

Minutes of the Federation of Community Councils Board Meeting August 19, 2009

Federation of Community Councils (FCC) council delegates and guests met together for the August 2009 meeting of the FCC. Chairman Jason Bergerson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken from the sign-in sheet -- 18 delegates were in attendance, meaning a quorum was in place.

Members in attendance:

Abbott Loop	Al Tamagni
Bayshore/Klatt	Marie Laule
Campbell Park	Peter Hamlett
Eagle River	Mandy Fowle
Fairview	Paul Benson
Huffman-O'Malley	Christine Monette
North Star	Matt Johnson
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Old Seward/Oceanview	Berni Bradley
Rabbit Creek	Mike Kenny
Rogers Park	Bob Churchill
Russian Jack	Pat Butler
Scenic Foothills	Mark Hill
South Addition	Kathy Weeks
Spenard	Jason Bergerson
Tudor Area	Sheli Dodson
Turnagain	Cathy Gleason
University Area	Betty Adkinson

Others in attendance included:

Mark Butler, FCC Manager
Jeff Friedman, Anchorage School Board
Barbara Jones, Anchorage Equal Rights Commission

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the March 2009, April 2009 meetings along with the Notes for the June 2009 meeting were presented for review. Tamagni moved, Dodson seconded to approve minutes. Minutes were approved without objection.

Agenda Approval

The August agenda was presented for review. Tamagni moved, Dodson seconded to approve agenda. Agenda was approved without objection.

Guests and speakers were invited to address the board of delegates.

Jeff Friedman, Anchorage School Board representative addressed the board.

- The FCC's meeting also coincided with the 1st day of school.
- The District has implemented a new student information system, Zangle. It was noted that while the initial implementation is time consuming, it will enhance tracking of student records, attendance, etc.
- The next school board meeting will focus on increasing student performance, attendance, academic achievement, etc. and other goals.
- The grand opening of Clark Middle School has occurred. The staff at Central is mostly new to the school (though not necessarily to the district) and is very excited and energized. The students at Clark are all new to the school due to the time elapsed since the demolition and rebuilding of the school.

A question was posed regarding the security of this new Zangle system and who would be privy to access the records. Friedman responded by noting that the systems levels of access are determined by need. Tamagni asked about the bids amounts (versus the job estimates). Friedman advised that most of the bids were within the range of the estimates expected, and several were below the estimated projections

Barbara Jones, the Executive Director of the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission (and also an alternate delegate for Turnagain CC) spoke about the role of the Equal Rights Commission. She encourages participation in the process and suggested that delegates consider becoming a board member. The AERC meets the 3rd Thursday of the month in odd numbered months (excluding July) at 6:00 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room. There are nine positions, each with a three-year term and three vacancies are filled each year. The AERC has four investigators on staff. The Staff Attorney and Executive Director is the same person. For further information, she directed delegates to the website: www.muni.org/aerc/ Bob Churchill, who is a delegate from Rogers Park CC, also sits on the commission. When asked how busy the AERC is, Ms.

Jones replied that YTD (year to date) there have been 94 complaints. Ms. Jones will coordinate with Jay Jackson at the Mayor's office to make available the list of vacancies in the various boards and commissions.

Finance Committee Report

- The 3rd quarter Muni grant funds were received and deposited to the account
- A high number of mail outs have caused us the over-budget projections
 - YTD we have spent over \$21,000 on mailing of council newsletters, etc.
 - Our total estimated budget is \$25,000, and this takes into account that most councils were not actively meeting and mailing out minutes & agendas during the months of June & July
 - The number of mail-outs must be reduced to accommodate our limited budget

A discussion commenced on **how to reduce bulk mail and eliminate waste.**

Weeks motioned, seconded by Churchill that before any CC does an area-wide mailing, it must be submitted and approved by the board at an FCC meeting.

A motion to table by Tamagni, seconded by Benson was carried with 9 delegates in favor and 5 opposed.

Further discussion on mail expense continued. The delegates from Huffman/O'Malley noted that they had been successful in reducing their mail outs from over 200 per month to approximately 15-20 per month by contacting the receiving parties directly and making alternate arrangements to move them to the e-mail list.

Tamagni noted that the FCC is required by our contract with the Muni to work with the Department of Neighborhoods ensure we are fulfilling our objectives of community outreach (page 3, item 18).

It was determined from discussion that our outreach methods are sufficient and it is not unreasonable to attempt to limit/reduce USPS mail expenditures.

Treasurer Bradley noted that while we show \$45,000 in current assets (our money market account), we have commitments for much of these funds. The commitments include monies for the NUSA 2011 Conference (to ensure we are able to meet the requirements of our contract with NUSA) as well as monies we have received from the Municipality for some State of Alaska grants. we encumber those funds to prevent them from being a factor in future budget reductions based on the current municipal budget shortfall and eliminate the potential image of having a "slush fund".

Bergerson noted that we have upcoming commitments with respect to NUSA and the NUSA 2011 conference being held in Alaska and that the process for determining our budget needs to begin immediately.

Gleason questions where the \$45K in the money market came from. It was explained that some of the funds are excess funds from past grant proceeds, and some of the funds are the revenue generated from the fees we assess on grant administration, etc.

Tamagni requests that we establish a tentative budget. Tamagni questioned the other current assets ~ item 13000 in pre-paid legal for \$7704. These funds are actually the Chugiak/ER Consortium funds for their grant.

Butler gave the Manager's report. In summary, the office remodel is not complete, and we will have less square footage, meaning a reduction in rent. The FCC will get to sign a new lease and we anticipate a three year lease agreement. We are currently in the 2nd year of our current two year lease.

Elections were held for the board for a two-year term.

Nominations from the committee were as follows:

Dick Tremaine	President
Jason Bergerson	Vice-President
Sheli Dodson	Secretary
Berni Bradley	Treasurer

Secretary-elect Dodson offered the following commentary on her candidacy and expectations: She states that she will require council sharing to be submitted via email in Word format, so they can be copied and pasted in the minutes. She states she will NOT transcribe handwritten council sharing onto the computer. She will work with Butler to have the council sharing posted on the web. Submissions of council sharing will have submission deadlines and criteria to be determined by either the board or executive committee, based on the wish of the body. Lastly, she requested that board members use their nameplates since "I can barely remember by own name, let alone everyone else's". Butler stated that the name plates have been stored away for the office remodel project and promised to pull them out for use during the next FCC meeting.

Tamagni moved to approve the slate as nominated, seconded by Betty Adkison. Churchill moved to close nominations, seconded by Hamlett.

Elections were held and the four delegates who had been nominated were unanimously elected.

Vice-Chair Jason Bergerson outlined Tremaine's priorities as submitted to him by email:

- 3 meetings between now and May will be business meetings with no guests. The focus of these business meetings will be FCC business, committee work and NUSA 2011. Business meetings will be held in September 2009, December 2009 and March 2010.

Meeting ended at 7:40 p.m.

END