

**Campbell Park Community Council
Minutes
March 21st, 2024
Via Zoom and in-person at
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cay's Room**

1-4. Call to order, agenda, minutes, and expressions of gratitude. Chairwoman Nicole Cupp called the meeting to order at 7:05PM. A quorum was established. The agenda for this meeting and the minutes of the March meeting were approved without objection. Michael Burke expressed gratitude for the return of the sun. Kevin Fimon expressed gratitude for the Jean Sauget's work at FCC, which she is leaving soon, and her prior work as chair and secretary of Campbell Park Community Council.

5. Old Business

Sanctioned Homeless Camp Resolution - TJ Andrew

At T.J. Andrew's request, voting on the resolution was tabled until the April meeting (after the election for mayor).

**6. Reports (Limited to three minutes each plus q&a)
Legislature**

Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson. Luma Diaz reported on legislation introduced by the senator, who preparing for travel to Korea for a legislative conference. The Sen. Gray-Jackson's March report is appended to these minutes.

Sen Forrest Dunbar Assistant James Holzenberg reported on the senator's bills: SB 13 supports federal legislation to return of lands held in trust by the state for native communities; SB 59 designates the Friday before Memorial Day as Alaska Veteran's Day, Poppy Day; SB 77 updates

municipal property tax laws; and SB 103, establishing confidential peer counseling for first responders.

Rep. Andy Josephson. Legislation in progress includes a bill to provide cell phone location data to first responders in emergency situations—there are civil liberty concerns about what seems to be a good idea; a bill to provide additional protection to renters of storage units, who have few rights; and a bill to provide additional penalties for vandalism of religious institutions.

Rep. Andrew Gray Assistant Deirdre Goins reported that Rep. Gray has introduced legislation to require that foster children placed in psychiatric institutions be granted a hearing before a judge within three days. Now available on repgray.com is a recording of a recent town hall meeting on the rights of mobile home owners.

Mayor's Office - no report, not present.

Assembly

Meg Zaletel No report, not present.

Felix Rivera The Municipality is providing 574 shelter beds, most of which are occupied daily. The shelter system normally closes at the end of April, though a proposal would keep it open until the end of May. Keeping the congregate shelter (former transfer station administration building) open year round would require a \$4M grant from the state. A hearing on AO No. 2024-26, the mayor's camp abatement proposal, is scheduled for April 9th The proposal is online at

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Documents/AO%202024-26.pdf>

In response to a question about requiring licenses for short term property rentals, he noted that the assembly is unlikely to overturn the mayor's veto of the proposal.

E. School Board . Carl Jacobs noted that the recently adopted ASD budget may or may not be impacted by the failure to override the veto of SB 140. The ASD budget has been amended to re-institute the language immersion programs and to reduce class size. Going forward, the focus is on reading proficiency.

F. Housing & Homelessness Committee T.J. Andrew - no report.

G. FCC Delegate Kevin Fimon described the March FCC meeting programs on *Next Steps to Address Homelessness* through outreach to landlords (Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness) and *Anchorage Housing Trends* (UAA professor Hannah Hennighausen). Jean Sauget noted that handouts from the presentations are available for download:

https://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/meeting_handouts.html

H. Treasurer T.J. Andrew. No report.

I. CPCC Chair Nicole Cupp. The phone number for reporting potholes to an answering machine at the Municipality is 907 343-6363. Problems may also be reported in the street maintenance section of Anchorage Works on the Muni website.

<https://www.muni.org/anchorageworks/CRM/ServiceRequest/ServiceRequestCategory>

Inadequate lead time was provided in a request for our council's support of a challenge grant for installation of bicycle racks at the soccer fields at Waldron Park.

7. Open Forum

Members discussed the need to follow up with the Traffic Engineers at the Municipality on the next step in Traffic Calming for Waldron Drive and for Chirikof Court.

Temporary speed detector displays are one short term alternative that could be implemented with funds remaining in the legislative traffic calming grant.

Members noted the need to discuss ranking of projects for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) at the next meeting.

8. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:35. The next meeting will be April 18th.

Appendix

Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson. March report.

Sen. Forrest Dunbar. March report

Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Campbell Park Community Council
March 19, 2024

This Session

The following is a list of my current legislative priorities for this session.

Juneteenth (SB 22) - Make Juneteenth an observed legal state holiday. This bill will be heard in House Finance Committee on March 20th. Following this the bill will head to the Rules Committee then to the House Floor for a vote. Bill was passed by the Senate on May 3, 2023.

