

# **UACC MINUTES**

February 7, 2018, Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson Paul Stang at 7:00 pm.

**MEMBERS & VISITORS PRESENT:** There were 14 members and 15 visitors signed in.

**INTRODUCTIONS:** The Chairperson asked each individual to state their name and location or business.

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MONTHS MINUTES:** The February 7, 2018 Minutes as written were approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Paul Stang introduced tonight's agenda. Al Milspaugh, with a second by Steve Zemke, moved to approve the agenda as amended. The agenda was passed by unanimous consent.

## **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

### **REPORTS FROM ELECTED & MOA DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS:**

1. Assembly Member Dick Traini: Dick reported on the Muni Safety meeting that focused on the Opioid Crisis. He emphasized that not enough resources, such as treatment facilities, are available to deal with the crisis. He also said that since synthetic drugs are worth more in Alaska, and the ease of ordering these from China; exacerbate the situation by making the drugs more profitable to sell here. Dick also said the vote by mail is coming in April, and he can get a muni voter representative here to explain the process for our March meeting.
2. Assembly Member Pete Peterson: Pete discussed the upcoming sale proposal of ML&P to Enstar that will be on the April ballot. If it passes then the Municipality will develop a sales package which the Assembly must pass before the deal is completed. If the ballot proposal does not pass then the sale does not go forward. Pete mentioned the upcoming AKDOT transportation fair to be held Thursday at the UAA Sports Center from 3 to 7 pm. He also mentioned that project planning for the East 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue reconstruction is contained within the Roads and Drainage bond proposal on the April ballot. Finally he mentioned that Municipal personal property exemption will be increased from \$20K to \$50K(seniors included) and that the 2018 property assessments are out and appeals need to be in by February 12<sup>th</sup>..
3. Senator Bill Wielechowski: Bill said that action on the Senate side is slow. He

said that due to Senate leadership priorities the constitutional budget reserve will be used to deal with the budget deficit. He said that a couple of crime bills are before the Judiciary Committee. The first would increase the penalty for large drug deals. A second would revise the bail formula to require a look at out of state criminal activities as well as in state when doing a risk analysis setting bail amounts.

4. Lisa Delaney for Representative Andy Josephson: Lisa said that Andy was on the floor dealing with the vote for the early funding of education. She said that the House Resources Committee is developing a bill that would reassess oil spill penalties, which have not been updated since 1979. She also said that he is working with Representative Kawasaki on a bill to address the Senior Benefits Payment Program.
5. Ted Madsen for Representative Ivy Spohnholz: Ted mentioned that the Education Early Funding bill had indeed passed, by a vote of 32 to 5. Ted said that Ivy is trying to craft a Health and Social Service Budget that would creatively maximize Federal fund contributions for health and social services.
6. School Board Representative Kathleen Plunkett: Before Kathleen gave her presentation, Deana Mitchell, running for school board seat F and Irene Wiseman running for school board seat G gave short introduction as to their qualifications and desire to run for these school board seats. Kathleen talked briefly about the current ASD \$50.6 M bond proposal on the April ballot. This will go primarily to roof repair, seismic remediation, and other maintenance. She had an ASB flyer available that summarized the bond package. She said the overall bond load would be reduced as \$56.5 M in bonds is being retired this year.

#### **UACC COMMITTEE/ADHOC REPORTS and FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS (FCC) REPORT:**

1. **Parks & Recreation:** Barbara deferred Parks discussion till the item under **5. Business, A. Fund Raising for Folker Park** is undertaken. Paul Stang mentioned that there will be a meeting to discuss the University Lake Drive extension to be held on February 27<sup>th</sup>.
2. **FCC:** Al Milspaugh said that there will be a FCC booth at the AKDOT Transportation Fair.
3. **Safety:** Al Milspaugh's safety message for the month was a discussion of the Anchorage Community Safety Patrols and Neighborhood Watch. Al introduced Liz Patrick of the College Gate Community Safety Patrol. Paul Honeman, also from the North East Community Patrol, and past assembly member and chair of the Municipal Public Safety Committee was also present. Liz defined the

