

**Spenard Community Council
Minutes**

In Person: The Nave, 3502 Spenard Road

Online: Zoom

Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 7:00-8:30 pm
6:30 pm Happy Hour / meet and greet



Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/93439470520?pwd=TWY0MUUwUa0dzNGJFZGxBZ0pHTHByQT09>

Meeting ID: 934 3947 0520

Passcode: **Community**

Topic	Discussion Leader	Time
<p>Happy Hour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect with neighbors and help set up for the meeting 		
<p>1. Welcome/Call to Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consent Agenda (Minutes from previous meeting 11/2022, Agenda for current meeting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matt Duncan moved to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Margaret McDonough. No objections, consent agenda passed. Meg Mielke introduced the Executive Board 		
<p>2. State Legislator report : Elvi Gray-Jackson gave a legislative report. Notes are posted to the SCC website. Senator Gray-Jackson requested that constituents email her with any requests or concerns at Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov</p>		
<p>3. Brief reports (5 mins each)</p> <p>Anchorage School Board Report: Pat Higgins gave the ASD School Board report: At the meeting on 1/9/2023, the Board will decide what to reduce and eliminate. The Board made the decision to close Abbott Loop Elementary, but not the other five schools that were previously being considered for closure. This creates about \$1M in savings. There are no plans to cut music or other optional programs. Because they're having trouble filling jobs, fewer jobs will need to be eliminated. Getting fewer funds from the state via the Base Student Allocation also limits what MOA can give ASD, putting pressure on the budget. Mr. Higgins reported that there is not strong support to rebuild Inlet View Elementary, but that there is support to renovate. The district also has about \$800M in deferred maintenance. The Board's priority is to fix schools in current use rather than build new ones. They are trying to avoid irreversible decisions until they get final answers from the legislature.</p> <p>Anchorage Police Department: There was no representative present; no report given.</p> <p>Mayor's Office: There was no representative present; no report given.</p>		

Assembly Report: Austin Quinn Davidson offered the following report

A special meeting to decide which applicant will fill Forrest Dunbar's seat will take place on Friday, January 6. A special meeting to fill Jamie Allard's seat will take place on Thursday, January 19.

A resolution on Accessory Dwelling Units is on the Assembly Agenda as 14J.

The Assembly confirmed Virginia McClure as Library Director confirmed at the last regular meeting.

Mayor Bronson has asked to increase capacity at Sullivan Arena. The hope was to get out of big public areas with large neighborhood impacts, but the plan did allow an increase under certain circumstances. The Assembly is making strides on smaller locations and has appropriated additional dollars for security and cleanup.

Assembly members understand people are frustrated about snowplowing issues. Member Quinn-Davidson reported that the department responsible for snow removal is struggling with historically low staff, and that they did approve additional staffing dollars in the weeks before the major snow events in December 2022.

4. Information Topic: Code Enforcement

Rich Fern from MOA Code Enforcement introduced Michelle Goldstein, a new staff member who now holds Cora Weaver's position. She joined Code Enforcement from APD and Spenard was her area of responsibility. Please let Code Enforcement know if there's a house that needs attention re: drugs, junk, etc. They can generally get an abandoned house boarded up within two weeks.

Code Enforcement is looking to get back into regular communication with the Council regarding problem properties. The department has a list and some extra funds to demolish vacant properties and work with property owners to get properties cleaned up and on the market. Program should be ready in Spring 2023..

Residents can call the hotline to report a problem property at 343-4141 or through the ANCWorks section at muni.org.

5. Information Topic: Spenard Community Council Boundaries

Peggy and Bob Auth presented a letter from the SCC Executive Board to the MOA Planning Department and gave a history of how the current borders of the SCC came to be what they are today.

The Planning Department is looking at Community Council Boundaries throughout Anchorage and will be seeking to create a Citizens Advisory Board to inform boundaries before their plan goes to Assembly.

Meg Mielke will connect with Tom Davis to see if he'd like to hear from the membership of the SCC body, and the Executive Board will put something on the February 2023 agenda.

6. Information Topic: SCC Elections Information

Meg Mielke reminded attendees that anyone eligible to be a member is eligible to run for office. All positions are available on the February 2023 ballot. The next Executive Board meeting is January 17, 2023 and is open to anyone interested in running for a seat or who would like to see how an Executive Board meeting is run. Check with Sarah Preskitt or Meg Mielke to make sure you're on the list for voting and/or election eligibility at spenardcc@gmail.com

7. Decision Topic: A Resolution 2023-1 A Resolution to Support the Community of Girdwood to Pause or Vote No to Holtan Hills

Grace Pleasants of Girdwood presented a resolution requesting the Anchorage Assembly vote no or pause a vote on the Holtan Hill Subdivision planned for the Girdwood Community.

Peggy Auth moved to approve the resolution; Phil Isley seconded.

Attendees discussed.

Matt Duncan moved to approve with no amendments; Phil Isley seconded.

- **Vote Yes: 12 No:1 Resolution passes.**

8. Information Topic: PFAS Chemicals in Alaska

Courtney Owens from Alaska Community Action on Toxics was able to start her presentation, but unable to finish due to connectivity issues. The presentation was postponed until the meeting of February 1, 2023.

9. Neighborhood & Community Announcements

Anna Brawley is running for the seat that will be left vacant by Austin Quinn-Davidson's departure in District 3.

Matt Duncan thanked the Nave for the free use of building

Phil Isley: today is World Hypnosis Day, celebrate Saturday, January 7 from 12pm-5pm at Adam's Centerm 6000 C Street

Meg Mielke: Great Big Heart Show, part of Spenard Second Saturday, will meet Wednesday, January 11 at Refuge City Church

10. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Julie Leonard was absent; no report given.

11. Information Topic: Airport Area Well Testing Results

Megan Peters from Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport introduced the team coordinating the report on well testing results in areas surrounding airports in Alaska. They are still waiting on results, so they cannot give full picture yet. They will share information when results are ready. Slides are available at the SCC website.

12. Adjourn

Peggy Auth moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Margaret McDonagh

- Next meeting: Wednesday, February 1, 2023

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