

UACC MINUTES

February 1, 2023 Meeting

1. **Opening:** The meeting was called to order via Zoom by Al Milspaugh at 7:03 pm. Al started the meeting and asked the attendees to review the minutes and asked for correction/edits of the January 4, 2023, UACC meeting.
2. **Approval of Prior Months Minutes:** Al asked for a motion to approve the January 4, 2023 minutes, Adam motioned to approve the minutes, Susan Klein seconded. No amendment to the UACC meeting minutes. There were no objections or changes to the minutes for the January 4, 2023, UACC meeting. The minutes were approved.
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** Al asked for a motion to approve tonight's agenda. Susan Klein motioned to approve tonight's agenda. Steve Zemke seconded. There were no objections or additional changes to the agenda for the February 1, 2023, meeting. The agenda was approved without objection.
4. **Informational Reports, with Introductions by Al and Tyler Robinson:**
 - A. **Reports From Public Servants and Elected Officials**
 1. **State Representative Andrew Gray:** Andrew is the new State Representative for the UACC area, sworn in a few weeks ago. Andrew is part of the minority in the Alaska House. He is a member of the Judiciary Committee, the military and Veterans Affairs and the House Ways and Means Committee. Representative Andrew gave his first floor speech on January 30, spoke about Anne Strickland, teaching for fifty years, taught at East for 32 years, as an example of a very hard working teacher, with the intent of supporting a defined benefit teacher retirement plan. Representative Andrew's first bill, Bill 53 was read on the floor, the intent would be for everyone released from prison would be provided with a state issued photo ID card. Representative Andrew is always excited to listen to UACC and enjoys attending UACC meetings. Thanks Representative Andrew!
 2. **Assembly Member Meg Zalatel:** A few updates from the Assembly, major item is the response to the allegations of the former municipal manager against the mayor. Three emergency ordinances passed, one to protect the workforce, hold all boards and appointments and extend them, and passed the emergency threshold, to \$10,000 for sole source contracts, limit municipal credit card will attempt oversight in real time. Hopefully this will protect everything during this investigation. A Special meeting was held by the Assembly for looking at contracts, ensure that MOA business is not halted. The previous set of

allegations regarding Joe Gerace and we should be seeing the tapes from the investigation and an investigative report about what happened with regard to his hiring. The report and tapes should be made public. Hopefully MOA keeps functioning effectively, vacancy rates within MOA positions are problematic. Kent Kohlase is keeping the MOA running. Thanks Kent!

3. **Assembly Member Pete Peterson:** Robin Dern was selected for the temporary open Eagle River Assembly seat, ten people applied. There will be a ballot initiative to dedicate a portion of the marijuana tax for Pre-K education. The marijuana tax collected is upwards of five to six million dollars. Additional funding should help with additional Pre-K education, classrooms, etc. There is the idea of creating an online checkbook for MOA so the public can see where the money is going. Al asked about what the marijuana tax is currently being used for. Pete mentioned it goes into the general fund.
4. **State Senator Forrest Dunbar:** Aliana Salanguit began reporting for Senator Forrest. He is a part of a coalition in the senate, chair of Community and Regional Affairs; sitting member of Resources, Labor and Commerce; and is on the Joint Armed Services Committee. Senator Forrest joined the meeting, he is co-sponsoring a few bills, also mentioned bills on the floor, in particular a bill for the Alaska Performance Scholarship. The deadline for scholarship application needs to be changed. Senator Dunbar is part of a bipartisan coalition. Al asked about the new representatives for the area, State Representative Andrew Gray and Senator Forrest Dunbar.
5. **Carl Jacobs, Anchorage School Board:** Filling in for Dora Wilson. The ASD School Board has been analyzing school start times, the closure of Abbott Loop Elementary School, funding measures to support public education, and addressing student transportation. School has been extended by 30 minutes a day due to the snow days. Costs are rising, districts across the State are affected. Non-Juneau related items, there will be a learning department review, Feb 2, at the ASD headquarters building, new curriculum materials will be available to review. Public can weigh in on this curriculum. Assembly approved school bond 37.8 million dollars for the bond proposition in the spring. At an upcoming meeting, The ASD board will discuss guaranteed lunch time. Carl asked for questions, briefly mentioned some school projects in our area, and thanked us for public testimony regarding school closures.
6. **Karen Bronga:** Running for Assembly, lives in Chugach Foothills, East Anchorage, wants to advocate for the neighborhood. Retired Health teacher, without health you have nothing. Karen spent 10

