

## **UACC MINUTES**

September 5, 2018, Meeting

1. **Opening:** The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson Paul Stang at 7:00 pm. There were 23 members and 15 visitors signed in. The Chairperson asked each individual to state their name and location or business.
2. **Approval of Prior Months Minutes:** Al Milspaugh, with a second by Steve Zemke, moved to approve the May 2, 2018 Minutes as written. The motion to approve the Minutes was passed by unanimous consent.
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** Paul Stang introduced tonight's agenda. On request from Barbara Garner, Paul added a topic to Section 6, New Business, pertaining to Aircraft Traffic Noise from Ted Stevens International. Al Milspaugh, with a second by Karen Workman, moved to approve the agenda as amended. The agenda as amended was passed by unanimous consent.
4. **Informational Reports**
  - A. **Reports From Public Servants and Elected Officials**
    1. **State Representative Andy Josephson:** Andy reported on items relating to his attendance at a Alaska/China Trade Mission, Mental Health Trust investment management, and Resource Committee meetings dealing with the AK large gasline. He also noted that he is up for re-election.
    2. **Assembly Member Felix Rivera:** Felix said the assembly passed the "full" ban on plastic bags last assembly meeting, with 6 members voting for the ban. He also said the ban is up for reconsideration by the Assembly. He indicated the assembly received the tentative 120 day budget memorandum from the mayor. No major changes are anticipated. He indicated that residents could see a smaller property tax being offset by the gas tax. At the next Assembly Safety Committee meeting, homeless camp abatement and housing first strategies will be discussed.
    3. **Assembly Chair Forrest Dunbar:** Forrest said APD has a new \$14 M headquarters downtown. The Tudor/Elmore station will still have patrol staffing as well as evidence and equipment storage. He also mentioned that Austin Quinn Davis was elected to the West Anchorage Assembly seat in a special election via the vote by mail process. He also touted the new youth representative to the assembly who will hold an advisory vote. Finally, he said a budget analyst will be coming on board by September 24.
    4. **Assembly Member Dick Traini:** Dick reported that the municipal gas tax provided over \$11 M for allocation. He also mentioned that the plastic bag ordinance was up for reconsideration. In response to a question, Dick said the Chugach Electric purchase of ML&P is on track to meet the December 31<sup>st</sup> date.
    5. **State Representative Ivy Spohnholz:** Ivy said she was very happy with the signing of the Health Care Price Transparency bill. Prices are required to be posted on the wall and on the firm's websites of common practices. Also, a good faith estimate needs to be provided before the delivery of services. She said she is busy with campaign season. There will be a coffee at Emmanuel Presbyterian

Church on Saturday 10-11:30.

6. . **State Senator Bill Wielechowski:** Bill talked about his efforts to educate people on why Alaska needs to get its fair share for its oil. He compared how profitable it is for oil companies here in Alaska compared to anywhere else in the world. There was also discussion about whether the PFD and the POMV approach should be put into the State Constitution.
7. **Jacob Tatum for Senator Berta Gardner:** Jacob said that there is a lot of information about the AK gas pipeline on Berta's website. He also highlighted that SB 202 will designate March as sobriety awareness month.
8. **School Board Member Alisha Hilde:** She said that school started last week. She indicated that new start times for the 3 levels of schools would come before the School Board this October. Two new schedules will be considered. The first is one recommended by the Superintendent. It is High School(8:00)/Middle School(8:45)/Elementary School(9:30). The second alternative is Elementary School(8:00)/Middle School(8:45)/High School(9:30). There was discussion about lengthening the length of the school day or year in response to Anchorage's poor student achievement. Alisha indicated that though this is a good idea, no negotiations are ongoing to address the issue.
9. **Office of the Mayor Rep Rosa Salazar:** Rosa said the draft Homeless Action Plan is out and there will be a public forum to discuss on September 18<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Loussac Library. The Plan will be finalized in October. She said there is a bi-monthly blog dealing with homelessness on the muni Facebook page.
10. **UAA Rep Ryan Buchhodt:** Ryan reported that Kathy Sandeen has been appointed the new Chancellor and will start on September 15<sup>th</sup>. She is from the University of Wisconsin system, and has extensive experience in open access campuses such as UAA. There will be a meet and greet for her at the Alumni Center on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 7 till 9PM. Other news is that an accreditation team will be on campus from 10/8-9. This important event happens every 7 years. After that the Campus Master Plan will be redone.

## **B. UACC Board Reports**

1. **Parks & Recreation Committee (Barbara Garner Chair):** Committee member Hannah Davis reported on efforts at Castle Heights Park. She said she had adequate volunteers to pick up and plant the beds this year. She indicated that maintenance, such as weeding was iffy this year. Committee member Susan Share reported on the situation at Goose Lake Park. Susan indicated that aquatic vegetation is increasing at the lake. She said that samples of the plants are being examined, to determine their species, and whether they are invasive and need to be controlled.

