
UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2010

1. **Called to order by President Robert McClung**
Board Members present Robert McClung, Craig Valentine, Susan Klein and Patty Williams.
2. **Minutes**
November minutes read and approved with corrections.
3. **Agenda additions** - none
4. **Announcements, public documents, upcoming public meetings.**
5. **Elected Representatives.**

Elvi Gray-Jackson provided notes as she was out of town

I met with the General Manager and other staff at Home Depot on Tudor Road. They would like to give back to the community. If there are any ideas, please let me know. Currently, they are helping out with the graffiti issues within the community donating staff time and supplies.

Assembly Member Birch introduced an ordinance to ask the people of Anchorage if they want a sales tax. The ordinance would also ask the question of changing the required 60% to 50+1. Public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of December 7th after 6:00 p.m.

The last Public Hearing on the 2011 General Government Budget was held on November 23rd. There were three public hearings. I took good notes and there were a total of 155 persons who came out to testify. According to my notes, 22% or 34 were in favor of the Mayor's proposed budget. This is in addition to over 100 emails we received with about the same statistics.

The Assembly will make amendments and approve the budget at the December 7th meeting.

Noah Hanson for Rep. Berta Gardner

Her focus was on jobs and the economy with new and current industrial growth. She suggested an incentive for North Slope companies to use local hires (tax break).

Tom Obermeyer for Rep for Bettye Davis,

She is a chair for Health and Human Services, said she is preparing bills for the session including a task force for Education Scholarships, Medicare and Health care in addition to pre-kindergarten.

She wants to change the age of mandatory high school from 16 to 18 to keep students from dropping out before graduation and repeal of the High School graduation exam, which many students fail after successfully completing class work through high school, thus receiving a certificate rather than a diploma. She also urges aptitude testing for job training. She noted that health care is lacking because of a shortage of doctors and other causes. Denali Kid Care was discussed.

Assemblymember Dick Traini

He discussed the budget cycle and noted that the Community Council Federation gets \$80,000 from the budget. He spoke about the school budget. His proposed cigarette tax was passed and will go into effect in

January raising several millions to supplement the budget. No money for the Diamond Library. He noted that a sales tax required a 60% voter approval and might pass if the required votes were lowered to 50 %. Budget committee to work on ballot measure that was proposed by another assemblymember.

A budget meeting of December 7th will not include public testimony.

6. Botanical Gardens: M.Elise Huggins

Discussed improvements and future plans for the gardens and urged members to join and participate. Gardens have been at the same location since the 90's. Over 100 acres of which 80 is leased from the municipality. All funding comes from grants, fund raisers and membership. She asked the council to pass a resolution of support for her. Council unanimously voted for the resolution in support of the Botanical Gardens. They plan on coming around once a year to update the council.

7. Alaska Liquor: John

The manager Alaska liquor store on Tudor Road in the old Tesora building who is requesting a liquor license. A representative of the Fresno Rescue Mission, across the street from the store, is against the addition of another liquor store in their attempt to control inebriates that frequent the mission.

The manager pleaded his case, noting that they don't sell to "homeless" and check 100 percent of the I.D.'s of those buying liquor from them. The council is officially opposed but John would accept certain conditions.

8. Assemblymember Paul Honneman

He commented on the school district budget which was being worked on noting a twelve million dollar deficit.

9. Representative Sharon Cissna

reported on the UMED work being done and discussed some residents of the area who were not happy with the removal of the hill being prepared for a construction site on 40th, stating that some of them were unaware of the project until the trees started coming down.

10. Capital Projects

Council review CIP list.

The meeting was adjourned.