOA Boards and Commissions. Opportunities are available on the MOA website.
- **Question:** Carolyn Hall: Any plans to bring back the opening of Loussac on Sundays?
 - Portia: It's more of a staffing issue. Hoping to fill those positions soon.

ASSEMBLY REPORT | AUSTIN QUINN-DAVIDSON - ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Austin thanked Portia Erickson for serving on the Lyn Ary Park Naming Committee. Portia is leaving the committee.
 - Anna is looking for who to recommend to the committee. She has reached out to West Anchorage Little League and to Anchorage Parks Staff. Pat Redmond is still “following” the committee with Tricia Kozler.
 - Cathy Gleason - Lyn Ary Park baseball items, teens court, gardens. Most those Cathy has asked to serve on the committee have declined. Cathy suggested Sandy Rabinowich.
 - Austin and Chris Constant introduced an item to be put on the MOA ballot to increase the property tax exemption if you live in your unit. Currently 20% of 75,000 if you live in your home. State just passed a bill that will increase exemption up to 75,000.00. New amount introduced for MOA would increase to 40% of 75,000.00, which will increase the property tax exemption for homes valued at up to \$800,000.00.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT / PAT HIGGINS, ASD SCHOOL BOARD

- **Pat will be our School Board rep, due to the recent rotation of School Board members to community councils.**
- New superintendent.
- ASD is dealing with the bus driver shortage.
- Neil Freid - 27,000 fewer adults working in Alaska. Teachers, nurses and drivers are being recruited away from Alaska. Challenging to hire and retain in Alaska. Staffing challenges.
- Federal funds must be spent by September 24, 2022.
- Biggest challenge: academic outcomes.
- **Board engagement focusing on student scores in reading and math.** “Big challenges.”
- Please contact Mr. Higgins at: higgins_pat@asdk12.org or 907-952-5871.

AIRPORT REPORT | JOHN JOHANSEN / MEGAN PETERS

- *See Airport updates on the handout provided at the meeting or online at: www.anchorageairport.com.*
- Recruitment and retention of airport employees.
 - **Question:** Tatyana Derevyannykh: Are any of the current employment opportunities open as remote position?
 - **Megan:** Doesn't believe any positions are remote.
- **Infrastructure Update.**
 - Terminal Loop Road Construction largely complete. Brought grade of road up six inches. RVs no longer fit under the bridge. Put the word out to RV owners to take the commercial route or the upstairs road.
- Please use the cell phone lot. Lights in the parking lot will be turned on soon.
- Please be safe walking out in the airport area and sea plane base. Airplanes have the right of way.
- ALL departing passengers: check in and bag check is currently at the South Terminal.
- No COVID testing sites at the airport any longer.
- Please use the online portal for getting your questions answered regarding the airport.

- Megan's email: megan.peters@alaska.gov.
- Anna will post the September Airport Report on the TCC website.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS — AS ALWAYS, CONTACT TCC (TCCPRESIDENT@YAHOO.COM) IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR ANY TIC COMMITTEES.

NEW BUSINESS

West Side Community Candidates Forum - Coming up for the fall for state legislative races. Usually held about a month before the election. If approved by the council, we will need volunteers. Motion: Cathy Gleason moves to approve TCC co-sponsor hold the candidates' forum. Seconded: Sandy Rabinowitz. The motion passed with no objections. TCC will reach out to Spenard and North Star Community Councils to discuss co-sponsoring the candidates forum. Call for volunteers. Commitment involves 3-4 meetings. Volunteers: Cathy Gleason, Sara Haley, Carolyn Hall.

Ratification of Three Comment Letters Sent to Anchorage International Airport

- 1) Lease application - Lease Agreement ADA-33287 Alaska Air Cargo Cold Storage, LLC.
 - Kathleen Bielawski moved to ratify TCC letters one at a time. Jon Isaacs seconded. The motion passed with no objections. Sara Haley, State of Alaska Ted Stevens International Airport employee, abstained. Ratification passed with no objections.
- 2) Proposed Development Class A Wetlands. Submitted June 30, 2022. Kathleen Bielawski moved the letter be ratified. Carolyn Hall seconded. Ratified with no objections. Sara Haley abstained.
- 3) Jon Isaacs described Lease Agreement ADA-32370, submitted by K-LOT LLC General Aviation Hangar Complex. Class B Wetlands; 199 square feet to be filled and built on. How is the hydrology of neighborhood impacted? (To be covered under Land Use Committee Report.)
 - Tatiana Derevyannykh, a neighbor to be impacted by this development, voiced deep concerns about passage of any of these developments 100 feet from their neighborhood. Jon Isaacs said that neighbor comments had been incorporated into the letter. He also stated that the lease applicant "seem to be amenable" to working with TCC as they move forward.
 - Cathy Gleason moved to approve the letter. Kathleen Bielawski seconded. The motion passed with no objections. Sara Haley abstained.
- John Isaacs asked if TCC is given responses to letters sent to the airport development proposals. Cathy Gleason replied that "we never get a response from the airport." Isaacs hoped that those airport officials attending tonight's meeting would take note of this.