years working on the community council. Supports Parks and Trails, received a Challenge Grant for putting in a trail, helical screws are going into the ground for the trail right now. Supports schools, what can we do to help our teachers, supports voluntary Pre-K program using the marijuana tax to fund this. Additional items Karen supports: public safety, people are frustrated, mobile crisis team becoming a bigger part of the City, favors the AMATS non-motorized plan, safe routes within Anchorage for travel, increase resources for health, kids with adverse conditions need to be helped, network of providers that accept medicare needs to be addressed, tough to find someone who accepts medicare, and homelessness solutions.

7. **Kim Mahoney from UAA:** Lots of exciting things at UAA, finished envisioning session for a native gathering space on campus, internal space for use by the public, support Alaska natives, make campus more inclusive, and one theme is more identity for UAA. Funded through a gift from the Rasmussen Foundation. There is excitement about reinvesting in UAA creating an engagement space. Urban forest proposal, partially owned by UAA, and MOA Parks, kickoff session was very well attended, provide trail access through campus, celebration around the urban forest idea, demonstrating the importance of safe travel to and through UAA. Wayfinding on campus and connectivity to the adjacent areas are also being looked at. Kim testified on behalf of UAA for funding, top priority is updating mechanical and electrical, HVAC systems, parts are unavailable for the current systems. Other exciting capital projects are increasing health worker labs, create an archive for the Alaska Leaders Archive, honor Alaska Leaders and Native Leaders.
8. **Tyler mentioned CAPSIS and asked the elected representatives about the process due to redistricting:** looking for other proposals, inputting and requesting projects throughout CAPSIS. Aliana Salanguit briefly talked about this, mentioned a deadline for inputting and project requests. New projects and possibly enter the previous projects.
9. **Felix Rivera:** Mentioned a few issues regarding accountability and liability issues previously discussed by Assembly Member Meg. Regarding body worn cameras for APD, the APD Chief presented a timeline for the body worn cameras, vendor selection by march, arbitration in April, final decision in the fall. There error on the Parks and Recreation bond, 3-4 million dollars in improvements were not on the bond. There will be a special and concurrent election to put a Parks and Recreation bond on the ballot. The original ballot missed a lot of important projects. Assembly Member Felix is working on the

ordinance to create online checkbook, the State of AK has an online checkbook, MOA would be similar, fully fledged out contracts, asking the Administration for a contract is a painful process, FOIA request. Regarding homelessness, there is a lot of discussion around the Sullivan Arena, inside the Arena there are problems and outside there are problems, what can the Assembly do to help the provider to really have positive outcomes for everyone. Also, food security is an issue at the emergency shelters, access to food, three square meals a day, and lastly there is the big issue of demobilization of all emergency shelters, what are we going to do to demobilize, 600 hundred individuals and thousands of neighbors relying on the Assembly for a good plan.

10. Mayor's office---No representative in attendance in-person or via phone, and no written report was provided.

5. New Business Tyler went over the rest of the agenda.

A. Elections: Tyler ran through the positions for the UACC executive board and the committees. Tyler asked for any other nominations, also asked for a motion to move the slate of nominees. Al motioned to approve the slate, Mary Lu seconded. The slate included Al Milspaugh, Annie Collie, Mike Grunst, Mark Fink, and Krista Scott. See Attachment 1 for the current slate for elected positions. Al mentioned the FCC backup should attend an FCC meeting. Mark Fink asked for people to help on the committees. Steve Z. inquired about the executive meeting dates.

