

**Notes of
Federation of Community Councils Board Meeting
June 17, 2009**

Federation of Community Councils (FCC) Board members and guests met together for the annual meeting at Valley of the Moon Park for a potluck/BBQ. Jason Bergerson called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken from the sign-in sheet. Since a quorum was not established, the election of new FCC officers and any other formal actions were postponed to the next meeting. This is an informational meeting only.

Members in attendance;

Abbott Loop	Patti Higgins
Campbell Park	Peter Hamlett
Fairview	Paul Benson
Mountain View	Kep Pierce
North Star	Matt Johnson
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Old Seward/Oceanview	Berni Bradley
Rogers Park	Bob Churchill
Russian Jack	Pat Butler
Sand Lake	Talbot Chang
Sand Lake	Robert Hayes
Scenic Foothills	Lance Pruitt
Spenard	Jason Bergerson
Tudor	Sheli Dodson
Turnagain	Cathy Gleason

Others in attendance included:

- Mark Butler, FCC Manager
- Betty Caudle, FCC Staff
- Kim Leming, US Census Bureau
- Pat Higgins, Anchorage School Board
- Jeff Friedman, Anchorage School Board
- Family members

Agenda Approval

The Agenda was reviewed, there were no changes.

Meeting Minutes

Copies of the meeting minutes for March and April were handed out. No formal approval could be made.

Council Sharing

There was no verbal or written council sharing.

Mayor's Office/Assembly/School Board Representatives

We had two school board members attend. Jeff Friedman gave a brief report. He spoke about the upcoming School Board Meeting on Monday, June 22. The main topic will be the monies received from the federal government stimulus package. Board members will vote on how to spend the money. Currently, the money will be applied towards training, equipment, and some repairs—basically, items that will allow schools to increase their capacity.

Pat Higgins was also present and expanded on Jeff's comments. Pat also mentioned that they will be focusing on programs that target school drop-outs. They are very concerned about the student drop-out rate, especially high school graduates, and want to use stimulus money to help address this issue. The money will allow the school district to do things a little differently. They will be able to start programs and then cut them two years from now if money is not there to support them, rather than cut the programs before they even start because of budget constraints. Pat also mentioned that school board members just returned from a retreat. They have an aggressive agenda this year.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Berni Bradley directed everyone's attention to the budget and stated that the main checking account has been transferred to Alaska USA Credit Union. The Northrim Bank accounts are next to be transferred. This change is being done under the recommendation of the Finance Committee and direction of Board. Alaska USA Credit Union charges less fees to maintain our accounts.

Jason Bergerson mentioned that he has received comments from members requesting to see a copy of the check register included with the information packets at the monthly meetings. Berni stated that she has the check register with her at the meetings and it is always available for review.

Community Councils' Center

Mark Butler provided a verbal Manager's Report. The Community Council Center will be remodeled during July. We are staying in the same space, which we currently share with Big Brothers, Big Sisters. The landlord will make improvements to remove the internal walls, enclose our office, and give us our own entrance. Office will now be one big room, approximately 30' x 12'. We will have new paint and carpeting. Rent will be approximately \$120 less per month because we are giving up the hallway space.

Landlord is willing to give us a three-year lease and pay for these tenant improvements over the life of the lease. The tenant improvements are scheduled to take place during July. Therefore, the office is being packed up. Some equipment and furniture can be stored on site, courtesy of Big Brothers, Big Sisters and some stuff will be stored off-site. We plan to keep one computer up and running to have access to Community Center files and to support the community councils.

During the next two months Betty Caudle will continue migrating community council contact lists to Constant Contact. Community Councils are being notified as their list is being migrated. We are also setting up templates for the newsletters.

Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) Conference 2009, Spokane, Washington

Jason Bergerson, Mark Butler, Shelly Dodson, Berni Bradley, and Nikki Burrows, attended the NUSA Conference in Spokane Washington in May to both promote the 2011 Conference in Alaska and to take notes about the organization and set-up of the conference. Jason Bergerson was elected to Board of NUSA. Congratulations!

Members present shared about their experience. Mark mentioned that attendance was approximately 430, which is down from the usual 900. Also, attendance by local residents was very disappointing, only about 40 folks. This will be a challenge for us to promote this to our communities and get our residents to the conference. Also, after the 2011 conference, NUSA will be more involved in organizing the conference.

Shelli Dodson commented that a lot of folks are excited about coming to Alaska for the conference. They are starting to save for the trip now and plan to bring their families. The conference will be a big effort and will mean a lot of volunteer hours.

Berni mentioned that there is a lot of high energy at the conference. This is our chance to show off our home. We live in a wonderful place and are proud of our city.

We are looking for ideas on classes for the conference and also after-hour tours. In Spokane, neighborhoods hosted a group by providing a tour and then serving dinner. Some groups were about 50 folks, some were only 10. Shelli and Berni weren't sure why the size difference, unless the host limited the number and they just filled up. Shelli commented that in registration you had a 1st and 2nd choice for a tour.

OLD BUSINESS

Election of 2009-2010 FCC Officers

Election of officers could not take place because a quorum of board members was not present.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Schedule

Mark is going on vacation July 1 to August 15. Betty will continue to drop by two evenings per week and Saturday mornings to take care of e-mails and Council Center business.

Jason stated that the FCC By-Laws require us to meet at least every other month. Therefore, our next meeting should be August 19. Jason asked that Council Center staff poll the community council delegates to see if we will have a quorum at the August meeting for the election of officers.

Census Bureau

Kim Leming from the US Census Bureau asked for a few minutes to give an update to FCC Board Members about the Census. She was able to confirm that there is a grant available to the FCC to help advertise the census. The grant amount is \$2,999. It's small, but it would fund materials to pass out to the public advertising the census. Kim requested that individual community councils let her know if there is an event going on in their neighborhood where she or Census staff could attend or have a booth to inform the public about the 2010 Census. Mark mentioned the upcoming Spenard Summer Solstice event on Saturday, June 21.

Kim also stated that they are having another round of hiring of Census workers in August. If anyone is interest, go to the Census web site.

Other Business

Robert Hayes from Sand Lake Community Council mentioned that the Sand Lake Community Council wants to have showers installed at Jewel Lake for use by the public. He also mentioned that there are showers at Goose Lake, but they are turned off. He was asking for support by members and if anyone has any suggestions about how to go about getting these showers installed or turned on. He was very interested in the ongoing improvements for Valley of the Moon Park. Members from North Star Community Council stated that they worked with their state legislator and Parks and Recreation to get the money for the improvements. Robert will contact members for more information.

There were no further questions or comments from members and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm for food and fellowship.

Submitted by Betty Caudle