

ASSEMBLY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 09, 2023 at 6:00 PM



Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/95241164899> or 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 952 4116 4899

A. CALL TO ORDER

HRC Chair Smith called the Assembly Human Resources Committee meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land, and wished to honor the people of this land, the Auk Kwaan and Taku Kwaan. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. Gunalchéesh!

C. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Greg Smith and Christine Woll

Members Absent: Maria Gladziszewski and Alicia Hughes-Skandijs

Others Present: Deputy Clerk Di Cathcart, City Clerk, Beth McEwen, City Manager Rorie Watt, Deputy City Manager Robert Barr, City Attorney Robert Palmer, Assistant City Attorney Adam Gottschalk, Assistant City Attorney Sherri Layne and P&R Deputy Director Michele Elfers

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved as presented.

E. AGENDA TOPICS

1. Juneau Commission on Aging Appointments

Per Resolution 2944; the JCOA shall consist of nine voting members appointed from the general public. Members shall be appointed to staggered two-year terms. The assembly shall appoint members from a diverse population of people with knowledge of issues relating to aging or with expertise on health, housing, transportation, finances, insurance, and other areas of concern for seniors in Juneau. At least five public members shall be 65 years of age or older. Four public members shall serve without restriction as to age.

There are currently two (2) 65+ seats and two (2) general public seats all with terms running January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Ms. Woll asked why CBJ is able to have age specific seats. Mr. Palmer responded that if a community wants to have a commission on aging then federal law states we reserve a percentage of seats for people of a certain age.

Due to not enough HRC members in attendance to take action, Chair Smith will recommend to the full Assembly the reappointments of Jennifer Carson to a general public seat and Carole Ende to a 65+ public seat and the appointments of Jennifer Garrison to a general public seat and Deborah Craig to a 65+ public seat to the Juneau Commission on Aging; all for terms beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2024.

2. Ordinance 2022-64 An Ordinance Reorganizing and Consolidating the Aquatics Board, the Treadwell Arena Advisory Board, the Jensen-Olson Arboretum Advisory Board, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

This ordinance would dissolve the Treadwell Arena Advisory Board, the Aquatics Board, the Jensen-Olson Arboretum Advisory Board, and transfer those board duties to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board ("PRAC"). Because recruitment and retention for so many community volunteers is so difficult, we have prolonged vacancies and frequently cancelled meetings due to lack of quorum. Consolidation into the PRAC will result in more effective and impactful meetings, which will improve morale of board members and community engagement. If a discrete community concern arises, the PRAC or the Assembly would be able to create a temporary task force to address a future concern.

The Assembly Committee of the Whole discussed this topic on November 7, 2022. The SRRC reviewed this ordinance on December 13, 2022. On January 3, 2023, the PRAC reviewed this ordinance and unanimously recommended the Assembly adopt it with a proposed amendment, which is presented by Assemblymember Smith. On January 9, 2023, the Assembly Human Resources Committee is scheduled to consider this item in light of the SRRC discussion.

Ms. Woll asked if there were dedicated seats for the revised board. Ms. Elfers stated the Jensen Olson Arboretum Advisory Board (JOAAB) made a recommendation for a seat specific to JOAAB. Ms. Elfers referenced the subcommittee language added to care for the JOAAB endowment committee that meets at least annually.

Chair Smith noted that making dedicated seats could become an issue but that it will be important to still capture the function of the boards being eliminated.

Ms. Elfers commented that senior staff will develop check-ins with staff at the Treadwell Arena and Aquatics Facilities as well as the public on needs; having one board that can compare issues across facilities would make things more consistent.

Mr. Gottschalk discussed his memo that was included in the packet related to the recommendations of the Systemic Racism Review Committee (SRRC). Ms. Woll asked about the SRRC's first bullet point of including language around minorities or race being represented. Mr. Gottschalk stated that it's tricky to add specific language since AS 18.80.255(1), CBJ Charter 15.2, Resolutions 2686 and 2946 already acknowledges and calls out that it is unlawful to refuse, withhold or deny a person any local, state or federal funds, services, goods or privileges because of race, religion, sex, color or national origin. He recommended the Assembly stay broad in its legislation language and still acknowledge they would like to see better representation of the diversity of Juneau citizens appointed to CBJ boards.

Chair Smith noted that as Mr. Gottschalk's last paragraph stated, the Assembly should work on better outreach. Ms. Woll thanked Mr. Gottschalk for his comprehensive and very thorough memo; she is going to make the motion at the Assembly that Ordinance 2022-64 move back to the Assembly Committee of the Whole for full Assembly discussion now that they've received Mr. Gottschalk's memo.

F. STAFF REPORTS

Setting Date(s) for Empowered Board Interviews/Appointments

Possible Dates: Wed 1/25, Tues 1/31

Chair Smith will forward Tuesday, January 31, 2023 forward to the full Assembly as the preferred meeting date to hold empowered board interviews.

G. STANDING COMMITTEE TOPICS

3. Assembly Goals - Specific to Human Resources Committee

Goal 4: Community, Wellness and Public Safety - Juneau is safe and welcoming for all citizens

- A. Acknowledge and honor Juneau's indigenous culture, place names, naming policy and recognize Elizabeth Peratrovich Day.

Chair Smith stated that he will meet with Deputy Clerk Cathcart to set future agenda topics related to the Assembly goals specific to the HRC.

H. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

I. NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, January 30, 2023 Regular HRC Meeting @ 6pm

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.