Barbara Garner reported on the status of Folker Park. First she noted that the Federal Land, Water, and Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant proposal was approved. It will cover the complete Folker Park Plan improvements. Barbara also said the \$12,500 Rasmuson Challenge grant proposal is complete and the \$25,000 (with the matching funds) will be used to purchase the Intergeneration exercise equipment this year. Finally, Barbara thanked the Rescue Mission volunteers for these efforts in planting the Folker Park flower bed this year.

Barbara noted the continuation of the spruce bark beetle infestation at the park and that many trees are infested. She said the city will be harvesting dead and dying trees in the Park through November. She also indicated that Maeve Nevins will be looking at Sara's Bridge and Reflexology Path.

2. Paul Stang reported on the development activities at the NW corner of Tudor and Piper. The equipment and materials are temporary use by Quality Asphalt for their re-pavement activities on Tudor road this summer. The SW corner lot has Nessler Construction staging activities for another project. Paul also mentioned that the \$750,000 for 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue that was contained in the municipal bond package currently has not been contracted, so there was some concern about whether the money might not be allocated and could be lost.
3. **FCC Report:** Al reported on FCC activities. He said that there was no meeting in June and there was a picnic in July. He invited all to attend the FCC meetings which are held at 6PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.
4. **Safety:** Al Milspaugh noted that winter is approaching, and one needs to be prepared for the upcoming cold weather.

## 5. Business

### A. U-MED Road Access Update (Again)-Carolyn Ramsey.

Carolyn starting by thanking Andy Josephson, Ivy Sponholz, and Bill Wielechowski in their efforts in getting UMED Road funding eliminated, the money designated for the road clawed back and reallocated to education funding. She said that unfortunately the project was still listed in the AMATS-TIP funding stream pipeline.. The AMATS took public comments through August 20<sup>th</sup>. Carolyn provided all pertinent community council resolutions and letters in opposition to the project to AMATS by that date. AMATS will be holding a technical meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> and one of the agenda items will be to decide if the UMED Road (aka Northern Extension) should be placed on the TIP. She says that UAA, APU, Providence, and ANHC all support the road extension. The AMATS Policy Committee will decide whether to approve or disapprove putting the project on the TIP.

### B. Vacation of 33' ROW along south boundary, Tract A, Eastwood Terrace- Dean Karcz, PTS, Inc:

Dean explained the purpose of the vacation and a request that the UACC not oppose the vacation. He indicated the original ROW was designed for road access, but since the road access is developed already, this ROW does not meet any access need. Vacation allows lots to be fully developed. Also, the ROW did not show up on the original underlying short plat done in 2016, so that is why they are now providing the information. There were questions about how development of the Tract would affect drainage and flow onto Delwood Place. Dean indicated that the flow from the properties is away from this area, and vacation of the ROW does not change this. There was some discussion, though somewhat outside the scope of this request, about the plat versus short plat process, and when the developer is required to take public comment. In response to Dean's request a motion was made that the "University Area Community Council does not oppose the vacation of the 33 foot right of way along the south boundary of Tract A, Eastwood Terrace Subdivision as presented by Dean Karcz, Engineer, PTS Inc." The vote was **16 in favor of the motion, 0 opposed and**

**6 abstentions.**

**C. Proposed Whispering Hills Subdivision as proposed by Bobby Burnett, Project Agent**

Bobby said that this is a straight forward subdivision platting proposal and requests that the UACC does not oppose the platting of this subdivision. This is a short plat request for mixed use. There is a vacation of a small northerly portion of lot 1 to provide access to the property along 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There was a question about why there were 8 lots in comparison to the 7 lot subdivision that surround this area. Bobby said that a minimum 6,000 square feet lot size is required. All lots in the subdivision exceed this requirement, and that 4 lots are already reserved. In response to Bobby's request a motion was made that the "University Area Community Council does not oppose the platting of the Whispering Hills Subdivision as proposed by Bobby Burnett, Project Agent". The vote was **24 in favor of the motion, 0 opposed and 2 abstentions.**

**6. New Business and Public Comment**

1. **Ted Stevens International Airport Noise Discussion.** Barbara Garner requested that the UACC pass a resolution that requests Ted Stevens International Airport eliminate east bound takeoffs of jet aircraft from 11 PM till 6 AM seven days a week during 2019 runway reconstruction. Barbara said that the noise levels were extreme during the 2018 summer construction season at the airport. Low flying "heavy" jet aircraft created intolerable levels of noise during late night and early morning hours. She said that other airports had put restrictions on when aircraft could take off in response to community needs. As such she felt that the UACC needed to take action to address the issue. It was decided there was not time to craft a resolution for discussion and decision at this meeting. Barbara indicated she would possibly have a resolution available for consideration at the next meeting.

2. Joanie Nardini noted that Winterberry School had completed their construction and there was considerable new space at the school. Hopefully, the new space will not exacerbate the traffic congestion problem at the school. Robert McLaughlin made comment that the new Winterberry School expansion, which he estimates to be 40 by 60 feet of new footprint, greatly exceeds the 12 foot expansion proposal that Winterberry School previously presented to and was approved by the UACC.

7. **Adjournment:** The Chairperson stated that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2018. A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:50 pm.

*Signed*

Paul Stang, UACC President