

**UACC MINUTES**  
March 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 February 1, 2023 minutes, Adam motioned to approve the minutes, Susan Klein seconded. A few minor amendments were made to the minutes. There were no objections to the minutes for the February 1, 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 the March 1, 2023 agenda. Steven Callaghan seconded. Ivy Spohnholz motioned to add a discussion regarding the marijuana tax initiative on the ballot under New Business. The agenda with the change was approved without objection.
4. **Informational Reports, UACC President Tyler Robinson entered the Zoom Meeting, VP Al Milspaugh turned the meeting over to Tyler. Introductions by Tyler Robinson:**
  - A. **Reports From Public Servants and Elected Officials**
    1. **Assembly Member Felix Rivera** discussed three options for the current homeless situation, Option A: Whole or partial use of Sullivan Arena, Option B: Use of Old Native School off Bragaw, Option C: Campgrounds in parks and places designated as safe sleeping areas. The plan is to get out of Sullivan Arena by April 30, 2023. An option is to use Centennial campground? What are next steps? How to demobilize by April 30, 2023? Long term scope on the Gap analysis showed a need of 200-220 shelter beds, as well as more housing, we need 2400 housing units. There have been accountability issues, the Mayor has had opportunities to respond to issues the administration has been involved with. The Assembly is looking at investigations, trying to put ordinances into place, codify emergency ordinances into place.
    2. **Aliana for Senator Forrest Dunbar** mentioned the current tasks and committees Senator Forrest has been working on. waiting for budget, new legislation field, municipalities to abate taxes for economic improvements. Returning employees to a defined benefit plan. March 5, 2023 caucus, at Rasmussen hall at UAA 2-4 pm
    3. **Nate Graham for State Representative Andrew Gray**, will be at 9-

10 am on March 4<sup>th</sup> at Starbucks on Lake Otis and Tudor. Released latest podcast. Andrew sat on a panel with other freshman legislators, discussion about base student allocation funding. The Anchorage wide town hall meeting will be held this weekend.

4. **Assembly Member Meg Zalatel** mentioned that she has not seen any Mayor representative at a community council. Latest issue is a considerable fine, \$650,000, workplace safety OSHA violations at MOA. Enacted emergency ordinances, permanently lower amounts for contracting authority, lowering contract approval, boards and commissions will still function, MOA workforce vacancies are huge. The Assembly cannot do much about this, perhaps propose hiring incentives, perhaps create a parental leave policy, executive positions are hard to fill, difficult to get something moving within the MOA, the MOA needs employees.
5. **Assembly Member Pete Petersen** quoted a movie, *Cool Hand Luke*, *what we have here is failure to communicate*. Visible and invisible issues have arisen with the administration. A review of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave project was commissioned, may not be needed right now. The assembly may approve a few snow dumps. Election day is April 4<sup>th</sup>. Alaska Municipal League convention, asking for 20 million dollars to buy the Arctic Rec center and surrounding land. Pete also talked about improving the states voter registration rolls. Meg Zalatel filled in some of the details regarding the Arctic Rec Center.
6. **Assembly Member Joey Sweet** mentioned his Facebook page, posts weekly updates on Sunday night. Joey will be an Assembly member until April. Completed three different school visits. Introduced public safety legislation, ban on the use of facial recognition software, the MOA does not use facial recognition software. The legislation will prevent the MOA from acquiring facial recognition software. Snow plowing and Holtan Hills were the number one concerns of the public contacting his office.
7. **School Board Member Carl Jacobs** since last meeting the ASD Board passed a proposed operation budget taken up in the month of march, just under \$550 million, static to last year, state gave a one-time funding injection of money into capital budgets. The student nutrition policy update was passed by the ASD Board. A landmark proposal, 20 minutes for elementary lunch from the time a student gets lunch, will have a full 20-minute lunch period to eat lunch. The board is looking at changes to the school start time, town hall opportunities for comments, school bond proportions in April, project include academic area safety at Bettye Davis East High School, College Gate roof replacement, Kassun Elementary roof repair,

support center roof and structural improvements, security vestibules, at Trailside Elementary, Bowman Elementary, and Begich Middle schools, the vestibule provides a line of site to the front door. Priority is safety projects. Just under 30 million, Proposition 1 on ballot. Urge a vote yes. Marguerite had a few questions regarding the Inlet View Elementary, what is the decision regarding Inlet view elementary? Carl Jacobs: no decision yet, has not been discussed as an individual item. The ASD has a six-year capital improvement plan, could be on the 2024 school bond. Mike Grunst. had a question regarding school closures still looming, are any of the schools going to be bonded? Are any schools being bonded slated to be closed? Carl Jacobs answer: some sixth graders have already moved to middle school. Not a universal change, some sixth graders already attend middle school, there will be a reduction in school classes. The bond projects are not slated to be closed. Security improvements, once a bond is approved, an example is Abbott Loop Elementary School, the bond was approved, those funds could be repurposed, the board has not taken this up.

