

Federation of Community Councils, Inc.

Board of Delegates

Minutes of October 17, 2012 meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM by Chair, Jeff Mittman.

FCC Delegates in attendance:

Airport Heights	Becky Kurtz
Bayshore/Klatt	Bob Laule
Chugiak	Dave Baldwin
Eagle River Valley	Thomas C. Freeman, Jr.
Government Hill	Brit Szymoniak
Huffman O'Malley	Christine Monette
Mid-Hillside	Lance Powell
Mountain View	Kep Pierce
North Star	Gordon Glaser
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Rogers Park	Bob Churchill
Scenic Foothills	Lynda Billmyer
South Fork	Karl von Lührte
Spenard	Jason Bergerson
Taku Campbell	Jeff Mittman
Tudor Area	Tod Butler
Turnagain	Cathy Gleason

Others in attendance included:

Kathleen Plunkett	Anchorage School Board
Mark Butler	Community Councils Center Manager
Derek Hsieh	Anchorage Police Department Employees Association
Aaron Pascar	Nunaka Valley Community Patrol
Keith Ferris	Nunaka Valley Community Patrol
Ernie Hall	Municipal Assembly Chair
Darrell Hess	Municipal Ombudsman
Paul Honeman	Municipal Assembly and Scenic Foothills Community Patrol

Quorum was met.

**Agenda was amended to include Ernie Hall and Daryll Hess as speakers.
Approved without objection.**

Minutes of the 9/19/12 FCC meeting were approved without objection.

Presentations:

No one present from Mayor's Office.

Anchorage School Board – Kathleen Plunkett

Ms. Plunkett stated she would be the ASD representative this year. She announced a number of upcoming meetings of the Anchorage School Board and some of the financial issues facing ASD. She indicated that Mr. Browder, ASD superintendant was holding meetings and working with organizations and individuals to better understand the district and its needs. She reported that the total number of students was up, many of which were at the high school level. The School Board would also be submitting bond proposals to the assembly in the near future.

Anchorage Police Department Employees Association – Derek Hsieh, President

Mr. Hsieh stated that APD had reviewed the current budget proposals and were supportive of the "B" budget. He felt that would allow enough flexibility to maintain an adequate staffing of police officers. He stated that he or an employee association representative would be happy to attend any community council meetings. They can be contacted through the association. He stated that in the opinion of the organization if the Anchorage Municipality were to lay off the proposed number of police offers it would not only severely reduce APD's ability to provide a street presence, but would have a very negative effect on the ability to attract officers in the future. Under the "B" budget only unfilled street officer positions would be eliminated and we would keep the 370 current employees. He stated we usual lose approximately 20 employees each year.

Ernie Hall and Daryll Hess

Mr. Hall and Mr. Hess asked the community councils through the FCC representatives present to send the message that the Anchorage Assembly wanted to know how valuable they felt we were in providing information and the subsequent decision making process. Mr. Hess has been newly appointed to the Omsbudsman's office for the municipality. He stated that he welcomed contact from the FCC and the individual community councils. An example that was used was the objection to the new liquor

store by the local community council in midtown. Based in part on that objection and discussions with the assembly, Mr. Hall indicated he felt the application was going to be withdrawn. They stated community council resolutions would also be considered as long as they provided information helpful in the decision making process. Mr. Hall stated he was working with the municipal clerk and a representative from the law department to develop a protocol for handing resolutions. Mr. Hess stated he felt that he was a “cheerleader” for the community council process and reminded us that he had played a very active role in his local community council. The FCC thanked Mr. Hall as Chair of the Assembly for their support this year of the FCC.

Standing Committee Reports:

- FCC Chairman reports a need to get a Secretary for FCC meetings..
- Treasurer distributed her monthly report. We are under budget (year-to-date).
- Community Councils Center Manager: Working on the “State of Our City” forum scheduled for Monday November 19, 2012. Seven interesting speakers speaking for seven minutes each.

New Business:

- **Expansion of Government Hill Community Council**

The Municipality of Anchorage has purchased some acreage on the west end of Joint Base Elmendorf – Richardson in order to have more land for the Port of Anchorage. Government Hill Community Council wishes to expend therefore in include this new Municipal land. It was stated this is a housekeeping item. A map was distributed and the proposed changes explained by community council representatives. A motion was made to approve the changes and it passed without objection.

- **Discussion Whether or Not the FCC Should Ban Community Patrol officers from carrying lethal weapons**

FCC Chairman Mittman and Vice-Chair Szymoniak had just learned that several community patrol officers were carrying lethal weapons while on patrol. Individual community councils/patrols established their own policies. Apparently a number of them allow patrol officers to carry lethal weapons. Three representatives from the community patrols spoke all in favor of continuing to allow this practice. The concern expressed on behalf of the FCC was the liability to individuals and officers of the FCC should a lawsuit be initiated based on the use of lethal weapons by a community patrol member. The representatives stated they felt a

number of members would resign if they were not allowed to carry firearms. A spirited discussion ensued regarding the aspects of having this policy of allowing lethal weapons. A motion was made to ban the use of lethal weapons by community patrols whose financing is handled by the FCC. It failed. A second motion was made to place a temporary ban on this practice and it also failed on a tie vote. At that point Jeff Mittman stated that based on a concern about his personal liability he was regretfully going to resign as chair as did the vice chair.

After the meeting Chairman Mittman did resign the Chair post. The vice chair did not resign and therefore is now the acting Chair of the FCC.

No Council Sharing at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9 p.m.