

# **DRAFT**

## Minutes

### South Addition Community Council

January 21, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Vice President Nathan Visser

I. Approval of December 2009 Minutes: Sharon Davies moved to approve without changes, Bonnie Harris seconded, passed unanimously.

#### II. Reports

(No fire or police report)

A. President's report: In Elise's absence, Nathan Visser is serving as Chair.

Nathan reported that the bylaws on the SACC website are not current, and that we are working to update them as soon as possible.

B. Treasurer's report: Doug Johnson reported that the account balance is 2872.12

C. Assembly: Patrick Flynn was unable to attend; Members may contact him at Patrick Flynn [flynnpp@muni.org](mailto:flynnpp@muni.org) or on his blog: [www.patrickflynn.org/blog](http://www.patrickflynn.org/blog)

D. Federation of Community Councils (FCC) Report: Bonnie Harris, Alternate Representative to the FCC, reported that FCC met last night. From her report: Ms. Harris learned that a postal mailing was done this month of the SACC January agenda. FCC wants all CCs to use e-mail as much as possible, for financial reasons. The FCC website was just updated. Carol Comeau spoke at the FCC meeting about the School District Budget: 616 Million, not asking for an increase, it is below the tax cap. Jan 28 and Feb 4 there will be public hearings on the school district budget. There was a report by the Task Force on Public Housing and Neighborhoods, which looked at income levels and housing costs in the Municipality. There are other task forces on various topics including Taxes and Health. There will be a session on taxes, how they work in this city, and how other cities raise revenue. The date is not yet set, but will be sometime in the spring. Contact Sheila Selkregg for more info. Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) Anchorage is hosting the May 2011 Conference. Community Councils are encouraged to participate. They will need to do fundraising. Contact FCC or FCC President Dick Tremaine for more information. Bonnie also brought a copy of the FCC budget. FCC Website: [www.communitycouncils.org/](http://www.communitycouncils.org/)

E. Legislative Reports – No Reports.

#### III. Old and New Business

A. Westchester Lagoon Disc Golf Course Improvements. Jamie Adams of the Alaska Disc Golf Association presented, aided by Joseph Gallagher, Park Planner with MOA Parks and Recreation. This organization (ADGA) exists to support disc golf. The Association has made a proposal to improve the disc golf course at Westchester Lagoon. The proposal addresses 3 main issues: safety, environmental impact, and aesthetics. They presented graphic representations of the proposed changes. Some of the holes are being moved for environmental

and aesthetic reasons, and the last hole will be at the tunnel that goes under Minnesota, to remove any reason for golfers to cross the busy street, which has been an issue of concern. Georunners will be added to stabilize the soil. They are a mat that underlies the vegetation. Mr. Gallagher spoke to the MOA's support of The Disc Golf Association's proposal for improvement of the course. A proposed resolution (attached) was presented which will be voted on at the February meeting.

- B. Alley Trash Pickup – Mark Madden, Director of Solid Waste Services (SWS) [MaddenMG@muni.org](mailto:MaddenMG@muni.org) was asked to come address the issue of alley garbage collection. He presented on how and why SWS is automating garbage collection. He stated that a small part of SACC's area is currently automated. Mr. Madden stated that they have been moving away from alley service. Some alleys are not wide enough for the trucks, some have low-hanging wires. Questions from the floor: Members asked about how they could predict how much trash they would have, and how to deal with differing amount of trash each month. A question was asked about workforce reduction. Mr. Madden stated that they are moving workers to other jobs. Question: Why if this is increasing efficiency, is the cost going up? He stated that they had to make assumptions about what size cans people will use, so will need to revisit the costs when they have data on costs and revenue. Question: Will there still be a weight limit? Answer: No. Question: If SWS makes a decision to not pick up in an alley, how can one appeal? Mr. Madden stated that there is no formal appeal process. It was suggested that it would be appropriate for a municipal agency providing services to have a formal appeal process. Mr. Madden stated that they have considered sending out a postcard survey with a survey regarding garbage collection and asked if SACC could send one out to our mailing list, at SWS's expense. It was pointed out that the mailing list is very incomplete, but Mr. Madden stated that he would like to use it. There is additional information on the SWS website: [www.muni.org/departments/sws/pages/default.aspx](http://www.muni.org/departments/sws/pages/default.aspx)
- C. Proposal for Dog Park at Earl and Muriel King Park – Chris Constant presented an update. He stated that dog parks go through different public process than some other parks projects requiring contact with Community Councils before meeting with Parks & Recreation for assistance in developing a park improvement plan. Joe Gallagher from MOA Parks and Recreation answered some questions about the process. Kristie Lent expressed her support for the proposal, and the need for an ADA compliant off-leash dog park in Anchorage, for individuals with wheelchairs. Mr. Constant stated that he started this effort because he drives 10 miles round-trip to bring his dogs to a dog park. He read quotes from the Anchorage Daily News and KTUU regarding vagrancy, crime, and the death of Elouise Okakok in the park in Summer 2009. He reported that he has talked to traffic engineer to address parking concerns. He did not bring a site plan as requested at the last meeting, but showed arial photographs with markings. In response to questions about what input the neighborhood will have in this process, Mr. Gallagher stated that Parks and Recreation would require neighbor contact in the site planning process. Mr. Gallagher said that this is done in a variety of ways, usually in a one or two block radius of the park. Questions and concerns were raised from the floor regarding fencing height, parking, gates, the size of the fenced section, and the intent of the Kings for the park. Mr. Constant stated that he has not yet completed a site plan, and would

return to present that plan and further answers to the questions posed by SACC members. He offered to meet with a member who expressed multiple concerns, but she declined.