8. **UAA Representative**, no UAA rep was present at the meeting.
  9. **Mayor's office**---No representative in attendance in-person or via phone, and no written report was provided.
5. **New Business:** Tyler briefly went over the rest of the agenda, three items:
- A. **Winterberry School play yard improvements, school representative Liane Erickson.** Wanted to say hello and introduce ourselves. The Winterberry School play yard has a lot of mud in the backyard, developed a play yard vision, drainage improvements, proper ground cover, new play equipment, the plan also has a stage. The stage may not go in until this fall, this is something that both the school and public can use. Two landscape architects are involved. Winterberry is hoping that people get involved, the play yard could be open to the public. There is a website describing the project. Al had a question about security cameras or lights for security purposes. Winterberry is a private school, still a school within ASD, outdoor space will link with the indoor. Please make a donation.
  - B. **Anchorage Rescue Mission Pastor John LaMantia**, the Rescue Mission is back in full swing, 100 people staying every single night. Glad to help people in such need. Unfortunately, there are a lot of working poor. Everything is going very well. Wonderful kitchen project, looking to serve the greater community. There have been issues with the licensing process, personnel problems, had to send a few clients to the Third Avenue Navigation Center. Sounds like it will

be a nice facility. One stop shopping for clients. Al had a question about a high barrier facility. Answer from John LaMantia: clients are breath-tested when they come in, avoids so many problems, people are treated with respect, it does help that person. Can't let them come in if they fail the breath test, coming in high and drunk is not allowed. Susan Klein asked about the expansion, Answer from John LaMantia: adding an addition for existing facility, increase speed to serve clients, mandated not over 100 staying in the facility. Built new kitchen complex, eliminated outside storage connex containers, increased area of the kitchen and dining area. Get to everybody. A large advantage over using the outside connex, kitchen and food supplies will be inside the new kitchen area. Krista Scott question, is kitchen high barrier, can outside families come in? Will more people be fed at this location? Answer from John LaMantia: no, the kitchen is not high barrier, families are welcome. The new kitchen area will increase to 4600 square feet. Increased capacity will occur at lunch and dinner. The construction may be complete in late April. Question: Will good neighbor agreement be updated due to the increased capacity since there are more people now than before? Steven Callaghan had a few questions, one regarding the mitigation of offsite pedestrian impacts due to the increased capacity of the kitchen. John LaMantia mentioned the people that get turned away can optionally cross Tudor Road and may sober up at the Holiday Store and then come back. With the increased capacity, more people show up at peak traffic times. Al mentioned the importance of reporting. John mentioned issues with delays in shipping with regards to finishing the project.

**C. Ivy Spohnholz** discussed Prop 14 on the ballot in the next election, care for kids, campaign for marijuana tax money to be used for early childhood education, expanding access to these services, possibly curb outflow of young professionals. \$165 million in economic value is lost to inadequate access to childcare. Dedicate money from the marijuana tax to use for PreK, help solve the lack of childcare. Tyler asked about the nexus of childcare to marijuana. Ivy mentioned the tax is stable and growing, similar to alcohol tax. Dedicated to safety, homelessness, etc., capital costs, need human capital, 750 additional PreK slots are needed in Anchorage. The challenge you run into is you can't pay workers enough to survive. Steve C. asked about the amount of the tax, answer: about \$5 million to \$6 million, could use all funds from the marijuana tax or a portion thereof. Mike G. thanked Ivy for this proposition, clearly supports business and industry.

## 6. UACC Committee Reports

- A. **P&Z Committee, Mark Fink:** T21 ordinance, editing a few things, improving review process for certain projects. Steven C. mentioned lot coverage change to R1 and R1A, maximum coverage changing from 30% to 40%.
- B. **P&R Committee, Steven Callaghan:** Parks and Rec Status quo, will bring that up...mark fink new proposal making new service area, support access to Chugach State Park...Pete Petersen mentioned that MOA can't legally bond the roads, getting the state to pay is tough, cars parked all over the place need to figure out way to pay for improvements and maintenance, safety issue, MOA can't do stuff if it wanted, no funding mechanism to pay for improvements...may be good economically for the general area adjacent to Chugach State Park. Park users and local residents need good roads and other amenities. Ivy S. clarified Pete Petersen's comments, and mentioned the area extends to the edge of Chugach State Park. Mike Gruntz pointed out this area is heavily used. Tyler mentioned UMed transit demand study, planning group, on Wednesday at 10 am attend via an online Zoom meeting.
- C. **Safety Committee, Al Milspaugh:** Visited a few of the sporting areas in Anchorage. Weather fluctuates, watch weather, from the inside it looks warm outside, but it is still cold. Wear appropriate clothing.
- D. **FCC Delegate, Al Milspaugh:** Not much news from the FCC. The fifth of March is the last day to register to vote. There will be a 2023 Parks and Rec bond.
- E. **Website:** Sue Klein briefly discussed website stuff, last official meeting with UACC. Moving to a Condo will be not shoveling their own driveway.

