



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Assembly Information Memorandum

No. AIM 146-2021

Meeting Date: September 14, 2021

Municipal Clerk's Office

Accepted

Date: September 14, 2021

1 **From: CHAIR**

2
3 **Subject: PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR AUGUST 24 AND SEPTEMBER 14,**
4 **2021**

5
6 Because of the federal, state, and local health department guidance and emergency
7 measures related to COVID-19, community members have been encouraged to
8 provide public testimony regarding agenda items via email and phone.

9
10 Comments for the August 24, 2021 meeting received at www.muni.org/testimony by
11 5:00 p.m. on August 19, 2021, prior to the agenda addendum deadline, were
12 provided in AIM 137-2021 as part of the August 24, 2021 Assembly meeting packet.

13
14 Comments for the September 14, 2021 meeting received at
15 www.muni.org/testimony between 5:01 p.m. on August 19, 2021 and 5:00 p.m. on
16 September 9, 2021 are attached for your review.

17
18 Assembly Members also receive this testimony via email at the time it is submitted.

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21
22 Prepared by: Jennifer Veneklasen, Deputy Clerk
23 Approved by: Barbara A. Jones, Municipal Clerk
24 Respectfully submitted: Suzanne LaFrance, Chair

Name: Sandra Blomfield

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 8:58:30 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 13, 2021

Agenda Item #: AM5062021

Testimony: Sami Graham | |I strongly encourage you to vote in favor of Sami Graham for MOA Librarian. | |I have known Sami for more than 30 years and watched her interact with adults and children. Her demeanor is always calm and professional. She would be an asset for our library system. | |As a resident, I'd like to feel comfortable using the Anchorage Library again. I believe Sami will do the best job of reorganizing, cleaning, operating, and hosting multi cultural and multi generational events at our city library! Please consider giving Ms. Graham a chance to be our librarian!! |She will do a GREAT Job! |Sandy Blomfield

Name: AMY SIMPSON

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 9:28:36 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 13, 2021

Agenda Item #: 10D 20

Testimony: RE: 10.D 20 | I wanted to publicly thank the Municipality of Anchorage for recognizing the opportunity to change the trajectory of the lives of young children effected by abuse and neglect in Anchorage. Often alcohol and drug abuse are the reasons for the neglectful circumstances. Children do not choose the situations they live in and what we have learned is the effects of the abuse and neglect often lead to a lifetime of challenges. | Programs for Infants and Children or PIC is the Early Intervention program in the Anchorage area. This program is designed to provide support and specialized therapeutic services to infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and their families. Over 30 percent of referrals to PIC, or approximately 300+ referrals each year, are from the child protections system. However, due to the strict eligibility requirements of the program, many children who have risk factors do not qualify for state and federal services. However, we know from state and national data that children involved with the child protection system are significantly at risk for failures in relationships, school, and life due to adverse childhood experiences. These children often grow up and live their trauma over and over again resulting in repeating the pattern from one generation to the next. Investing in helping children (and their families) at the earliest stages is our community's best chance to make a difference for the least amount of money. | This program will allow PIC to enroll children and families for intensive services coordination to connect them with not only our programs but other programs such as Parents as Teachers and Early Head Start to help enrich the learning environment for young children. It will also allow PIC to engage directly with parents to connect them with needed resources to nurture and ultimately keep their children safe. | Thank you again for your support of this program. I believe it will make a huge difference in the lives of so many children and families while making Anchorage the best and safest place to be a kid. | Best Regards, | Amy Simpson | Executive Director | Programs for infants and Children |

Name: Carla Hunley

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 2:25:05 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 13, 2021

Agenda Item #: Mask mandate

Testimony: Please do NOT force our kids or anyone to wear masks... let it be a individual "" choice""... there is too much science that shows it is harmful and not a proven source of protection... let it be our CHOICE... it is not your place to mandate our life decisions... you work for US the people!!