B. Taylor Keegan, Landscape Architect for Parks: Discussed the 2018 master plan for University Lake Park, regarding 2023 Park Improvements. Parking was expanded in 2021, trails were improved. The approximate amount of 100,000 dollars is available from previous funding sources. There have been reports of negative interactions in the peninsula area. The 2023 projects will focus on improvements to the peninsula area, including 150 feet of lake edge improvements, install way-finding and signage, lake bank restoration, and provide spaces for interpretive signage. A grant of 46,000 dollars is also available for park project. The next step for the 2023 projects is a presentation for and approval by the Parks and Recreation Commission, after UACC approval. The usual process is master planning, approval at UACC, approval at UDC level, coordinate with Fish and Game, and then will go to Parks and Recreation commission. Paul Stang mentioned issues about dog poop in University Lake Park. Dog poop needs to be dealt with. Detracts from the park experience. Taylor mentioned there is an effort for scooping poop, looking for ideas. Paul mentioned the poop melts and gets into the water. Trail improvements completed last year were

discussed, filling in missing segments of the trail, capping with gravel. A trail connection off Wesleyan was discussed, specifically the need for gravel. Ian Blake mentioned the trash cans were removed from University Lake Park. More trash cans might help with the dog poop issue. He supports the 2023 projects. Perhaps a raised intersection at Wesleyan. Steve Zemke asked about long-term planning, some way to look at a no dogs allowed in University Lake Park for a few days a week. Taylor discussed shutting down smaller dog parks to allow for rehabbing of the park areas. Steve Z's idea would be to allow users other than dog owners to use the park without dogs to avoid conflicts, people tend to disregard the multiuse trail as an on-leash area. University Lake Park is not a dog park, a small portion of the trail is an on-leash area for dogs. Krista S. supports planning efforts and creative solutions. Barb discussed the initial planning of the park. Barb had concerns about the park condition and dog poop, and obnoxious dogs can be a problem. Barb is a steward of parks and was thanked by Tyler. Al mentioned animal enforcement is short staffed, need more animal control enforcement officers. Tyler explained the resolution, asked for a motion for a vote to approve the resolution, Sue Klein, motioned to approve, Barb G. seconded. The final wording of the resolution was briefly discussed. Paul wanted to add something about operations and enforcement, a lot of money has been spent, need to maintain what has been constructed. Susan Klein objected to adding language regarding maintenance. UACC should make another resolution regarding enforcement and operations. The proposed 2023 project will help with the environment for the peninsula area, it would be best to avoid clouding the resolution supporting the 2023 work. Mark supported the resolution. Steve Z likes dogs, the actual dog owners can be difficult at times. Steve Z. supports the resolution as written. Voting commenced for the resolution: 0 abstain, 12 supported, 1 opposed. Mary Lu mentioned there are sure some issues that need to be addressed in University Lake Park. Perhaps a letter from the parks committee. Paul volunteered to help.

C. John Cecil from MOA, AMATS: could not use Zoom from his computer, posted link in chat.

6. UACC Committee Reports

A. Mark Fink: Nothing significant to report. Reviewed the site access and pedestrian access. Regarding Planning Case No. 2023-0011, Site Access, vehicle, pedestrian, etc. is still out there. At this time, no comment from UACC.

B. P&R Committee: Steven Callaghan. Nothing significant to report. A few projects in parks adjacent to the UACC area.

C. FCC: Al Milspaugh, status quo. Nothing to report. Elections underway at FCC.

D. Safety: Al Milspaugh discussed placing ice melt on sloped driveways.

E. Website: Sue Klein made pages active for past resolutions on the UACC website.

7. Old Business:

A. Navigation Center Advisory Committee: Ian status quo, navigation center has not moved forward in the past month. Nothing significant to report.

8. Public comments-Open Dialog

A. George Martinez discussed his campaign for Assembly and the shared concerns with the UACC, homelessness, school closings, etc.