## 7. Old Business:

- A. **Navigation Center Advisory Committee:** Ian Blake, not much regarding Tudor Elmore shelter, proposed settlement for \$2.5 million or so to Roger Hickel Contracting, the Administration is sort of doing this without assembly authorization. The Assembly Housing and Homeless meeting discussed options for draw down at the Sullivan Arena, emergency cold weather shelter plan. Possibility of using the old Alaska Native Charter School, north of Costco, Ian is looking for emails for people who want information regarding homelessness.

## 8. Public comments-Open Dialog

- A. Karen Bronga running for Anchorage Assembly, seat previously occupied by State Senator Forest Dunbar. Karen has lived in College Gate for 10 years. Knocking on 350 doors a week, not even get close to talking to voter. Karen is meeting at Kaladi Brothers, 9am Tudor and Muldoon. Come and volunteer! Karen has been involved in Scenic Park Community Council

B. Krista Scott. mentioned the idea of creating a set of criteria of impacts of the new expansion for the Rescue Mission, it is a private facility versus MOA facility, different opportunities. There were issues at Bean's Cafe, was it a low barrier, impacts on community?

- 8. Adjournment:** Tyler asked for a motion for Adjournment. Al motioned for adjournment, Mark Fink seconded. The next meeting will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday, April 5, 2023.**

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Tyler Robinson, UACC President

Atchs: 2

1. Chat Session Comments
2. Attendance Roster

## Attachment 1

Chat Session Comments:

School District related link: general link Asdk12.org

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Clerk/Elections/Pages/BallotInfo.aspx>

[www.Karenbronga.com](http://www.Karenbronga.com)

[brongaforanchorage@gmail.com](mailto:brongaforanchorage@gmail.com)

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

[www.careforkidsanchorage.com](http://www.careforkidsanchorage.com)

<https://www.adn.com/opinions/2022/10/12/opinion-to-protect-equal-opportunity-defend-our-neighborhood-schools/>

<https://sites.google.com/view/friendsofwinterberryplayyard>

Carl Jacobs: Thanks UACC for having me. Feel free to reach out at (907)632-7285 or [jacobs\\_carl@asdk12.org](mailto:jacobs_carl@asdk12.org) with questions or other feedback.

<https://alaskapublic.org/2023/03/01/anchorage-assembly-member-wants-to-ban-the-city-from-using-of-facial-recognition-technology/>

Alliana Salanguit, COS to Sen. Dunbar: I have to hop off. As always, feel free to reach out to us if you have any q's or concerns. [sen.forrest.dunbar@akleg.gov](mailto:sen.forrest.dunbar@akleg.gov) or mine @ [alliana.salanguit@akleg.gov](mailto:alliana.salanguit@akleg.gov)

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1828497257534961/?ref=newsfeed>

<https://conta.cc/3ZceaQv>

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/east-anchorage-matters-with-rep-andrew-gray/id1667318355?i=1000601996359>

## Attachment 2

<b>Attendance Roster</b>	
<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Affiliation</i></b>
Al Milspaugh	Member, Zoom Host, Vice-President
Mark Fink	Member, P&Z Chair
Steve Zemke/Kate Wedemeyer	Member
Assembly Member Pete Petersen	Visitor
Tyler Robinson	Member, President
Susan Klein	Member
Ian Blake	Member
Assembly Member Meg Zalatel	Visitor
Assembly Member Felix Rivera	Visitor
Jason Delozier	Member
Steven Callaghan	Member, P&R Chair, Secretary/Treasurer
Mike Grunst	Member, Zoom Co-Host
Bryan Silva	Member
Ivy Spohnholz	Member
Assembly Member Joey Sweet	Visitor
Karen Cameron	Visitor
Barbara Bishop Garner	Member
Corrine	Visitor
Alliana Salanguit, Staff to Senator Dunbar	Visitor
Carl Jacobs	Visitor, ASD School Board
Karen Bronga	Visitor, Running for Assembly
Beth Astley	Visitor
Krista Scott	Member
Marguerite Iverson	Member
Bryan Silva	Visitor
Hannah Davis	Member
Joanie Nardini	Member
John LaMantia	Member, Rescue Mission
Marguerite Iverson	Member