

Spenard Community Council

Spenard Recreation Center

2020 W 48th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99517

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 7:00-8:45 pm

6:30 pm meet and greet



Minutes

Welcome/Call to Order

- Meg Mielke called the meeting to order at 7:03pm
- Consent Agenda (Minutes from previous meeting 02/01/2023, Agenda for current meeting)
 - **Matt Duncan moved, seconded by Julie Leonard. No objection, consent agenda passed.**
- Mielke introduced the Executive Board

3. Brief reports (10 mins each)

Daniel Volland gave a report on the Anchorage Assembly

- The Assembly passed resolutions on Black History Month, Elizabeth Peratrovich day, and teen dating safety awareness. Resolutions coming up at future meetings include Brain Injury Awareness Month and Women's History Month and a resolution to the State in support of regulating the marijuana industry.
- The Municipality is dealing with a staffing crisis; for example AHD 34% vacant and Maintenance is short on snow removal operators. Muni having to contract for some finance services due to low staffing.
- Loussac Library has returned to regular Sunday hours.
- Alcohol tax grants – training social work students with UAA and Recover Alaska
- New Municipal holidays passed at a recent regular meeting – Juneteenth and Indigenous People's Day
- Assembly working on online checkbook to allow residents to look up contracts and payments
- Working with Chair LaFrance on ordinance to make outdoor dining easier
- Working on transportation projects: Raised routes for kids – raised crosswalks at intersections at preferred school crossings
- Changing the way that landmarks in Anchorage are named – creating name panels with designees from Assembly, Mayor's office, Alaska Native community. Looking to celebrate people, landscape, and indigenous place names
- Assembly approved to enter litigation regarding Municipality HR's hiring of Joe Gerace. Felt that nothing in the recent executive session was confidential and is seeking to release that information to the public.
- Pursing an integrated health model for mental health crisis response that operates 24/7.
- Working with AMATS to make Spenard rehabilitation plan align more closely with the Spenard Corridor Plan, including slowing the speed.

4. Decision Topic: Resolution In Support of Fully Funding for Public Education

- Mark Foster not present, no resolution

5. Decision Topic: Letter in support of prioritizing funding for snow removal from paths for non-motorized travel

- Sarah Preskitt presented a letter addressed to Spenard area state legislators asking for prioritization regarding maintenance of paths and infrastructure for non-motorized travel such as pedestrians and cyclists.
- **Meg Mielke moved to approve the letter; Matt Duncan seconded. No discussion.**
 - **12 in favor, 0 opposed; Letter approved**

6. Decision Topic: Spenard Community Council 2023 Budget

- Meg Mielke introduced the budget for March 2023-February 2024, explained changes. Two largest changes were the timeline so budget was approved for use only by this year's executive board, allowing the next executive board to draft their own budget for approval, and the addition of a line item for Spenard Community Awards.
- Discussion among attendees about the process for the awards.
- **Sarah Preskitt moved to approve the 2023 Spenard Community Council Budget; Matt Duncan seconded.**
 - **8 in favor, 3 opposed; Budget passed.**

7. Information Topic: List of CIP projects for future prioritization survey

- Sarah Preskitt gave background on the Capital Improvements Program with assistance from Lindsey Hajduk. A survey will be sent via email prior to the April 2023 meeting inviting community members to prioritize capital projects in the community and add projects important to them. The executive board will draft a priority list based on the survey's results to vote on at the May 2023 meeting.

8. Treasurer's Report

- Julie Leonard reported that there were no changes to the Council's finances.

9. Assembly Candidates Q&A

- **Spenard members:** please limit questions to 30 seconds
- **Candidates:** Please limit responses to 2 minutes
 - **Candidates present:**
 - Chris Constant, Dist 1
 - Anna Brawley, Dist 3
 - Brian Flynn, Dist 3
 - Felix Rivera, Dist 4
- **Themes of the conversation and questions included:** Conflict of interest with spouse of potential member working for MOA Purchasing; thoughts on daylighting Fish Creek; unique Spenard priorities, how will you work with community councils, what do you love about living in Anchorage, how many busses does it take to get from Spenard to Downtown.

10. Community Announcements

- Merle – gave information about the Lake Spenard Users Group
- Lindsey Hajduk – Paint the Town now taking nominations for deserving homes for minor repairs at nwalaska.org

11. Adjourn

- **Sarah Preskitt moved to adjourn the meeting; Matt Duncan seconded.**
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm**
- Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 2023

To add agenda items to future meetings, email SpenardCC@gmail.com