Name: Peg Tileston

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 2:31:51 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 13, 2021

Agenda Item #: AM 506-2921 Conferment of Sandra Graham, Director of Anchorage Library System

Testimony: I would like to reiterate my strong objection to the appointment of Sandra Graham as the Director of the Anchorage Library System. There are very good reasons qualifications are associated with positions. They are well established and have been in place and work well when followed. When they are not followed sad outcomes results. The fact that Ms. Graham does not meet the bare minimum of the listed requirements for this position should raise significant concerns. || The responsibilities of the Library Director are wide and varied and if the person in that role is lacking the required experience and knowledge, the library system will suffer and Anchorage citizens will not be well served. It has been shown that when the person in a leadership position is unqualified, it will fall on other staff members to pick up the slack to keep the system functioning. This will add unnecessary strain and stress on already overburdened personnel. It can also have negative budget implications. || I urge you not to confirm Ms. Graham's appointment as Director of the Anchorage Library System. || Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns.

Name: Yarrow Silvers

Date/Time Submitted: 8/21/2021 5:04:13 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: 10. D. 2

Testimony: I am writing today about the confirmation of Sami Graham. I have been somewhat conflicted about her nomination because I liked her as a school board candidate and I did actually vote for her for that position. As a generally non-partisan voter who bases voting decisions on qualifications and veracity and practicality of a candidate's ideas and held positions, I found her to be qualified for the school board and felt that she would bring balance as well as a different perspective to a school board in which my other votes went to the more progressive candidates. |Therein lays the problem. |While I did believe Graham would have brought both balance and important qualifications to the school board, in her current nomination as library director she brings neither of these things. |Instead, this seems to be yet another position in which Mayor Bronson has based his nomination decisions on partisan ideology, desire to ignore voices unlike his own, and willingness to ""follow the Mayor's directives"" (Min 29:35) seemingly without question, rather than on qualifications for the position. |Also troublesome is that during the confirmation hearing, the public as well as the position would have been better served to have had more time for questions and discussion rather than what appeared to be a concerted effort to run out the clock in a seeming attempt to avoid detailed or difficult questions and depth of discussion. |I particularly would have liked to have heard some follow up on the conversation quoted above, and beginning at minute 28, with further questions on what Graham's response would be to a Mayor's directive that was discriminatory or skirted the law. |The fact that several people who possessed the listed requirements for the position, which was reported by AK Public Media on July 14th, were either unknown or deliberately undisclosed by the Mayoral administration based on the answers given by Niki Tshibaka, is also gravely concerning. |Because of these concerns as discussed, centered most prominently around Graham's lack of qualifications for the position and the conduct of the Confirmation Hearing, I oppose the confirmation of Sami Graham as library director. |Thank you, |Yarrow Silvers |""Applicants included the library's interim leader, Jacob Cole, along with others who met the qualifications, said Kim Hays""
|<https://www.alaskapublic.org/2021/07/14/anchorage-mayors-pick-to-lead-city-library-is-a-veteran-educator-but-has-never-worked-as-a-librarian/>|

Name: Michael Jespersen

Date/Time Submitted: 8/22/2021 11:36:56 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: 10.D.3 Confirmation of Mike Robbins to Executive Director of the Anchorage Community Development Authority

Testimony: Anchorage MUNICIPAL Assembly, || I have known Mike Robbins for over five (5) years. During that time, I've found him to be honest and forthright. Mike knows a good business idea when he sees one, makes sound business decisions based on preset goals and financial ability. Mike does these things all while providing excellent service to customers, stakeholders, and his employees. Having been both a customer and a temporary employee I know these things firsthand. || With Mike Robbins leading ACDA the organization will pursue projects that are in the best interest of Anchorage residents and the Muni. || Should you have any questions regarding my Testimony or Mike Robbins please feel free to contact me. The best way to reach me is by phone at 907-317-4313. || I request that the above testimony be READ INTO THE OFFICIAL RECORD at the ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY MEETING scheduled for 24 August 2021. || Testimony sent via link provided on the Anchorage Municipal Assembly Agenda Webpage. | Provided by, | Michael N. Jespersen | 907-317-4313 | MJespersen@outlook.com | Resident and VOTER in the Anchorage Assembly MID TOWN District | |

Name: Catholic Social Services Board of Trustees and CEO

Date/Time Submitted: 8/23/2021 11:37:01 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: AR 2021-262 and AO 2021-76