MOA Park Improvement Proposal Guidelines:

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/parks/Pages/Projects.aspx>

D. Fence at Central Middle School (Dale Nelson) No report.

E. Anchorage Bike Plan – Karol Fink, SACC resident and Lois Epstein, Engineer with the Alaska Transportation Priorities Project (ATPP: [aktransportation.org](http://aktransportation.org)) and SACC resident, spoke about the bicycle plan, and are seeking SACC support of the plan. The plan focuses on the use of bicycles as a transportation method. Lois reports that it is safer statistically to bike on the road than on a separated path. If the plan is adopted, there would be on-road biking where the roads are wide enough, and there would be more signage. She stated that bicycling for commuting reduces road maintenance, parking, emissions and provides health benefits. Karol Fink lives in SACC area, and works in Obesity Prevention for the state. She spoke to the health benefits of bicycling. She stated that she was representing herself and AK Public Health Association. She described how the bike plan would make it more possible to commute. It would also potentially reduce traffic, emissions, and provide benefits of health, and social interaction. Resolution provided, to be voted on at the February SACC meeting. (attached) Bike Plan:

[http://www.muni.org/Departments/traffic/AMATS/Documents/WEBAnchBicyclePlan\\_PublicHearing%20Draft\\_0809.pdf](http://www.muni.org/Departments/traffic/AMATS/Documents/WEBAnchBicyclePlan_PublicHearing%20Draft_0809.pdf)

IV. Community Comments (Max 3 Minutes) None.

Bonnie moved to adjourn, Doug seconded, Adjourned at 9:15pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Jamieson, SACC Secretary

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SACC Officers:

President – Elise Huggins [ehuggins@earthscape.alaska.com](mailto:ehuggins@earthscape.alaska.com)

Vice President - Nathan Visser [visser.nathan@gmail.com](mailto:visser.nathan@gmail.com)

Secretary – Lisa Jamieson [LNJ@ak.net](mailto:LNJ@ak.net)

Treasurer – Doug Johnson [lindoug@ptialaska.net](mailto:lindoug@ptialaska.net)

FCC Representative – Kathy Weeks

Alternate FCC Representative – Bonnie Harris

**Next Executive Committee Meeting: Thursday February 4, 2010 at 6:00pm  
at Anchorage Pioneer Home;**

**Next General Membership Meeting: Thursday February 18, 2010 7:00 pm, at  
Anchorage Pioneer Home, 5<sup>th</sup> floor**

**South Addition Community Council Resolution  
Supporting Westchester Disc Golf Course Improvement Plan**

Whereas, the South Addition Community Council understands the need for aesthetic, environmental, and safety improvements to the disc golf course at Westchester Lagoon in Margaret Eagan Sullivan Park, and

Whereas, the South Addition Community Council recognizes the Alaska Disc Golf Association as the primary user group and adoptee of Westchester disc golf course, and

Whereas, the Alaska Disc Golf has created an improvement plan in conjunction with the requirements set forth by the Municipality Of Anchorage, Parks and Recreation Department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Addition Community Council supports the course improvement plan brought forth by the Alaska Disc Golf Association to improve the aesthetics, reduce environmental impacts and safety of the Westchester Lagoon disc golf course.

Adopted this day, \_\_\_\_\_, by the South Addition Community Council at its regularly scheduled meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
, President  
South Addition Community Council

Attested to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
, Vice President  
South Addition Community Council

**Resolution Supporting the Anchorage Bicycle Plan**

WHEREAS, forty-two (42%) of Alaskan adults do not meet recommended levels of physical activity, and 20% are completely sedentary; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds (66%) of Alaskan adults are overweight and 36% of K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Anchorage School District are overweight or obese, and many of these individuals are or will suffer obesity-related health issues, such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer and high blood pressure

Whereas obesity costs Alaskans \$477 million per year in direct medical costs, including \$9-10 million in cost attributed to obesity for State of Alaska employee; and

WHEREAS, air pollution is a trigger for asthma attacks and more than 7% of all adults and 9% of all children have asthma and the percentage of asthma is rising more rapidly in preschool-aged children than in any other age group; there is no cure for asthma, it must be controlled through medical treatment and the management of environmental triggers; and

WHEREAS, most children own a bicycle but few are allowed to use it as a means of transportation due to parents feeling the streets are unsafe; and

WHEREAS, when safe bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure is put in place it is used and enjoyed by all members of society and helps to make Anchorage a beautiful city; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Bicycle Plan supports safe neighborhoods and communities by building into the plan objectives to implement complete streets that are designed, operated and maintained in all seasons to enable the safe and convenient travel of all users of the roadway including pedestrians, bicyclists, users of public transit, motorists, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Bicycle Plan encourages safe bicycle commuting which allows all Anchorage citizens to meet the national recommendations for weekly physical activity; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Bicycle Plan encourages bike and pedestrian commuting for neighborhood errands and allows for increased neighborhood safety by placing more 'eyes on the neighborhood' which reduces crime; and

WHEREAS, our community encourages bicyclists to observe all safety measures including wearing a helmet and obeying all traffic laws, and motorists to share the road and drive with awareness of bicyclists and pedestrians; and

NOW, therefore, be it resolved this Community Council recognizes the Anchorage Bicycle Plan as contributing to our city charm in all seasons and this plan is beneficial to the health of our community members. We therefore support the Anchorage Bicycle Plan and encourage its swift passage before the Anchorage Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by \_\_\_\_\_ Community Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2009.

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Signature of Community Council President