

UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2009

1. Call to Order - Board members present: Robert McClung, Susan Klein, Tyler Grosshuesch
2. December 2008 minutes approved
3. Agenda approved with addition of Jim Galanas from Friends of Russian Jack Park
4. Announcements, public documents, upcoming public meetings
--Parks department meetings taking testimony on Russian Jack plans, Susan will attend and mention our resolution, as well as her own comments

5. Elected representatives

Notes from Elvi Gray-Jackson

- Ms. Jackson send apologies for missing the meeting, she is traveling but gave us notes on important items
- Harriet Drummond is serving as acting Assembly chair
- The assembly passed a resolution recognizing Martin Luther King Day
- The assembly legislative program has been introduced
- Discussed the possibility of using an interlock device on vehicles of DUI offenders
- Explained that MOA TV is not carried on Dish Network because of prohibitive cost

Heather Ireland for Sheila Selkregg

- Budget advisor commission - anticipate shortfalls in the next few months
- Looking for budget cuts that can be made without service cuts
- Money problems would exist even without recently approved union contracts
- Energy prices - the Tri-Borough commission's report recommends establishing a coordinated energy policy by KPB, MSB and MOA
- Development of statewide energy policy is an Assembly legislative priority
- Title 21 - looking at mitigating costs to business given the current poor economy
- Housing and Neighborhood work group - still establishing the scope of the group, will include affordable housing

Tom Obermeyer for Bettye Davis

- Natural gas prices - has been following the Regulatory Commission meetings and commends them for their diligent work
- Gas prices to increase 23%, but there is hope that the pricing formula will be modified and that future price increase can be minimized
- The senator and staff are preparing for the start of the legislative session
- Pre-filed bills will soon be available for viewing on-line
- Please contact Tom with questions regarding bills

Sharon Cissna

- Prefiled bills with Max Gruenberg requiring a balanced budget and requiring open primary elections
- Her other prefiled a bills regard senior home health care and companion services, allow people with serious injuries to qualify for medical assistance at 200 or 250% of poverty
- UMED neighbor meeting - Friday January 16
- UMED green district - recycling, weatherization, transportation
- Cogeneration - possibility of space heat for university buildings by using power plant waste heat

6. Tim Potter of Dowl/HKM - Southcentral Foundation adolescent facility

In the past, UACC has supported the project when seeking zoning exceptions. The project is seeking another zoning exception. The project is classified as a hospital, requiring a minimum lot size of 2.5 acres the lot is 1.77 acres.

Discussed Native priority, but not exclusively for Native patients. The facility will have 44 beds and the wait list is >200, so it will most likely server only Native patients. Anticipate groundbreaking in spring and completion 14-15 months later.

7. Teri Peters (NE Park District manager) and Jeff Dillon (Parks director)

Teri Peters

- In September >1000 people participated in evaluating parks for the report card program
- In UACC Goose Lake and Castle Heights parks were included
- Participants will get a copy of the fix-it list
- With public input, the Parks Dept. will prioritize the fix-it list
- Often hear that the Parks Dept. needs to take better care of what they have
- UACC members commented that parks receiving Ds and Fs on the report card should be the highest priority for the department

Jeff Dillon

- Increased diversity of parks funding through the Parks Foundation
- Have ~\$500,000 available for repairs through the Foundation, but have ~\$10,000,000 of repairs to make
- \$80,000 of work planned for Goose Lake and Russian Jack parks

8. Mark Madden - Director of MOA Solid Waste Services

- New recycling program in ASD schools - 100 facilities and one staff coordinator
- Recycling education through public awareness programs
- Hoping to attract industries that can make local use of collected recyclables
- Christmas tree recycling
- Household hazardous waste - giving and receiving - get free camp fuel, paint, etc.

Automated collection program

- Improving worker safety is a major goal
- New "pay as you throw" billing system to encourage recycling and distribute costs more equitably
- Did surveys to estimate household waste output
- Collected recyclables go to Smurfit-Stone, are then shipped to Seattle to be sorted
- Smurfit-Stone was not charging to take recyclables, but is now charging \$50/ton due to market changes - \$0.60-0.80 per household
- Trash costs \$63/ton to go to the landfill
- Green tags put on cans that don't comply with the rules
- UACC comments - the tags can be ambiguous so the citizen doesn't know what was done wrong
- SWS will have the tags reprinted when they run out, they should get better
- Charge to get cans from up the driveway was increased from \$3/month to \$8/month
- Considered unfair by many disabled or elderly clients
- WWS is considering changing how this service is priced and managed
- Many UACC members at the meeting are generally happy with the program, but noted specific problems
- Some UACC members at the meeting are generally unhappy with the program
- Call customer service with questions or problems

9. Jim Galanas - Russian Jack park - didn't attend

10. New Business – none

11. Adjournment