Testimony: To the Anchorage Assembly, || I am writing in support of AR 2021-262: Adding an Equity pillar to the Assembly priorities and AO 2021-76: Creating a new Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Commission. || Providing services through a lens of equity is essential to quality services and successful outcomes. AR 2021-262 will create a pillar of equity to the Assembly priorities but does more than just that. This resolution takes this framework a step further and reaffirms Anchorage's commitment to Welcoming America & Welcoming Anchorage. As an agency with a mission of serving the vulnerable and advocating for social justice, we see the focus on equity as critical to bringing about change. Historic inequity has caused many of the problems of social justice we see today, and we can make a difference by acknowledging and addressing it. || The work of Welcoming Anchorage recognizes the economic, cultural, and social contributions that immigrants and refugees make to our communities, making our city a more welcoming place. We work closely with this initiative through the Catholic Social Services Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services (RAIS) Program and have seen the benefits from this initiative. || The Refugee and Immigrant communities bring much to our city and our state. Refugees and Immigrants bring a diversity of thinking, cultures, and experiences. The ties of immigrants and refugees to communities in their countries of origin, along with the more than 100 languages they speak, also open Alaska to new economic opportunities for trade, enhance Alaska's global competitiveness, and expand the state's international business relations. || Another essential piece of quality and equitable services is to include people with lived experience in the decision-making process around homelessness services in our community. AO 2021-76 will ensure that the people with lived experience of homelessness will be a part of the decision-making process. || We have found in our work at Catholic Social Services (CSS), it is critical to include an array of voices and experiences in feedback around homeless services because the broad spectrum of people experiencing homelessness is quite different. It can range from a week of living in your car to 2 years in a shelter to decades sleeping outside, and so many other considerations in between. Creating a framework and place where those voices can be collected and heard is important. || Many of our housing case managers have lived experiences with homelessness or loved ones with lived experiences. Many of our staff with RAIS are also refugees or immigrants. Their voices and experiences inform and improve our services every day. We know the Municipality would also benefit from hearing those voices. || I strongly urge the Assembly to support both AR 2021-262 and AO 2021-76, and we believe Anchorage will be stronger because of it. || Thank you, || Lisa DH Aquino, CEO Catholic Social Services || ||

Name: Robert Banghart

Date/Time Submitted: 8/23/2021 11:50:45 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: Z.J. Loussac Public Library Director

Testimony: Agenda Item |10.D.2|Appointment of Library Director | |Honorable Assembly Members;| |Forgive the intrusion from another part of the state, I live in Juneau, but as a former Deputy Director of Alaska State Libraries, Archives and Museums, I write in opposition of the appointment of Ms. Graham as Director of the Anchorage Library system. Based upon the information supplied in her application, as reported in the Anchorage Daily New, neither Ms. Graham's degrees nor her administrative experience is a relevant substitution for a Masters of Library Science. | |Libraries are more that repositories for information. They serve as community builders, community centers for diverse populations, as centers for the arts, as connections to the world of academics and as champions of our youth. These opportunities are lost when one does not fully understand the history and obligation to community that come with a leadership role within a library. | |I urge the Assembly to seek the most qualified candidate for the position of Library Director based upon real time library management and relevant academic accomplishment. | |Regards,|R. Banghart |banghart@banghart.com|

Name: Becky Faunce

Date/Time Submitted: 8/23/2021 2:18:15 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: Sami Graham nomination

Testimony: Thank you for accepting this input. Sami Graham is not qualified to serve as our library system director. While she has degrees, the degrees are not related to library services. She is apparently being nominated because her religious beliefs conform with those nominating her. That an appalling rationale for government service. Thanks for ensuring we have qualified individuals running our government organizations.

