

# April 25th, 2024

## Minutes- ALCC General Membership Meeting

IN PERSON: Trail Side Elementary, 5151 Abbott Rd and VIA ZOOM

### Call to Order 6:30

- Round of Introductions -completed
- Changes or additions to agenda (Meadow Park presentation-immediately after Treasurer's report), no changes.
- Approval of minutes from March 28th, 2024: Kathleen Easley, approved as is.
- Treasurer's report: Heather Schrage, \$414.73 balance after (\$110 deposit 3/24 month, \$152 Pavilion pd). Pass the cup to collect donations from meeting attendees- these go towards community picnic. (Collected \$46 tonight).

### Legislative Reports: Q & A

- Senator District F: James Kaufman
  - Senate sending the Capital budget over to the House and the House sending the Operating budget over to the Senate- "Hostage swap". Each body working on the respective budget. Capital Budget- I worked with both offices- Rep Schrage and Rep Coulombe- got a list of discretionary funding items in the Capital budget: Safe pedestrian crossings for O'Malley elementary \$400k, Abbott Rd Safe Routes To Schools improvements \$600k, Elmore Rd. 84th & Coventry traffic pedestrian safety improvements \$300k to get that project started, Basel Street rehab 72nd Ave to lower Rd \$150k. Serve a single track trail project \$385k, trying to help them since they are doing so well with matching. Hillside Larsa- drainage and ditches- more focused on our side of the area \$240k, Meadow Park Picnic shelter/sidewalk.parking improvement \$225K, Campbell Airstrip road rebuild foe sections not completed in 2017 rehab project- not in ALCC area but many of us use. In our newsletter. Sign up for our newsletter to get updates at [senatorkaufman.com](http://senatorkaufman.com).
- Representative District 11: Julie Coulombe
  - The Capital Budget is in the House currently and Meadow street was still in the last version I saw. A lot that goes on in the last two weeks. Mayor and Assembly have put in a \$4 million dollar ask to support Homelessness- to keep the year round shelter open in Anchorage-that was put into the the House Operating budget this has been out and back in already-Kelly Merik put it back in- often what we see, lots of good projects in our districts both mine and Rep Schrage's. It is looking promising. House financing is busy- working on energy bills. Address energy, transmission, storage. There is a lot going on and trying to pass legislation before we have to leave. House Finance heard two education bills today- so the education issue is not done yet- both bills had a \$680 BSA increase in them, both should be forthcoming- initial presentations today. Trying to pass more than one time funding. Tax Assessment bill, putting some standards and guidelines around property assessments because of complaints around the state about assessments going up and challenges to this not going well. Child care bill is almost across the finish line- did a hearing in Senate Finance on Monday- will keep you updated.
- Representative District 12: Calvin Schrage-
  - A lot covered already- thank you to Julie and Senator Kaufman. A shout out to Senator Kaufman for doing a good job trying to keep the needs of the district balanced and getting our priorities in the budget. Really appreciate the good working relationships. First time in a decade that we have had district funds coming directly to the districts, really pleased by that. Wasn't the worst budget, did vote against it as it put forward an unrealistic permanent dividend fund amount, beyond what is sustainable to and would raid the last of our remaining state savings account/drop below the amount necessary to weather any economic turbulence. Energy and Education are continuing to be big topics. Vetting of energy policy being considered- this is very complicated and solutions could involve potentially millions and millions of dollars- we want to get any sort of big decision in how we address the energy needs right- so the finance committee is looking at these. Hired an oil and gas consultant to look at some of these things, putting all their efforts forth vetting these proposals is a really big task of the legislature and hoping we can

accomplish and get across the finish line with one other item of course being education. Advocate for us to move forward on an omnibus bill to address the crisis in education that all our students are facing. More complicated with the recent court ruling- reality is that every student in the state stands to gain from the legislature moving forward with legislature to solve some of these educational issues by increasing the BSA in a perpetual way so we can fund brick and mortar and charter schools. Statute changes, helping to support neighborhood schools and expand options for students that want something a little less traditional and fix changes to the -voucher use for those that want to use it in a constitutional way. This can be fixated statutorily but can be done short term by DEED. Does not support any change to the State constitution change. Does not support public funds going to religious schools. Soon taking up confirmation-legislators have to vote to approve or not- for various boards and commissions, list available if you want to weigh in.

