

Federation of Community Councils, Inc. Board of Delegates

BY ZOOM

Minutes of October 19, 2022 meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by FCC Vice-Chair Linda Chase.

FCC Delegates in attendance (20):

Abbott Loop	-
Airport Heights	-
Basher	Don Crafts
Bayshore/Klatt	Bob Laule
Bear Valley	-
Birchwood	-
Campbell Park	Kevin Fimon (FCC Treasurer)
Chugiak	-
Downtown	Silvia Villamedes
Eagle River	-
Eagle River Valley	Tom Freeman
Eklutna Valley	-
Fairview	Allen Kemplen
Girdwood (GBOS)	Mike Edgington
Glen Alps	-
Government Hill	Bob French
Hillside	Carmela Warfield
Huffman/O'Malley	Gretchen Stoddard (FCC Chair)
Midtown	-
Mountain View	Daniel George
North Star	Mark Butler
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Old Seward/Oceanview	Roselynn Cacy
Portage Valley	-
Rabbit Creek	Mike Kenny
Rogers Park	Linda Chase (FCC Vice-Chair)
Russian Jack	Kathleen Plunkett
Sand Lake	-
Scenic Foothills	Yarrow Silvers
South Addition	-
South Fork	-
Spenard	-
Taku Campbell	-
Tudor Area	Tod Butler

Turnagain -
Turnagain Arm -
University Area Al Milspaugh

Others in attendance:

Anchorage Assembly Suzanne LaFrance, Chair
Anchorage School Board Margo Bellamy
Anchorage School District Jim Anderson, CFO
Girdwood Briana Sullivan
Community Councils Center Mark Butler

Zoom meeting being recorded, including the “Chat”.

A. Call to Order and Establish Quorum: Linda Chase, FCC Vice-Chair
Quorum attained later in the meeting. Began presentation portion of meeting.

B. Approval of Agenda
Unanimously approved later in meeting when quorum was reached. Kevin Fimon moved and Al Milspaugh seconded.

C. Approval of February 2023 Minutes
Unanimously approved later in meeting when quorum was reached.

D. Presentations:

1. Brief Update on the Ten-Year Review of Community Council Boundaries -

Tom Davis, Municipal Planner

Required by statute to review the boundaries of Anchorage’s community councils.

Previous changes have included the merger of Upper Hillside and Mid Hillside Community Councils into Hillside Community Council.

Tom will be sending out a memo to the council officers and delegates that will explain the process that he will be taking this year. He will have a flyer to send to all the people on the council email lists that will ask them if they think that some of the council boundaries should be changed. Then he will collect that information and then come up with a proposal and send it first to the Planning & Zoning Commission for review and public comment. Then it would go to the Assembly for final public comment and approval.

2. Merit Selection and Retention System for State Judges (including Judicial Retention Elections on the General Election Ballot) –

Susanne DiPietro, Alaska Judicial Council

Elaine Andrews, retired judge

The Alaska State Constitution has a merit selection and retention system for filling judge positions. Many other states have elected judges or judges directly appointed by the Governor. The 1976 law created a system where judges apply for openings. The State of Alaska Judicial Council then rates the merits of judicial candidates and recommends three candidates for each opening. The Governor then chooses one of the three to be a judge.

Voters choose whether or not to retain sitting judges. The Judicial Council asks different groups to rate each judge. Jurors, law enforcement officers, and lawyers are all asked to rate the judge and a summary of each group's ratings are published for review by the voters. Most judges have been retained using this system, but a few have not.

3. Anchorage School District Budget -

Margo Bellamy, President, Anchorage School Board

Jim Anderson, Chief Financial Officer, Anchorage School District

The Anchorage School District operational budget is \$68 million in the hole and there will be tough decisions to make. Jim showed slides that indicated that the amount of money coming from the State of Alaska to the school districts across the state has leveled off (and actually dropped if you take into effect inflation)!

The School District has performed an analysis of what programs and services cost and will make proposals to the School Board. One problem is that the total number of students has dropped over recent years, but the physical infrastructure has not. To this end, the District recently proposed closing six elementary

schools and moving their students to other nearby schools. Other cost-saving options will be discussed soon.

4. Concerns about Implementation of the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance –

Mike Kenny, the delegate for the Rabbit Creek Community Council, mentioned his concerns his council has about the proposed ordinance that would update the existing ADU ordinance.

E. Government Updates (5 minutes each)

1. Office of the Mayor –

No report.

2. Assembly – Susanne LaFrance, Vice-Chair

No report.

3. Anchorage School Board –

No further report.

4. Office of the Alaska Governor -

No report.

F. Standing Committee Reports:

1. FCC Chair – Gretchen Stoddard

No report, out of town.

2. FCC Vice Chair – Linda Chase

No report.

3. FCC Treasurer – Kevin Fimon

Under budget at this time but expecting some more expenditures (including the insurance for next calendar year) in the near future.

4. FCC Outreach – Al Milspaugh

No further report.

5. FCC Training – Lindsey Hajduk

No report.

6. Community Councils Center Manager – Mark Butler

Before your meetings, be sure to call the Councils Center to see if you have any mail in the Councils Mailbox.

7. FCC AMATS Committee Representative – Bob French

The next meeting of the AMATS public involvement committee is being planned for November 1st.

G. Old Business:

1.

H. New Business:

1.

I. Council Sharing (brief points) –

Not at this meeting.

K. Comments by the Public (3 min. each, time permitting) –

L. Adjournment

Al Milspaugh moved for adjournment, Bob French seconded. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Butler, Community Councils Center Manager.