Name: Robert Bruce Parham

Date/Time Submitted: 8/23/2021 4:57:46 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: 10.D2.2

Testimony: August 23, 2021 | As a retired federal archivist and special collections librarian, I am concerned about the nomination of Ms. Sami Graham as director of the Anchorage Public Library due to her lack of professional qualifications and credentials for this position ("Mayor's Office Defends Library Director Appointee's Qualifications Ahead of Her Confirmation Vote," Anchorage Daily News, August 23, 2021). | I am the former director of the National Archives at Anchorage, with twenty-two years of experience with the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (1989-2011). Prior to my federal service, I worked ten years in academic libraries in California and Arkansas. I have experience working with public and academic librarians, multi-cultural groups (in Los Angeles, CA), professional associations, K-12 and undergraduate and graduate students, etc. I have a master's degree in library science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a M.A. in history from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a B.A. from Western State College (Western Colorado University) in Colorado. I am also a member of the Mayor's Task Force for the Alaska Room. | In my opinion, there was a flawed recruitment process for the library director position. The transition team for the Bronson administration and incoming Human Relation Department director appear not to have performed a responsible recruitment -- which involved not understanding the critical, changing role of public libraries in multi-ethnic communities and the tackling of services beyond the traditional mission of public libraries, such as acting as a venue for homeless services, assisting job seekers and serving families with diverse backgrounds. | In general, minimum qualifications for this position are an American Library Association-accredited master's degree in library science and up to seven years of professional library experience. These are some of the essential job functions that a library director performs under limited supervision: |

- As an advocate on behalf of the Anchorage Public Library to increase public funds and ensure that the Anchorage Public Library has the public (and private fundraising) resources to be up to date with comparable libraries in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, especially in staffing levels, number of branch libraries, and the purchase of new in print and library eBook or digital books through an adequate acquisitions budget;
- To be responsible for the delivery of public library services by providing leadership and strategic vision for determining priorities, goals, and objectives of the Municipalities public library system to meet the reading, educational and informational needs of the community;
- To plan, organize and coordinate complex project activities to include all library functions and directing library staff to accomplish the mission, goals and objectives, and to develop public library services to meet the priorities established by the City Manager, Anchorage Assembly, Mayor, and the Library Advisory Board;
- Evaluate, assess and make recommendations to the Mayor, City Manager and the Municipal Assembly in regard to the functions of the library system to include overall development and design of Municipal public library services. In addition, to use a reservoir of a past track record of professional library experience to effectively evaluate policies and procedures to carry out the library's departmental operations in accordance with state and federal guidelines for public library services, promote staff collaboration, innovation and critical thinking in developing solutions and approaches to library operations and issues (source: adapted from American Library Association; ALA Job List, City of Newport News, VA, Director of Library Services; <https://joblist.ala.org/job/director-of-library-information-services/58243762/>). |

In assessing Ms. Graham's appointment, I do not see any library work experience over an extended period, professional certifications or an ALA-accredited master's degree. I see much larger material weaknesses in her educational and professional work background that

cannot be cast aside or minimized by the statements in the August 23 Anchorage Daily News article by Municipal Director of Human Resources Niki Tshibaka and the Mayor's legal department. || In my twenty-two years of experience in federal service, applications such as those of Ms. Graham would have been immediately rejected by the human resources department if this were a civil service appointment. In my job recruitment survey on the American Library Association and Public Libraries Association websites, the general requirements for a city library director position were similar to this one posted by the City of Newport News, VA, a city of 180,000 residents in southwest Virginia: | | ""EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE| â€¢ Requires a Master's Degree in Library Science from an American Library Association (ALA) | accredited library school and 10 years of progressively responsible experience in managing a library system with 5-7 years of supervisory experience, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Requires certification as a professional librarian by State Board for the Certification of Librarians/the Library of Virginia""; <https://joblist.ala.org/job/director-of-library-information-services/58243762/>. | | Generally, even in lower entry-level positions, an equivalent combination of experience is an established number of years in specific job experience in the identical job category -- in this case a library, not an elementary school. In addition, an entry-level position candidate would need to acquire the requisite education and professional licensing -- in this case an American Library Association (ALA) accredited master's degree. Like the general manager of the Anchorage Waste Water Utility (AWWU) and the Health Department, there should be a uniform standard of nominations placed before the Municipal Assembly with the requisite professional qualifications, a minimum number of years of progressive work and supervisory experience within the field, and the ability to provide strong leadership and direction to the library staff. | | There are material weaknesses in selecting candidates for appointment to the Municipal Librarian position, which should be a non-partisan appointment. In the future, my suggestion is for three candidates for the Municipal Librarian position, each with an ALA-accredited master's degree, to be nominated by the Library Advisory Board and then put forth to the Mayor for his/her selection as the nominee to the Anchorage Assembly. There could be an acting municipal librarian appointed from the existing library staff during the changeover in mayoral administrations. Perhaps, the appointment could be for a six-year period, subject to renewal. | | I strongly urge the members of the Anchorage Assembly to reject the nomination of Ms. Sami Graham for the position of Municipal Librarian. | | Sincerely, | | R. Bruce Parham | Director, National Archives at Anchorage (Retired) | 4310 Seeley Circle | Anchorage, AK. 99502-1957 | Email: bparham@gci.net | |