B. Barbara Bishop Garner discussed the three major snow storms, 42nd was loaded with snow, very narrow, the worst it has ever been, 40th was clean. Steven C. mentioned 40th is a collector road, and the order of plowing was major roads first, then local. 42nd is a local road. Rolling over snow plow funding was discussed.

8. Adjournment: Adam motioned for adjournment. Krista seconded. The next meeting will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday, March 1, 2023.**



Tyler Robinson, UACC President

- Atch 3: 1. Election Slate
2. Chat Session
3. Attendance Roster

Attachment 1, Election Slate

University Area Community Council (UACC) 2023 Officers and Election of Board and Committee Members February 1, 2023

Officers and Executive Board Members Confirmed at the January 4, 2023 Meeting

President: Tyler Robinson
Vice President: Al Milspaugh
Secretary-Treasurer: Steve Callaghan
Immediate Past President: Paul Stang

Executive Board Positions and Nominations for Action at February Meeting

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominated</u>
FCC Delegate	Al Milspaugh Other Nomination: _____
At-Large Members (2 positions)	Annie Collie Mike Grunst Other Nomination: _____
FCC Alternate (2 positions)	Mark Fink Krista Scott Other Nomination: _____

Standing Committee Chairpersons (Confirmation at February Meeting)

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
Parks & Recreation	Steve Callaghan
Planning & Zoning	Mark Fink
Community Safety	Al Milspaugh
Tudor Elmore Shelter	Ian Blake

Attachment 2, Chat Session

Significant Links from the chat:

School District related link: general link Asdk12.org

School Bond link: <https://www.asdk12.org/bonds>

Andrew Gray: rep.andrew.gray@akleg.gov

Or call: 907-465-4940

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/east-anchorage-matters-with-rep-andrew-gray/id1667318355?i=1000597344886>

From A. Salanguit, Chief of Staff to Sen. Dunbar to Everyone:

<https://tinyurl.com/SenDunbar-Newsletter>

Alliana.salanguit@akleg.gov

www.karenbronga.com

<https://www.legfin.akleg.gov/CAPIS/CAPIS.php>

Arielle.wiggin@akleg.gov

<http://muni.org/Departments/parks/Pages/University-Lake-Park-Improvements.aspx>

taylor.keegan@anchorageak.gov

<https://www.destinationmedstudy.com/>

From George Martinez - Assembly Candidate, D5, Seat I to Everyone:

Economic Development Public Conversation Feb 9 - 5:30pm

<https://www.facebook.com/georgeforanchorage>

www.georgeforanchorage.com

907-406-8907

Attachment 3, Attendance Roster

Attendance Roster	
<u><i>Name</i></u>	<u><i>Affiliation</i></u>
Al Milspaugh	Member, Host, Vice-President
Mark Fink	Member, P&Z Committee
Steve Zemke	Member, Secretary, Treasurer
Pete Petersen	Visitor, Assembly Member
Tyler Robinson	Member, President
Susan Klein	Member
Ian Blake	Member
Mary LuHarle	Member
Meg Zalatel	Visitor, Assembly Member
Felix Rivera	Visitor, Assembly Member
Annie Collie	Member, Member At-Large
Steven Callaghan	Member, P&R
George Martinez	Visitor, Presenter & NECC President
Sen Forrest Dunbar	Visitor
Barbara Bishop Garner	Member
Jeremy Houston	Visitor
Corrine	Visitor
Seth Beaubien	Visitor
Rep Andrew Gray	Visitor
Adam Lees	Member, Nav Ctr Comm Chair
Alliana Salanguit	Visitor, Staff to Sen Dunbar
Brenda Mclaughlin	Visitor
Carl Jacobs	ASD School Board
Jon Cecil	AMATS
Kim Mahoney	UA, UAA Representative
Maya Narang	Visitor, Staff to Rep Gray
Karen Bronga	Visitor
Krista Scott	Member
Marguerite Iverson	Member
Peggy Kugel	Member
Bryan Silva	Visitor
Taylor Keegan	Visitor, MOA P&R