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**UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**September 2, 2009**

Vice-President Craig Valentine called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Addition to Agenda - MOA budget process and Anchorage Waterways Council duck race

**Public Officials**

**Noah Hanson for Representative Berta Gardner**

- Homeless issue – public inebriates and camping in woods not a state issue to resolve. Really a local enforcement issue. No tolerance for camping in public areas for public inebriates. 1/3 of men downtown are travelers
- Education committee met last week, comprehensive pkg.
- Passed around Rep. Gardner's newsletter and reported on weatherization project in newsletter

**Don Burrell for Senator Bettye Davis**

- September 17<sup>th</sup> – holding Senate HESS Committee. Meeting regarding the moratorium on new Medicaid patients.
- October 6<sup>th</sup> – Early childhood issues hearing – especially Denali Kid Care, childcare and pre-K education.

**Heather Ireland for Assemblywoman Sheila Selkregg**

- Sheila is teaching Wednesday and Thursday evenings this Fall so will not be able to attend community council meetings
- Working on affordable housing in addition to concerns about homelessness.
- Title 21 Design standards are before the Assembly Title 21 committee (chaired by Dan Coffey). Sheila Selkregg, along with Harriet Drummond, Jennifer Johnston, and Debbie Osslander also attend these meetings. The planning department originated the standards, then to P&Z, then to Assembly Title 21 committee. Will be before full Assembly in next few months. Includes such items as screening dumpster's requirements, % of garage coverage in the front. When Title 21 is before the Assembly, it will be important for the public to testify about what they like and don't like.
- Concerned about public involvement and identifying community priorities in the budget process. Administration is interested in cuts, but not revenue generating ideas at this time. (Heather also serves on the Budget advisory committee).
- Was surprised the North UMed access was not on our agenda. The topic will be addressed in an Alaska Center for the Environment meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Assemblywoman Elvi Gray-Jackson**

- Has been going on police ride-a-longs quarterly, adding in paramedic ride-a-longs as often as she can
- \$9M budget shortfall, Sullivan and Municipal attorneys say doesn't need Assembly approval or public hearings. Charter says any changes to budget over \$100,000 must have public hearing and be approved by the Assembly.
- Municipal budget staff has completed the 2010 preliminary budget and will be introduced at the 9/15 Assembly meeting.
- She is working on getting a wheelchair accessible park in Anchorage
- Homelessness: has visited more than one homeless park. Assembly approved

ordinance to remove homeless camps, though needs to be revisited. Need to protect both sides of our community – the homeless and those affected by chronic inebriates. There will be a meeting open to the public September 9<sup>th</sup> at noon in Room 155 of City Hall to discuss homeless issues.

- Goose Lake: issues discussed concerning Paddleboat Café leaving. Gerry George, retired engineer, was included. John Rodda is the new director of Parks & Recreation Dept. appointed by Mayor Sullivan. Since he was not up to speed on the issues around Goose Lake another meeting was scheduled.

### **Representative Sharon Cissna**

- U-Med Fest September 12 from noon- 4 PM. Health picnic from noon – 3 PM, other activities till 4 PM. Will focus on health with health of children a priority. HS students were trained and are running the Fest. Wants to include more culturally diverse groups.
- Goose Lake: Clark family has removed all their equipment and will be out by end of Labor Day. Parks and Recreation handled them poorly. Goose lake pavilion has already been vandalized since the Clarks began pulling out (over the last two weeks). The Clarks also hired and supportive of people that could not get hired elsewhere.

### **Other business**

#### **Jeff Wooden – Take Back Our Parks (TBOP)**

- Explained situation in his apartment area near Campbell Park south of Tudor Rd. He has also taken to creating camera documentation of homeless camps with date and time stamp so can document the camps.
- He contacted all Assembly members in his area and Elvi Gray-Jackson who responded and met with him and Lt. Gilliam to walk through homeless camps in area. A committee formed in July 2009 and includes Lt. Gilliam, David Williams and Frank Thompson-Mears from Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission, Jeff Wooden, Sgt. Allen, Senator Ellis, Representative Gardner and Assemblywoman Gray-Jackson.
- Protesting new liquor store (Alaska Liquors) being put in site of Tesoro Station on Tudor Road across from the Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission. Asks that we sign a petition opposing the liquor store. Petition to be put before ABC board. Also would like to create a test no-alcoholic beverage store area between Lake Otis and Elmore on Tudor Road and present it to the ABC board to deny new license to Alaska Liquors.
- In addition, E O'Neill, formerly of Brown Jug, is applying to buy the Party Time Liquor store liquor license and franchise, but is not planning on putting liquor store where Party Time is now (strip mall just east of Lake Otis on South side of Tudor).

#### **David Williams – Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission**

- Pointed out that there are two populations or groups in regards to what most call homeless. There are public inebriates who are the most visible and there are the homeless who are not inebriates but often can't afford housing in Anchorage, don't have a wage that can pay all the bills, have medical bills that made them homeless etc.
- His goal is to protect the homeless. He doesn't feel the need to protect the inebriates vs. the homeless. TBOP understands major problem, Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission problem is authority over the person who leaves the mission. AGRM adopted Folker Park to help clean up and sees this as offering the AGRM sort of pseudo authority in the community. Documentation. Photo, authentication, none who use Mission will be permitted if their actions reflect badly on the community... 6 months 1st time, then 1 year for 2nd offense, banned permanently for 3rd. Handed out flyer with new rules for acceptance at the Rescue Mission
- Also talked about the proposed liquor store in the old Tesoro location. Noted that Anchorage Municipal code states a liquor store cannot be within 200 feet from

From front door to front door of a church not property line as in other codes). The Gospel Rescue is a church. Also pointed out that there is or was a church in the little strip mall adjacent to the old Tesoro station. New Title 21 does not change 200 feet door to door. What about church distance...??? or schools..?

### **Anchorage Fire Department**

- Asked whether we had questions on the rolling closures and explained that who determined closures on leave or sick and AFD qualified for various positions in department as well as not allowing overtime use to fill vacancies. Sick calls may shut your engine down will scatter people to other vacancies at other stations. Only one vehicle/piece of equipment in a station may experience closure. Others may still be staffed. Rolling closure has a schedule.

**Elections:** Slate needs to be presented to the council twice before voting. Came up with a slate:

President – Robert McClung

Vice-President – Craig Valentine

Secretary – OPEN – PLEASE VOLUNTEER

At-large member – Tim Neale

At-large member – Patricia Williams (Patti)

Budget ideas to present to Mayor's task force – brainstormed:

Improve the public process so that there is a public hearing since the budget is changing more than \$100,000.00.

Was the budget document useful? Yes.

### **Ideas for cost saving:**

One bill for all utilities (Enstar, AWWU, ML&P, SWS) – some are not MOA entities.

Don't send envelopes to those households that pay bills online. Phase out paper copies of statements.

Consolidate all mechanical shops into one shop for all MOA departments to use.

Consider opposite side of the street parking in the winter to facilitate snow removal and make it safer for plowers.

Eliminate requirements for health inspections for church bazaars.

Announcements: Providence purchased Piper trailer court last year and is giving occupants until August 12, 2010 to leave. Need to add Providence to October agenda due to many projects.

Tabled approval of March and May minutes as only one copy.

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Klein,  
Secretary pro tem with assistance from Barbara Garner