Name: Carmen Croas

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 2:46:25 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: 10.D.2 10.D.2. Assembly Memorandum No. AM 506-2021,
Executive Appointment - Confirmation Hearing (Sandra Graham, Librarian), Human Resources
Department.

Testimony: Please confirm the appointment of Mrs. Sandra (Sami) Graham for Librarian. She is
Alaska born, has the academic requirements to work as Municipal Librarian.

Name: Rodney Powell

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 10:58:47 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: Sky Ridge:

Testimony: To All Assembly Members:

8/22/2021 | Re: Sky Ridge | I am a Builder in Anchorage. I built 5 houses in The Terraces. I had nothing but water problems. On 3 lots I was reimbursed around \$20,000. To fix the lots. | On the last lot the Developer, Mr. Plooyey said he wasn't going to pay for the fixes. I said Okay. | Then I sent a letter to the other Builders saying on Wednesday there will be people carrying signs in The Terraces that say bad soils, don't buy here. They must have put pressure on Mr. Plooyey, the Developer. He called me the next day and said he would pay me \$20,000. To fix the lot. | When he handed me the check he said, ""Remember what happens in Vegas will stay in Vegas."" | I never built any more houses in there. I was afraid it might damage my Reputation. We don't need another Subdivision like The Terraces! | Regards, | Rodney Powell, #345-8447 | General Contractor - Residential |

Name: Francesca Allegrezza

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 11:21:22 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: 2021- laid on the table mask mandate

Testimony: 2021-.... mask mandate | | I do not support mandating any medical interventions (mask or vaccines). You can not force medical devices on anyone. Masking healthy people is a crime against humanity. Uphold your oath. Fear is not healthy. Forced healthcare has no place in a free society. Anyone introducing mandates should be held accountable since it goes against their oaths to the Municipality of Anchorage, AK constitution and the United States Constitution. | If you are about following the science why are you not following the science on the box warning of masks. They do not prevent viruses or diseases. I believe many members of this Assembly are suffering from | MÃ¼nchausen syndrome and they are spreading it. Does the city have a doctor to examine the mental health of the assembly. I do not believe they are mentally fit for their job. | | AR 2021-262 | I do not support adding an Equity Pillar! | | 2021-82 | I do not support more funds to Covid 19. It has never been isolated from a Human. | | Thank you | Francesca Allegrezza

Name: Francesca Allegrezza

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 11:22:21 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: 2021- laid on the table mask mandate

Testimony: 2021-.... mask mandate | | I do not support mandating any medical interventions (mask or vaccines). You can not force medical devices on anyone. Masking healthy people is a crime against humanity. Uphold your oath. Fear is not healthy. Forced healthcare has no place in a free society. Anyone introducing mandates should be held accountable since it goes against their oaths to the Municipality of Anchorage, AK constitution and the United States Constitution. | If you are about following the science why are you not following the science on the box warning of masks. They do not prevent viruses or diseases. I believe many members of this Assembly are suffering from | MÃ¼nchausen syndrome and they are spreading it. Does the city have a doctor to examine the mental health of the assembly. I do not believe they are mentally fit for their job. | | AR 2021-262 | I do not support adding an Equity Pillar! | | 2021-82 | I do not support more funds to Covid 19. It has never been isolated from a Human. | | Thank you | Francesca Allegrezza

Name: Kalb Stevenson

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 11:47:15 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: Librarian Nomination - Sami Graham

