

UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting, September 7, 2005

President Craig Valentine called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Since there were a number of new people each person introduced themselves and indicated why they were attending. Officers were also introduced. The minutes were presented and motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The Secretary/Treasurer was out of town so there was no Treasurer's report.

UAA Chancellor Elaine Maimon and Kelly Brown from DOWL Engineering were added to the agenda. Since Terri Albrecht, Community Capital Coordinator, was attending a different meeting that presentation was deleted from the agenda.

BUSINESS:

Sgt. Cindy Stanton Community Council Police Liaison gave a presentation on current issues in Anchorage. She mentioned that a Gang Task Force has formed using members from the Crime Intervention Unit. The Anchorage Police Department has kept a database of gang-related activity for a number of years and the new task force has access to it. She also mentioned that as the police academy graduates new officers the Crime Intervention Unit will be brought back up to full staff. Currently the police department is down 94 police officers. With the recent two academies and another in the fall or winter they hope to up about 15 officers.

Testing for the next academy testing is October 8th and the preliminary application must be in about a week before that. If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in entering the academy they should encourage them to contact the police department about the test.

Tim Neale asked Sgt. Stanton about the homeless issue. Sgt. Stanton mentioned a homeless task force that is addressing this issue in Anchorage. Barbara Garner also voiced concern about the level of bureaucracy in having a homeless camp dismantled. Currently you have to call APD who then calls the Community Work Service. Sgt. Stanton suggested working with Ed O'Neill (563-3815 ext 225) who is involved in cleaning up homeless camp and educating the homeless on resources available. Sgt. Stanton stated that arresting the homeless does not cure the problem because they are only held overnight and then move on to another place to set up camp.

A question also came up about a household in the neighborhood that is setting up a tattoo business, but is also a problem household. Sgt. Stanton suggested looking into the Nuisance Law and can check the address to see whether there have been more than 8 calls of a nuisance nature (not domestic violence) within a calendar year. If so the household will receive a letter giving them 30 days to remedy the situation. She will check the particular address to see if and how many calls have been made about the household.

Elaine Maimon, Chancellor of UAA, was invited to speak. She noted that she is the first Chancellor to live in the UACC district. She spoke about her philosophy of the university engaging with the community and inviting the Anchorage community at large to UAA public events. UAA is working on making parking more accessible to people who want to come on campus for events. She also introduced Cyndi Spear, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Administrative Services and Megan Sumner, Assistant Vice-Chancellor for University Relations.

She was questioned about the senior waver issue that the Board of Regents (BOR) will be addressing at the September 20th BOR meeting in Anchorage. The large number of baby boomers who will be turning 60 in the next few years is what is driving this issue for the university. She also mentioned that it is a myth that seniors take empty spots in classes. She said most seniors are interested in lower division classes, but most empty slots are in upper division classes that have prerequisites. In addition, due to the way registration occurs, seniors are able to register before every paying student's schedule is finalized, thus in some cases seniors take classroom space away from a matriculating student. She also mentioned that one idea to address this issue is to adjust the age at which seniors can take free classes; In addition, she mentioned that classroom fees only cover 23% of the actual cost for each student.

Cyndi Spear mentioned that the student government supports senior waivers and suggested people attend the BOR meeting on September 20th if they can. It will be held at the University Commons building on Bragaw.

Barbara Garner introduced herself and Kelly Brown to Chancellor Maimon mentioning that they live in the area south of UAA and Providence Hospital are involved along with members of the Greater U-Med District in a sustainability task force.

Chancellor Maimon concluded by saying that UAA is working with Providence, the Alaska Native Medical Center and APU on a master plan for the whole area as one big campus.

Election of Officers:

The slate of officers presented to the UACC was listed on the agenda. Barbara Garner nominated Susan Klein for President at the meeting. Craig Valentine had been proposed as president. Since two people were running they left the room while a discussion and voting took place. Susan Klein won the election. Michael Jungreis, Don Hadley and Jena Fowler were confirmed for Secretary/Treasurer and two member-at-large positions respectively. Craig Valentine was voted in as Vice President. Tim Neale continues on the Board as Past President.

Kelly Brown, DOWL Engineering representative, gave a brief presentation on some current projects and showed a map of a traffic calming study for the area south of Providence Hospital that was awarded to DOWL from a \$250,000 bond voted on this past year. Although the bond calls for a smaller area to be studied, DOWL will include

areas that will be affected by the light change from Folker to Piper. A public meeting on the study will be around the end of October.

Other projects in the works for the UACC area:

1. The Tudor/Lake Otis design (this year) – with public meetings in the winter. This will be addressed as a citywide issue since so many people use the intersection, not just adjacent community councils.
2. Piper Phase III, from Tudor to East 40th, is almost complete
3. Providence is building a crisis respite center on Piper north of East 40th Avenue.

UACC members spoke to the issue of a piercing and tattoo parlor on Bryn Mawr Street. Preliminary research by neighbors found that it is legal to have a home-based business. Since Assemblymen Ken Stout and Dick Traini were present they said they would look into the issue.

Ken Stout announced that he and Alan Tesche are working on the ethics ordinance for elected officials in Anchorage. The Assembly will take comments at the Tuesday September 13th meeting. It will most likely be voted on in mid October.

Dick Traini brought up the issue of a meth ordinance that will be brought before the assembly in the near future. The ordinance would limit purchase to three (3) containers.

Kelly Brown noted that the deadline for comments on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is in three weeks. Assemblyman Traini said he will work on pushing Bragaw through the University property. Kathleen Plunkett, President of the Russian Jack Community Council asked that a traffic study be done before that since it would greatly affect the RJCC area and East High School access. She suggested some type of mitigation for the area.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by Susan Klein
Member-at-large and Secretary ProTem