Public Schools: Mental Health Education (SB 24) - Amends existing health education curriculum to include mental health in K-12 health classrooms to adequately educate students on vital information pertaining to mental health symptoms, resources, and treatment. The Bill passed the Senate floor on Wednesday, March 6th on a vote of 15 to 4 and in the House for committee hearings then the floor for a vote.

Asian American/Pacific Islander Program (SB 131) – Amends Section 14.30 to require teaching students in Kindergarten through 12th grade about the contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States. Several other states across the country have passed similar bills which allow students to feel empowered and to understand their ethnic identities as well as their personal civic duty. This bill moved out of Senate State Affairs on March 12th and it will be heard on the Senate Finance Committee on March 20th for the first time.

Priorities for the Senate Bi-partisan Majority

- Education
- Returning to a Defined Benefit
- Energy
- Developing a comprehensive and sustainable fiscal plan

New Legislation

Stay at Work/Return to Work (SB 206) –This bill adds a Return-to-Work Coordinator to State Statutes to assist with planning for individuals who experience on the job injuries resulting in compensable time loss injuries. The program will help supervisors manage employee injury, illness and disability and ensure that employees can return to the workplace as quickly and safely as possible. This bill was moved out of Senate Labor and Commerce on February 21st and was referred to Senate Finance.

Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness Month (SR 3) -This Resolution aims to recognizes March as Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness Month in Alaska to raise awareness of the need for research, screening programs and access to care for individuals who suffer from chronic kidney disease. The Senate passed the

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Resolution unanimously on March 1st.

Since the Bill was not a joint resolution, it will not go to the House.

CPR Curriculum (SB 221) - Seeks to enhance the quality of health education within our state's public school system. SB 221 focuses on equipping our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to increase the number of CPR-trained bystanders. This bill had its first hearing in the Senate Education Committee on Wednesday March 13th.

Mammograms: Insurance Coverage (SB 222) - This bill impacts commercial insurance health plans under Title 21. It prohibits health plans that cover diagnostic and supplemental imaging tests for breast cancer from charging patient cost-sharing (co-pay, coinsurance, and/or deductible).

Internet/ Charter/ Transportation/ Funding/ Base Student Allocation (SB 140)

The revised bill was approved by both the Senate and House. Notable changes include:

- \$175 million increase to the BSA representing a permanent \$680 increase
- \$500 per K-3 Student for the Alaska READS Act implementation
- Provides for a Charter School termination appeal
- Creation of a Statewide Charter School Coordinator
- \$14.5 million increase in Correspondence School Funding
- \$ 7.3 million increase in Pupil transportation
- Includes funding increase for internet in rural and remote areas

The Governor has until today to either sign the bill or veto. We remain hopeful that the Bill will be sustained.

Municipal Elections

- April 2, 2024 - Regular Municipal Election is a Vote at Home/Vote by Mail election where voters can vote in the convenience of their own home!

The deadline to apply to receive a ballot at a temporary address is March 26, 2024.

Voters can sign up at www.anchoragevotes.com for ballot tracking to get alerts when the voters' ballot envelope reaches various points in the election process.

Alaska State Senate
Senator Forrest Dunbar

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Education Funding Update

On Monday, the legislature failed to override the Governor's veto of SB 140 by one vote. I supported SB 140 when it was before us, and I voted to override the veto this week. The actions of the Governor and his supporters have hurt the education system, students, and families across the state. As the session moves forward, I will continue to fight for our students and the future.

Legislative Updates

Four pieces of my legislation are waiting to be brought to the House Floor for a final vote:

SJR 13 Expresses the legislature's support for federal legislation seeking to return lands to Alaska Native communities.

SB 159 Designates the Friday before Memorial Day as "Alaska Veterans' Poppy Day." Red poppies would be worn in gratitude for the sacrifices of those who served in wars.

SB 77 Updates municipal property tax laws, including provisions for designating blighted properties and tax incentives for redevelopment.

SB 103 Establishes confidential counseling programs to provide emotional and moral support to first responder personnel who have experienced traumatic incidents in the line of duty.

If you would like to submit testimony for any of these bills, please send it to House.Rules@akleg.gov, Rep.Craig.Johnson@akleg.gov, and Sen.Forrest.Dunbar@akleg.gov.

Two pieces of legislation are waiting for a hearing on the Senate floor:

SB 56 Updates the current Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS), increasing access to post-secondary education in Alaska. The companion is in House Finance, so this bill could be ready for a floor vote soon.

SB 166 Prepares Alaska for the potential medicalization of psychedelic medicines at the federal level. Its companion, HB 228, which will be heard tomorrow March 14th in House State Affairs.

PFD

The permanent Fund Dividend filing deadline is coming up on March 31st, 2024, at 11:59 pm. Please contact my office if you have any questions about the PFD application process.