Testimony: Dear Assembly Members, | | I don't know if one person's written testimony can make a difference but I would like to tell you mine regarding Sami Graham, who has been nominated for librarian. | | I am a scientist in the community with a PhD in Biology and a Masters degree in environmental science. My kids had Sami as a principal in school, and I will tell you she was really good at her job. She was thorough, kind, caring and understanding. She was smart, thoughtful, and had no tolerance for bullying. But what was great was that when one of my kids was bullied in school she worked with both my son (the victim) and the other child who was the aggressor to bring about resolve and continued to work with the other child every day to help them improve and grow as a person. And it healed the relationship between the two kids. | | Now I know right now this is a highly political environment and I know Sami is a nominee from a conservative mayor, and that she ran as a republican, but I can tell you that through all her years as an educator and principal, she just loves kids and is really smart about nurturing them and helping them grow. And I think she would be great for our libraries and resources to really benefit our community. I hope you will consider my words and approve her. | | Thanks | Kalb Stevenson, PhD

Name: Sheryl Douglas

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 12:00:30 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: Am 506-2021

Testimony: Dear Assembly members, || This letter is being written in response to No. AM 506-2021 | Executive Appointment - Confirmation Hearing | Sandra Graham--Librarian which is on Tuesday evening's agenda. || I respectfully request that you vote against this confirmation. I have strong concerns because Ms. Graham does not have the minimum qualifications that are defined for this leadership position for the largest public library in our state. || My family and I are avid library users for over 30 years. I believe that the Anchorage Public Library provides essential community services to the diverse needs of our public, including our most vulnerable citizens. We need qualified leadership to lead the large staff, to build community contacts, and manage the budget during this challenging economic time. We need an individual with vision, library experience and in-depth knowledge of the current trends in public libraries. || I was employed at Anchorage Public Library for over 30 years. After five years of teaching in Special Education, I sought out a new opportunity. Public Libraries were my safe place, so I took a position as a Library Assistant, typing overdue notices, shelving books and assisting the public. Within a year or so, I realized that I needed more education to pursue more meaningful work within the library environment. I left Alaska to pursue a master's degree in library studies. Upon returning, I started a fulfilling career as a librarian, serving youth and their caregivers. As I worked my way into greater leadership positions, I continued to learn, grow and adapt as the library evolved through vast changes in our world. We need a leader with strong qualifications and a depth of library experience to hit the road running to continue to strengthen and grow with Anchorage Public Library. || Thank you for your careful consideration of this appointment and for all the hard work you do on behalf of our community. || Sincerely, | Sheryl Douglas | 4607 Garfield Street | Anchorage, AK 99503 |

Name: Brittany Lauper

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 1:57:26 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: AR 2021-? requesting face coverings, AR 2021-262, AR 2021-82 & AR 2021-75

Testimony: Assembly Members, || I do not support the submitted resolution for face coverings. | There has still been long term or peer-reviewed study proving masks provide protection from a ""virus""; contrarily, there is proof that they do not provide protection. A medical device mandate should at the very least, have definite scientific proof that it would provide protection. If a human chooses to wear a face covering because they are so afraid of getting sick, they have that right to do so, but you cannot impose it upon any human being. || It is a Human Rights violation to force any medical devices or interventions on a human body. Doing so would be a violation of your oath to uphold the Alaska Constitution and the United States Constitution. Any Assembly member who is unwilling or unable to uphold their oath must resign as they have betrayed their constituents. || As to the ""increase in cases"" stated in Ms. Zaletel's submitted document, how are these cases being determined? I understand that the CDC has stated the PCR test being used are recalled due to not being able to distinguish between Covid-19 and the common cold or influenza. The CDC has just recently made a statement admitting that you can test positive via the PCR test if you have the antibodies associated with the common cold. Continuing to use tests is absurd. This is dangerously deceptive to increase numbers in cases to justify oppressive & totalitarian rules. || I do not support AR 2021-262: adding an Equity Pillar to the Assembly's Priorities. | An ""Equity Pillar"" is a socialistic & Marxist ideology that demands humans & groups have comparable outcomes which is dangerous to the freedoms we have in Alaska and America. We should all come together to help our neighbor in need, but equity is not equality. Equity removes freedoms from others that have worked so hard for what they have achieved. || I do not support 2021-82 or AO 2021-75: more funding for Covid-19 related projects. | There is no proof that can be provided that this virus is any different than a corona virus, aka a common cold. You will bankrupt Alaska even more if you continue this. | | Thank you, | Brittany Lauper | 2021 E 74th Ave | Anchorage, AK 99507 | |