## Community Reports and Q & A:

- APD- can request an officer and they will attend if duties permit, not requested for November.
- [Assembly member\(s\)](#)
  - Felix Rivera-
    - Rezoning- National archives site in prep to be disposed of eventually for a developer to develop. We rezoned to R4/ for both housing and mixed use development. Next to see what it will be used for it is public land, looking forward to working with Admin to talk about what that might look like. This is in midtown and an important piece of land.
    - Housing- Next Step Pilot Program. As of earlier this week- housed 101 individuals, 49 left by 5/31. Partners looking for another 150 during summer. Approved funding to keep ER Cold Weather shelters open through 5/31, some of our operators that are currently housing people will be closing and affect this- like Alex Hotel (1 of 3) will be closing May 6. Aviator closing as a slow draw down- some rooms shut on a fixed schedule (slowly dwindle by 5/31). You will start seeing more people out. Warning folks about this. Critical that we keep the CWS shelter open (and year round) and thankful for the Anchorage delegation to help champion the \$4 million in funding for this, critical to keep that in the state budget to keep open to provide shelter for up to 200 individuals.
    - Last week's special meeting- related to Homelessness. Voted down (6-5) Ordinance on abatement. Working on an alternative to take out things that weren't supported and try to get a broader supported ordinance that would work- ie: buffer around shelters, notice of 10 day notice of camp abatement and so on. Hoping to not have a re-pet of some of the large encampments and negative issues we saw last summer. Approved- waiting for Admin to implement. Safe parking areas- allows muni designated lots or private religious, non profit owners of lots to designate their property for parking- 25 maximums. People that use their vehicles for habitation- this is needed. Voted down- criminalizing or prohibited camping as a class B, criminal misdemeanor. Also voted against paying to ship up the Sprung structure that is sitting in storage in Utah or lower 48. No plan or anything other than an idea. Voted for a proposal to have admin encourage a registry to have religious/non profit sector set up 3 tents- register folks so they are in the system.
    - Questions: Sprung test storage (\$25-50l/mo to store it), We need a plan to bring it up. Snow and weather- we are not sure it would be safe here, so we do not want to have it here being used until we know why and what for. Dumpsters- Need to implement sn have the locations- administration needs to make this happen, it is needed- but sites as well. National archives area- it is right next to Cuddy Park.
  - Meg Zaletel-
    - In Juneau. Working on the Muni legislative program.
    - Sprung tent- once we take this the warranty starts. It is more like \$25k/mo.
    - Budget- 1st quarter budget revisions- 1st public hearing on Tuesday on the adjustments. Administration put forward some adjustments that in my opinion for best suited to go in the annual budget, but proposed bring it about \$1 million under the cap and restoring the building safety service area fund which uses about another \$1.5 million under the cap- which runs in deficit because we are not issuing the number of building permits necessary. So having them take a look at that. Assembly presented their amendments- they do focus on

the three priorities snow removal, employee retention and recruitment and ensuring the municipality is in as good a financial position as we can be because we don't have the 2022 financials, they are in audit, and the process isn't even started for 2023. As a reminder this time of year we would be closing out 2023 books and truing that up with the 2024 budget- so we lengthened the process in hope the 22 audit would be done- so we are being cautious. 30th public amendments and mil levy- let us know if there are any priorities, we are down to the wire.

