

Minutes  
University Area Community Council (UACC)  
May 3, 2017

1. Opening: Paul Stang opened the meeting at 7:05 PM. Introductions around the room.
2. Approval of minutes: Al Milspaugh moved to approve minutes and Chris seconded.
3. Approval of May's Agenda with different order scheduled because Barbara Garner will arrive a bit later.
4. Informational reports:
  - A. Reports from public servants
    1. TJ Presley, representative for Senator Bill Wielechowski, said it is end of session. The oil tax change will be more generous. "Uplift" is 10 % uplift rate added. Double your money in 7 years. No capital budget yet. No conference committee appointed. Usually both bodies are in it but it hasn't happened yet. The operating budget is in question now. Our net tax system is an extremely complicated system more to the benefit of oil companies. Alaska is unlike Texas or North Dakota. We're the only state that taxes on the net.
    2. Dick Traini, Borough Assembly Chairman, reported last Tuesday that the Assembly raised property taxes \$281.00. The Mat-Su Borough is going through the same thing - increase of taxes necessary. Patrick Flynn proposed that a young person, 16-22 years old, be on the Assembly and that person would not be allowed to vote. This will be discussed more.
    3. Felix Rivera, newly elected Assemblyman, is on the Municipal Audit Committee and the Homeless Committee. You can contact him at [RiveraF@muni.org](mailto:RiveraF@muni.org).
    4. Forrest Dunbar, Assemblyman, is vice chairman of the Assembly, chair for the Transportation Committee. The repeal of Bond #2, number of taxi permits, failed so we are now selling taxi permits. We will be gradually increasing permits. \$300,000.00 has been approved to study the Storm Water Utility. This is a long term project that will help developers.
    5. Pete Peterson, Assemblyman, reported this weekend Free Dump Day at the Eagle River Transfer Site. He talked about a sales tax. Most other Alaska municipalities have a sales tax. He is Chair of the Legislative and the Elections Committees.

6. Samantha Harris is representative to Senator Berta Gardner. She reported that Berta is working to restore education funding. There are 121 days left in the legislative session and the fiscal year ends June 30. Paul Stang asked about the No Smoking Bill because some places still allow smoking in the state eg. Ivory Jack's in Fairbanks.

7. Kathleen Plunkett is the Anchorage School District representative. Packets are available for the Alaska Middle School which is housed at the Eagle River campus. ASD passed their budget based on the Governor's budget. This budget has \$20 million less coming from the State. The Alaska Performance Scholarship required a 4.0, a 3.5, or a 3.0 GPA. Ms Plunkett compared the tiered system and the needs based system.

#### B. UACC Board reports

1. Al Milspaugh, FCC rep, reported that the new bus schedule will be out in October.

2. Al Milspaugh, Safety rep, recommended that Alaskans always keep first aid kits in their cars.

#### C. New Business

1. The Muni has requested comments on Case No. 2017-0077, Major Site Plan Review for an outdoor storage yard (as a principle use) located on the UAA Campus. Site address: 3630 Laurel Street will have a major site review. It is the SE corner of Lake Otis Parkway and Providence Dr. This location is a storage site for UAA equipment, tires, etc. The site will have trees all around it to enhance its visual appearance. The UACC previously gave its support. Chris Turletes, Assoc. Vice Chancellor at UAA, added that no UACC comments were necessary at this stage because of that previous support.

2. Paul opened discussion on the Draft Resolution: Funds to Implement University Lake park Master Plan, especially regarding enforcement of dog poop clean up. There is signage but it is somewhat confusing to dog owners. We possibly need enforcement as well as signage. We have an approved City Park Plan but no money to do anything else. Margaret Stills proposed one idea for raising money - school kids could have a poster contest to spread the word about the necessity of poop clean up. We have mutt mitts dispensers but nothing in them presently. Another fund raising idea is to ask on site businesses like Spring Hill Suites and APU to help fund signage. We voted for passing of the resolution. **11 yes votes. 1 opposed. 2 abstained.**

3. Barbara Garner reported on Raising Matching Money for the Rasmuson Challenge Grant for Folker Park. She summed up last month's discussion. It will be an inter-

generational Park of two acres. The project has received \$200,000 from the Parks Department to enhance trails some of which are already there. They have received a conditional grant for \$12,500: if we raise \$12,500 by next year, Rasmuson will match that amount. Barbara asked for fund raising ideas. Money raised will include volunteers' time in the work as well as cash. We need to have a survey done of the park. The Providence Horizon House has a Folker Park Advisory committee and a Folker Park Fund at the Parks Foundation. Beth Nordlund, Exec Director of the Parks Foundation, is in charge. Crowd funding source was discussed. Forrest Dunbar suggested that we apply for the Mayor's Community Grant. Barbara added that Horizon House has pledged \$1000.

Barbara mentioned that the Folker Park concept design was on the agenda at the May 11, 6PM meeting of the MUNI Parks and Rec. Commission at the Spenard Rec. Center. She also talked about the need for a safe, ADA compliant, well lit crosswalk from Horizon House into Folker Park at 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Stop signs are on all 4 corners, but are often ignored by drivers. Hannah mentioned a flashing solar stop sign at Providence. Barbara suggested that a traffic count be done during the school year. The name of Stephanie Mormilo, PE (AK DOT) was mentioned here.

Tim Potter suggested he could get an estimate for the safe crossing.

Also, there needs to be a survey of all trees on the 2-acre property.

The paved paths in Folker Park would be 8' wide.

D. A vote was taken on whether or not to convene a June meeting. The vote was Yes - 3, No - 5.

**Adjournment:** The Chairperson stated that the next meeting will be held on September 6, 2017. A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Signed

Paul R. Stang, UACC President

Atch 1: University Lake Park Funding Resolution 2017-02

Atch:

**UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (UACC)  
RESOLUTION 2017-02**

**Action and Bonding Funds Needed  
to Implement the University Lake Park Master Plan**

**Whereas**, the Anchorage Municipal Charter Art, VIII, Sec 8.01 establishes Community Councils as representatives for neighborhoods in planning and development;

**Whereas**, Community Councils are intended to reflect actual neighborhoods and provide guidance advice on management of lands within their boundaries;

**Whereas**, the University Lake Park Master Plan was approved by the Municipality of Anchorage's Planning and Zoning Commission on January 9, 2017;

**Whereas**, the UACC was involved in the development of the plan from its inception and gave enthusiastic approval of the master plan in a resolution with the condition that the Municipality give a high priority and appropriate the needed funding to implement the plan;

**Whereas**, little has been done to date to implement the plan, yet the park continues to have high visitation rates;

**Whereas**, very clear evidence is available that many dog owners who bring their on-leash and off-leash dogs to the University Lake Park are not cleaning up the poop that their dogs deposit in the park;

**Whereas**, the recent snow melt shows how pervasive this problem is;

**Whereas**, this dog waste that is not picked up greatly diminishes the value, aesthetics and safety of the park, and is of a significant health concern to all who visit the park and to those who are downstream along Chester Creek; and

**Whereas**, this problem, inadequate signage and other aspects and features of the park, that the plan would correct, need to be implemented as soon as possible.

**Therefore**, the UACC hereby resolves that the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department prepare a request to begin implementation of the University Lake Park Master Plan as part of its bonding requests for 2018 and strongly urges the Assembly to give its full support for the request to be put on the Municipality's Ballot in Spring 2018.

**Resolution Vote:** For: 11 Against: 01 Abstain: 02

The UACC approved this resolution on May 3, 2017.

*Signed*

Paul R Stang, President, UACC