Name: Kevin Klump

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 2:25:06 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: 10.D.2. Confirmation Hearing Sandra Graham

Testimony: At times it is necessary to obtain a new perspective and to place in positions of leadership those who are not quite the norm of 'the pack'. Sami Graham provides expertise and experience that will provide a welcome contrast to the prevailing culture of library leadership. I wholeheartedly endorse her designation as Anchorage's head librarian.

Name: Brenda Rhodes

Date/Time Submitted: 8/24/2021 4:25:56 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 24, 2021

Agenda Item #: Confirmation of Sandra (Sami) Graham to Library Director

Testimony: Regarding Agenda item New Business 10.D.2. || Assembly Memorandum No. AM 506-2021, Executive Appointment - Confirmation Hearing (Sandra Graham, Librarian), Human Resources Department. || I support the confirmation of Sandra Graham to the appointed role of Librarian by Mayor Bronson. I have known her for over 30 years and know she is an authentic, genuine person who strives to bring about an enhanced set of circumstances for all. || She has acquired more than enough ""equivalent"" experience in her role as principal and has shown through her diligent advanced academic career that she is committed to the advancement of learning to those in our community. Her resume reflects a dedication to a well-balanced approach to the advancement of the arts and education. || She is who the Anchorage Library system needs to bring the whole of library services to the Anchorage residents. || I ask that you all vote to confirm Sandra Graham to Librarian for the most benefit to all of Anchorage as reflected by who appointed her. || Sincerely, |Brenda Rhodes| ||

Name: Heidi Frost

Date/Time Submitted: 8/31/2021 8:59:55 AM

For Assembly Meeting On: August 27, 2021

Agenda Item #: library director position and homelessness action plan.

Testimony: Dear Assembly members, | |The mayor is wrong-minded in his thoughts of how to help of our homeless neighbors as well as his selection for Library Director. | |I have a sneaking suspicion that his homelessness director and initiative are designed to further disenfranchise those who are having the most difficult time. It's amazing to me how many politicians in our state claim to be Christians and yet do the exact opposite of what Christ taught us to do. Let's try to build up our state - including those most vulnerable - instead of tearing it down. If the Mayor truly cared, then he wouldn't blindside his representative (or - hey - would attend the meetings himself). | |The Library Director issue is also disconcerting. It's clear that to be an effective and efficient library director you must have a Master's in Library Science. The job is hard and has a lot of intricacies involved. I fear that the Mayor is loading the library management with folks who will try to limit our access to ""certain materials and points of view"" at the library. That's not the purpose of a library - and it's shameless and terrible to use such an important institution as a political/partisan tool. | |Finally, it seems that the Mayor is a little scared of public discourse - I found an email address for him but not for Sami. Why is that? Why was she on the library's page as Director after being named Chief of Staff last week? I'm pleased to see that removed. Shame on the mayor and all assembly members who support his mean-spirited and unchristian plan. | |I can't make it to the assembly meeting tonight - so I hope you take this as my testimony. | |Thanks much, |Sincerely, |heidi

Name: Glenn Cravez

Date/Time Submitted: 8/31/2021 3:22:51 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: September 14, 2021

Agenda Item #: Municipal Library Nominee

Testimony: The Mayor has nominated another unqualified person to serve as library director. Please reject this nominee. It is regrettable that the Mayor is seeking to pick fights over his right-wing agenda rather than govern from the middle as he promised at one point.

Name: Glenn Cravez

Date/Time Submitted: 9/2/2021 1:09:31 PM

For Assembly Meeting On: September 14, 2021

Agenda Item #: Emergency Orders re COVID

Testimony: The Delta variant of COVID is creating a public health emergency. Our hospitals are full, and our medical care professionals are begging for action to help. The Mayor will do nothing, that's a given, unfortunately. What can the Assembly do in the face of the Mayor's willful refusal to do anything meaningful to help?