

UACC MINUTES

April 3, 2024

1. **Opening:** The meeting was called to order by President Steve Callaghan. Steve was the chair of the meeting, and Al presented the UACC Zoom Guidelines.
2. **Approval of Prior Month Minutes:** Steve Callaghan asked the attendees to review the minutes and asked for a motion of approval. Al made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mark Fink. No objections, minutes approved.
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** Steve Callaghan asked for any changes or additions to agenda. Al made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Adam Lees. No objections, agenda approved.
4. **Informational Reports:**
 - A. **Reports From Public Servants and Elected Officials**
 - 1.—**Seth for Senator Forrest Dunbar:** Not much change in the office since last month. Today a resolution from Sen Dunbar’s office to encourage. That’s all for news. United Way of Anchorage is offering free tax help for those that need it. The PFD deadline has passed but the office is happy to help...
Q from Steve: What is happening with SR13 regarding ANCSA? A: No update at this time, held in committee.
 - 2.—**Diedre Goins for State Representative Andrew Gray:** HB 298 is having hearing this week (alcohol cancer warning). Has a bill to address age of consent in Alaska. Operating budget to be voted on the floor next week.
Q from Al: What is the status of Rep. Gray’s bill regarding a statewide sales tax? A: Held in committee.
 - 3.—**Assembly Member Felix Rivera:** The assembly delayed a rezone proposal for the former national archives site to better determine administration’s vision for the site. Next step housing program has housed 82 with 62 additional by May 31. They plan to house 150 addition people this summer. The assembly is looking to extend emergency cold weather shelter to May 31st. Still expecting large numbers of homeless camping this summer as weather warms. Asking the AK legislature for \$4million appropriation to keep the SWS shelter open this summer. Finance committee did vote the amendment down this week but some hope this will be added and not vetoed by governor. Mayor’s proposal on abatement has developed into an S version that may moderate some of the concerns. Some changes include further definition of downtown for the purpose of eliminating camping, allowing parking in some areas, and potentially defining allowed camping

areas.

Q from Ryan: Was following today's amendments and it looks like the summer money for the shelter has been added to the budget. A: Good to hear!

Q from Al: What effect will the failure of the bond proposition regarding public restrooms? A: Will continue to look for solutions

Q from Al: It seems as though there is some correlation increasing homeless numbers and increasing funds. What will happen if this trend continues? A: Solution is to get as many people into housing as possible.

Q from Mary: What are the plans for the sprung structure that was purchased for the Tudor/Elmore shelter? A: Felix believes that proposal is DOA despite the mayor's insistence on pursuing. Other departments have expressed interest in using the tent structure (notably APD), but it is currently up to the mayor to decide to let those departments use the municipal property that we own.

Q from Mike about homeless from outside ANC and SOA's contribution as we are the hub community for the state as a whole. A: Municipality is lobbying for the State of Alaska to be more involved in funding solutions to homelessness in Anchorage.

Q from Russ: Would it be helpful to ask original community on an intake form? Would that help define if this is an issue? A: We do ask cause but not community of origin.

Discussion from Margeurite, Russ, Mike, and Karen Bronga about possible uses of tent, current storage, upcoming proposal to ship tent to be stored in Anchorage, etc.on tent...

4. Assembly Member Karen Bronga: Discussion about tent uses rolls into Karen's report. Arches community resource on Highland Dr. in Eagle River dealing with inpatient behavioral health. New program called PRICE to help refurbish and update mobile home parks. APD body cams are fully deployed. They are working well and fully integrated. Assembly got a presentation from APD about sexual assaults and there is currently no backlog – all are processed within 2 weeks.

Q from Mary: Is the PRICE program for mobile home owners or park owners? A: Both can take advantage of the program.

Q from Mary: With regard to APD body cameras, at whose discretion is the footage released? A: Details unclear but there are privacy protections in place. Officers are quite pleased so far with implementation.

Q from Al: With the Saturday market moving back downtown, what will be done about homeless encampment? A: Alaska Railroad owns the property and is making plans to abate when legal to do so.

Q from Deirdre: Who is the point of contact from the PRICE program? A:

Will follow up with offline discussion between Karen and Rep. Gray's office.

5.—UAA VP Ryan Buchholdt: UA is excited about the ribbon cutting ceremony. Library has complete congressional records for Senator Ted Stevens. Working on a project to overhaul and revamp archives in the library and will develop a “Alaska Leaders” repository of knowledge and records.

6.—Assembly Member Meg Zaletel (after new business [6]): Keep CIP list updated with playground improvements. They are looking at changes to the timeline to encourage more community involvement. The assembly will take up a mayoral veto of an ordinance to require assembly approval of any city advocacy to the state or other agencies regarding Eklutna River restoration project. There are a lot of competing voices on this issue. Hope to find consensus. Meg feels that the assembly position has been broadly misrepresented. They hope to facilitate fish habitat restoration and be mindful of power issues as well.