difference between the crime watch programs and the community safety patrols. She said that the crime watch program are sanctioned by and deal directly with APD. In contrast she said that community patrols are more autonomous and try to stay somewhat distant from the police department. She said that the community patrols presence in the neighborhood, with their knowing the people that live there and activities that occur, help keep the neighborhood safe. She mentioned that the community patrols were quite active in the 1990's but had waned since then and now are in a rebuilding phase. Aaron Pascar, of the Nunaka Valley Community Patrol, has been a community patrol member since the 1990's. He mentioned that his community patrol vehicle was parked outside, and is a sort of a "want to be police car". He felt that the community patrol has made the Nunaka Valley a safer place. He said that the patrols are there to observe, and then coordinate with APD, and not to actively intervene. Both Aaron and Liz mentioned they are available to help the UACC if we wish to form our own community patrol. Aaron said there is a meeting of area wide community patrols at 6 pm on the first Friday of the month at Denny's Restaurant on Debarr Street. Paul Honeman added that the patrols are completely voluntary, with no compensation, though they have a small equipment budget managed by the FCC. More information on community patrols in Anchorage may be found on the website

<http://accpatrols.org/>.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. Fund Raising for Folker Park- Barbara Garner, Parks Committee Chairperson**

Barbara introduced the four page brochure on the Folker Park Project. She mentioned that tree survey and site survey had been done. She mentioned this as there are spruce bark beetles and carpenter ant problems at the park and these will need to be addressed if the wooded concept desired for the Park is to be maintained. Barbara also mentioned that the Muni 2017 Parks and Rec bond package included \$200 K for paving of the trail system in Folker Park, though would most likely only do the "outer trail" due to cost for paved trail construction. Barbara also mentioned there is a Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund proposal that would pay for the entire park development, but was uncertain of its current status. Al Milspaugh volunteered to find out about the grant status. Karen Strash-Purtzer indicated that about 75% of the \$12,500 Rasmuson Challenge Grant has been meet, as the Lions Club has generously pledged \$4,000, and this is addition to the approximately \$5,000 previously donated. Karen offered to go to the Providence Hospital Foundation to see about additional donations. Paul Stang introduced the Folker Park fund raising letter developed for purposes of soliciting donations from U-Med

Neighbors. Copies were available on the back counter for distribution. Paul asked that members consider giving, or if they knew of businesses that might be interested in donating, then please go to them, but **make sure they indicate that said donations are *are written as: Anchorage Park Foundation/Folker Park.*** The one page fund raising letter details how these donations can be made.

**2. Image Drive/Reflection Drive Area Road Reconstruction Project Update- Justin Keene, Design Manager, CRW Engineering Group, Jennifer Noffke, MOA PM&E Project Administrator**

Justin described the project as being new storm drainage, road subsurface and surface, sidewalks and lighting on Reflection Drive in the Reflection Lake and Creek area. He said that a draft design has been done and is a copy is available on the Muni website. Funding is available for final design work but no project implementation dollars are currently allocated. These would need to come from a future Muni Road and Drainage Bond. Scope of the construction project is approximately \$13 million. An open house to discuss the project is planned for February 28<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Municipal Planning and Development Center located at 4700Elmore Road.

**3. Volunteers for Executive Board Members-at-Large- Paul Stang**

Paul indicated that an additional person for the second Member at Large Executive Board seat still needed. He felt that an additional member was needed for added diversity of ideas during Board sessions. Paul indicated that the position would take no more than a couple of hours a month of work. He asked if anyone present was interested in volunteering for the position. As no one volunteered, Paul then offered that members could come to an Executive Board meeting to observe and see if they would be willing to commit.

**OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Chairperson stated that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday March 7, 2018. A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:38 pm.

*Signed*

Paul Stang, UACC President