DISPOSAL OF WOODLAND PARK LAND PARCELS

TCC passed a resolution opposing sale of the Woodland Park parcels municipal land. Asked for conditions if the land is sold (do not sell the land east of the railroad track; retaining of landscaping along West Northern Lights Blvd.; traffic study on Turnagain St; preservation of green space. On June 23, 2022, the Assembly approved sale of the parcels after hearing from J. Jay Brooks, potential buyer. This approval included the exclusion of parcels east of the Barbara St. cul-de-sac. Anna Brawley, Cathy Gleason, Jon Isaacs and Steve Montooth testified. TCC has asked for a copy of the stipulation for development; nothing forthcoming. Requested car counts from Adam Trombley, MOA and MOA Traffic Dept.; not yet received. Brooks has completed the purchase and sale agreement for Rustic Goat parking lot. Still working through the addition parcels, west of the Barbara St. cul-de-sac. Brooks must hold a public

meeting regarding development, rezoning or re-platting of the parcels, and an opportunity for TCC to provide consultation and input on development.

Comment: Cathy Gleason: TCC can testify regarding re-platting of land . Anna: TCC approval is not required. Item referred to TCC Land Use Committee.

Cathy: J. Jay Brooks would like to potentially have Barbara St. park cul-de-sac vacated. Brooks said that this is still under discussion. "Not platted as a cul-de-sac. It's just the end of a road." Anna proposed tabling this until a later date.

LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT

Cathy Gleason - Bench parks available - \$5000.00 donation for bench placement anywhere in Anchorage. Working with Diana Rhodes, Anchorage Parks Foundation

Two new park benches to be installed in Turnagain. One new sign to be installed at Earthquake Park.

- Lyn Ary Park, to honor U.S. veterans. One bench . Diane deSantos and John Straub, donors.
- Pete's Place. One bench. Donors: Kim McGee, in memory of her parents, Pat and Guy McGee. Proposing two benches installed in the area of the rose bush. Best location is to put it in as an in-ground bench. No concrete pad to be installed.

Jon Issacs - asked if there a process to follow for Anchorage Parks Foundation for approval of bench placement. Cathy isn't sure; she thinks that the Anchorage Parks Foundation can answer that. It is Cathy's understand that, "It appears there are no formal steps to take for approval."

Cathy Gleason: TCC has had a great relationship with Anchorage Parks Foundation. We are notified, we collaborate, we vote to approve. Possibly not set in stone, but TCC has always been heavily involved.

Anna Brawley recently asked Diana Rhodes if it is typical for councils to engage at this level. Diana told her that no other community council is involved at this level.

Jon Isaacs— regardless of good intentions, there should be some kind of public process.

Anna Brawley - TCC has no written resolution or language on these items.

Jon Isaacs- all three should go through the approval process of Anchorage Parks Foundation.

Cathy Gleason: Signage at Earthquake Park near Point Woronzof Overlook Anchorage International Airport has approve this location for signage installation. Dena'ina illustrative post, stating in Dena'ina, "Place protected from the wind."

Anna Brawley commented that all of these signs have a standard design. See the signs at Westchester Lagoon.

Cathy Gleason moves to approve installation of benches and signage. Carolyn Hall seconded. Stephanie

- **Question:** Stephanie Quinn-Davidson: what happens after we approve it? Do we notify Parks saying that TCC approves (and airport, regarding Earthquake Park). Cathy replied that Anna would send an email to Anchorage Parks and Recreation and to Anchorage International Airport (for the Dena'ina sign). "This is very time sensitive; all installations have already been approved."
- **Comment:** Stephanie Quinn-Davidson supports bench and sign installations, but will abstain from voting on the motion. "This is not a good use of our time, voting on things that are not necessary for public process. I'm abstaining upon principal."

- Cathy Gleason — I don't think there's any formal process for any council approval on park amenities. But community councils participate - they may not do park benches, but they do other park improvements. Lots of history with TCC. One example: we wanted some aviation items at Spenard Beach Park. We are collaborating with Anchorage Parks Foundation and the airport to have those items installed.

Jon Isaacs - if I understand Cathy, I withdraw my concern. It sounds like it's already gone through public process.

Anna proposed an amendment: Can we do non-objection to proposal? Approved with no objections. One abstention: Stephanie Quinn-Davidson.

LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT - Jon Isaacs / Cathy Gleason

- **Airport Issues. Thanks to Craig Campbell, airport director, for meeting with us in June 2022. Heavy truck traffic on W. Northern Lights. Pretty good discussion. Campbell committed to working with airport vendors to get them to not use W. Northern Lights.**
 - Tie-downs. 39 aviation spaces to be relocated. Originally to be located east of the Lake Hood landing strip. Campbell reconsidered and looked at moving to Echo GA tie-down, off of Lake Hood Dr. Still looking at where these 39 spaces can be relocated incrementally in other places.
 - What are neighborhood concerns about continuing airport development and impact on adjacent neighborhoods? Air quality. Water quality. Airport is revising Ted Stevens airport master plan; good opportunities to look at concerns within that revision process. How can some of these impacts be mitigated? List of follow-up items. TCC Land Use Committee to meet quarterly with airport and have a running agenda. Thanks to Craig Campbell and airport staff for a productive meeting.
 - Meeting on July 28, 2022 - At the invitation of Craig Campbell, the TCC Land Use Committee attended a site visit of Charlie relocation areas of infill for alternative parking location.
 - TCC wants to be involved in future planning.
 - Wetland fill permit requested from Corps of Engineers. TCC did not submit formal comments; Cathy Gleason did as a Turnagain neighbor. Her comments reflected everything that TCC voted upon this evening regarding cumulative impacts and loss of wetlands. The Corp responded to Cathy and to the lease applicant. Her comment letter also included proposal of a berm along eastern side of Fedex expansion lease lot and Alaska Cold Storage to help mitigate significant ground noise created for west Turnagain. Evergreen landscape berm. This was a specific ask by Anna, Jon and Cathy. It is not yet known what will happen. The Land Use Committee wants to keep an open dialogue with the airport. Tour was interesting and informative.
 - Jon Isaacs - The main concern is that development is so close to neighborhood. TCC would like the opportunity to work with airport AND lease applicant to avoid and mitigate impacts to the neighborhood.
 - Craig Campbell- appreciates the meeting with Land Use Committee. Wants to see more. Welcomes the idea of quarterly meetings with TCC. "My intention is not to do it behind your back. Your comments are important." Regarding the berm, "that can be considered going forward when we develop the lease. It's not a bad idea. It's not being dismissed out of hand." Heavy traffic: to all leaseholders - use International Airport Road, NOT West Northern Lights Blvd." Regarding the 39 parking spots: we

sent two “possible” spots to TCC. Neither spot is confirmed. “We are looking at other alternatives, but they are very limited. “We might be able to peel off a few. But we need to identify 39 spots.” “I want to hear more from you before we go to the FAA and say that here is our proposed alternative.” Spenard residents commented as well. Campbell will think of possibly putting out an RFP with other parameters. “Tighter parameters around what our expectations are.” “Thank you for allowing me to be working with you.”

- **Fish Creek Trail to the Ocean.** Contractor hired by DOT for site development plan. Meeting on 8/2. Site visit on 8/9. Presentation to TCC on 10/06. Open house to be held by TRW Trail Design Team in October 2022.
 - Cathy Gleason: we have asked for another site visit; ARR “not keen.” Neighbors are willing to let others walk through their back yards. “Eye-opener for me.” AWWU access road - “could really be a trail with no problems.” ARR says it’s not an option. “Unfortunate.” Any route will require “massive” amount of tree cutting, and loss of habitat. No easy decision.
 - Kathleen Bielawski proposed a special meeting on Fish Creek trail. Invite Great Land Trust to October 6, 2022 TCC meeting and to Land Use Committee meetings dealing with this issue.

Proposed New Snow Disposal Site. South of DeLa Vega Park, in Connor’s Bog wetlands. TCC has commented on that. Planning and Zoning Commission is holding a hearing on September 12, 2022. A large number of the Land Use Committee may be out of town.

- Anna Brawley - the TCC comment letter is posted on the website - communitycouncils.org.
- **Title 21 Changes.** Parking and Site access is supposed to go before the Assembly in September. Land Use Committee submitted comments to the Assembly. Main concern is that changes may force additional parking on the street that could create traffic safety and snow removal concerns. We will revisit our comments on this issue.
- **Accessory Development Units.** Cathy Gleason. Public hearing on September 19 in front of Planning and Zoning Commission. What comments has TCC submitted? What do we want to resubmit comments from the past? Concerns about ADU use in Turnagain.
 - Jon Isaacs - We need additional resources for the committee. People, sign up.

MOTION TO ADJOURN - JON ISAACS MOVED. CAROLYN HALL SECONDED.

No objections.

CLOSING

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.
- **Next meeting: Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**

Minutes prepared and submitted by Secretary Kathleen Bielawski on 09/6/22.

*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, October 3, 2022.***