5. Old Business:

Goose Lake Tiki Bar idea appears dead at this time.

6. New Business:

A. LaQuita Chmielowski from DOWL in conjunction with SCF: New SCF behavioral health center and detox facility to be built on SCF land on the northwest corner of at Tudor and Elmore. Current car wash and old Ernie Turner Center will be torn down this summer. Site plans are currently in development with an eye toward parking and ingress/egress at busy intersection. Goal is to provide needed space for services and alleviate strain on other inpatient beds at ANMC. Steve laments the closing of his favorite car wash.

B. Tanisha Gleason regarding UMED branding: Working on a project to develop neighborhood specific branding in conjunction with CIRI and consultants. Showed options for UMED area and solicited feedback from the group. Little discussion.

C. Alaskans For Better Elections: No show

D. CIP Summary: Al highlighted the CIP projects that are posted on UACC website. Solicits feedback for top 7 projects on our list. There will be offline discussion between several UACC members before the CIP list is due in June.

E. APF Grants, Mike Grunst: Mike emailed a link to all parks and playgrounds in our district. Castle Heights Park is missing. There is an opportunity in the next year to put in grants for parks improvements in our area. Some of his ideas: move playgrounds from level 4 to level 1 which are fully ADA

compliant, install

7. UACC Committee Reports

- A. **P&Z Committee, Mark Fink:** Rezoning plans have been delayed – UACC passed a resolution last meeting regarding the current proposal. This will be back before planning and zoning in the coming months.
- B. **P&R Committee, Mike Grunst:** No updates
- C. **Safety Committee, Al Milspaugh:** Don't throw away lithium batteries in the landfill. There are hazardous waste disposal sites here in Anchorage that will handle these for free
- D. **President, Steve Callaghan:** Bond for 42nd ave. passed so hoping that this project will move forward. Is contingent on bids coming in within engineer's estimates. Several projects have been canceled due to this discrepancy. This will be for phase 1. AWWU will be paying for water pipe replacement. Project will be going out to bid
- E. **FCC Delegate, Al Milspaugh:** AK legislature has recognized UACC in April of 2019, there are posters on offer for those in person. FCC going through management changes in the next month.

8. Public comments-Open Dialog

- A. Steve asks if we want a presentation on the HOME initiative at the next meeting. None heard initially – Adam thinks this might be helpful to hear. There are changes in the works. MORE STUFF FROM MEG/ADAM.
- B. General announcements: Medical fair at Begich Middle School. Alaska Long Trail meeting at Loussac Library on April 8th. Free lithium battery disposal. Karen Bronga adds that there has been a pretty major fire at the landfill due to these batteries.
- C. Rumor about Scenic Foothills Resolution addressing housing density. No further information. Discussion returns to 8A above.
- D. PM&E project list discussion

- 9. **Adjournment:** Mark Fink moves to adjourn. Seconded by Russ. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm, the in-person portion of the meeting left the facility, UAA Lyla Richards Room. The next meeting, hybrid format, is scheduled for Wednesday May 1, 2024.

Signed

Ian Blake, UACC Secretary

Atch: Attendance Roster

Attachment - Attendance Roster

Attendance Roster	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
Steve Callaghan	Member, President, in-person
Al Milspaugh	Member, Vice-President, online
Mike Grunst	Member, online
Ian Blake	Member, in-person
Deirdre Goins	Guest, online, Staff for Rep. Gray
Mark Fink	Member, in-person
Adam Lees	Member, in-person
Seth Tigarian	Guest, online, Staff for Senator Dunbar
Assembly Member Meg Zaletel	Guest, Presenter, online
Assembly Member Felix Rivera	Guest, Presenter, online
Assembly Member Karen Bronga	Guest, Presenter, in-person
Mary Weiss	Member, in-person
Russ Keil	Member, in-person
Karen Cameron	Member, online
Ryan Buchholdt	Member, UAA, in-person
Annie Collie	Member, online
Paul Stang	Member, online
Marguerite Iverson	Member, online
Ahmbra Austin	Guest, online
Corrie Chaplin	Guest, online
Brenda McLaughlin	Guest, online
Tanisha Gleason	Guest, Presenter, in-person
Shawn Glenn	Guest, Presenter, in-person
Deanna Nafzger	Guest, Presenter, in-person
Brian McCutcheon	Guest, Presenter, in-person
Michelle Baker	Guest, Presenter, in-person
Krista Phillips	Guest, Presenter, in-person
LaQuita Chimiowski	Guest, Presenter, in-person