- Eklutna- lots has happened-utility owners Matanuska and Chugach Electric transmitted their final Fish and Wildlife program over to the governor today- it is the Portal Valve Option- that was discussed with both MEA and CEA boards approving this option. Cost went from 57 million to 71 million- and Anchorage muni doesn't currently have a vote in this process as we haven't had a qualified person in heading the Anchorage hydro power utility- however our share of that 71 million dollar cost will now to be paid- how will be up to municipality- we didn't vote to put this to the governor. Assumption is to put to property tax payer- not sure. We should get a day in policy. RCA says "no" say, we have appealed this. We believe we need a seat at the table if we are going to be putting forth 19% of the cost of the solution, if we are paying for that. Also heard from the Native Village of Eklutna-they presented a week ago Friday- similar to the original \$57 million portal valve option- it would restore water and fish but wouldn't be the damn removal- an interim solution. Uses a long straw siphon to get water to go where it is supposed to go- we will get an opinion from AWWU and then have some information to evaluate what kind of position we want to take. Administration intention is to bring the portal value option by next Friday.
- [School Board member\(s\)](#)
  - Pat Higgins- Closing schools- \$100 million deficit is what we are facing. Charter schools are ASD schools- funding is not for private/religious schools. What the legislature is looking at is one time funding. Changing number of elementary schools, lots of schools at risk. School board -got returning candidates this is good. Employee concerns- not handled well. Board audit- administration conducted- board not included- issues of concern.
- [Mayor's Office Report](#)- no one requested, no one here to report.
- [JBER Community Engagement](#) -no current update.

## Candidate Introductions

- **Janice Park**- Representative State Senate District 11 & 12 <https://www.janiceforalaska.com/>
- **Walter Featherly**- State House District 11 <https://electfeatherly.com/>

## Reports

**FCC Representative:** Lizzie Newell

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**HALO Report:** Lizzie Newell

- 4/4 meeting of Halo

**Roads & Projects Committee:** Mary Miner

- Huddle AK- Holly/74th/75th Avenue Road Reconstruction project. Here to let us know about the project. DSM phase- design study memorandum- looking at the problems, only funded for this- will need to have funds for the project itself. October visit to return to speak to ALCC with Muni project management. 74th & 75th/Nancy street- Next Wednesday at Polaris- 4:30-6:30 meeting.
- Roads and Project committee- CIP coming due- meeting will be set up via email- Mike, Bruce, Patti, Lizzie, Mary, Mark, Dan and others that are interested will meet and set the priorities for ALCC and bring to next meeting 5/16/24 for vote.

**Parks & Rec Committee:** Mark Miner

- Rilke Schule Students and Design team- Presentation on ideas for Meadow Park (map [here](#)). Concept plan

for pavilion and overall concept for park. Recruited students. Now just presenting plans. Parents and Rilke Schule students here to present design ideas and projects that they have worked on over the past school year with six separate visits with students over the past few months. Art teacher Jill, Professional landscape engineers/designers used grants and volunteered time to create concepts and plans with students. Funding approved originally was only for preliminary determination of design and cost estimates of \$225k for pavilion and sidewalks/parking improvements. The rest would maybe come later or is a part of the overall master plan/thought.

**Planning & Zoning Committee:** Mary Miner

- Area wide park plan- Taylor- lots of changes. Several parks by schools in our council area.

**Cannabis & Alcohol Committee:** Yolanda Meza

- See 2024-2026 renewal list Marijuana in ALLC area of current renewals (on agenda for April meeting).

**Membership & Events:** Lizzie Newell

- Tuesday, June 25th BBQ and Community Potluck at Abbott Loop Community Park- Email with sign up link will be coming out soon. Need people to volunteer and sign up to bring food. ALCC buys mains, supplies paper products and pays for rental of park- need BBQ chef leads to start the coals at 4pm!

**Abbott Loop Community Patrol:** Patty Higgins <http://www.accpatrols.org/> no update.

**Old Business**

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**New Business**

- Mayoral run off- dates April 30th ballots mailed, due by may 14th.

**Announcements/Comments**

- Email from Jeffrey Congdon, Region II Election Supervisor- State of Alaska Division of Elections to notify ALCC area that polling place for precinct 12-255 – South Anchorage Number 2, has been moved from Abbott Loop Elementary School 8427 Lake Otis Pkwy to Trailside Elementary School 5151 Abbott Rd. This is a permanent polling place change for all State of Alaska administered elections. Posted to ALCC Facebook 4/18/24 for community awareness as well.

**Upcoming Meeting Dates**

ALCC monthly meetings are usually the last Thursday of the month but can be subject to changes based on holidays and the ASD school schedule.

- May 16th earlier in the month- ASD is out of school the following week.
- TUESDAY, June 25th 5-8pm at Abbott Loop Community Park Pavilion
- July 25- Whisper Faith Park/Dog Park
- August TBA/No meeting
- September 26 Voting

**Adjourn 8:40pm**