

UACC Minutes
University Area Community Council (UACC)
March 4, 2015

1. Opening: Jacob Gondek called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM. Jacob next had the people in the room introduce themselves. Nineteen people were in attendance at the start of the meeting. Fourteen UACC members signed in. An additional four visitors signed in and attended part or all of the meeting.

2. Approval of minutes: The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the January 7 and February 4, 2015 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved 10/0

3. Agenda: The agenda was approved unanimously as written (10/0).

4. Informational Reports

A. Reports from Public Servants

1. Elvi Gray-Jackson reported on several items that can be found in her assembly report found within attachment 1.

2. Dick Trani reported on the following items.

Dick discussed that the sale of Solid Waste Service sale proposal will be added to the April 28th Assembly meeting. A discussion about the possibility of rate hikes ensued.

3. Pete Peterson

Pete said that people need to register now to vote if they want to vote in the April 7th election, as the cutoff date is March 7th or 8th. He felt that there is a high probability of a Mayoral election run off being needed, which would be held in May.

4. Bill Wielechowski

Bill reported from Juneau. He said the Budget is the big issue. He also reported on Medicaid reform and the status of the current two competing Gasline proposals. For full information on Senator Wielechowski activities go to: <http://www.senatorbill.org/>

5. Andy Josephson

Andy reported on his committee and sub-committee assignments during the current legislative sessions. He talked about budget reduction proposals that would affect the oil/gas experts and forester positions within the DNR. He

also discussed the budget reduction within the UAA system and the compounding problem of new infrastructure operations drain on the budget. He also described the discussions about whether to create a new board regulating marijuana, or wrap it into the existing alcohol board. Either way the boards would use the same staff to reduce overall costs.

For full information on Representative Josephson activities go to:

http://akdemocrats.org/rep_josephson/

6. Max Gruenberg

Max discussed his activities on the State Affairs where he discussed the child support laws and enforcement requirements from other countries, and how the 50 states must ratify uniform regulations by July 2015 and AK regulations would need to mirror these. He also discussed Judiciary Committee actions relating to new State marijuana criminal regulations, operating budgets, and the update of the military code of justice. Al Milspaugh asked a question about the committee action on a new definition of pets, and the move to reclassify them as animals with a spine versus the current definition as property. This relates primarily to domestic violence, where “pets” may be used as a tool to perpetrate domestic abuse. Max discussed there may be concern over whether the State might make laws more restrictive than what was voted on in the last election. He discussed the need to have local control, particularly on cannabis condensates and the commercial activities around the sale of marijuana products. Al asked about what the UACC could do to help, such as a resolution.

For full information on Representative Gruenberg activities go to:

http://akdemocrats.org/rep_gruenberg/

7. Paul Honeman

Paul reported on the NECC resolution on restricting marijuana commercial enterprise within their community council boundaries. He said that the commercialization of edibles and liquid concentrates is a major issue that all community councils might face. He felt that there may be a session in October to deal with the issue. Al Milspaugh stated that he is concerned over the potential to misrepresent what is contained in marijuana related packages, such as was done with spice. Russ Kell said that that the city and state should consider taxation of marijuana. Paul added since the sales would probably cash only, it might be hard to collect these taxes. There was also a question about the legality of smoking marijuana in a car since the car is private

property. Paul also reported on discussions about Uber within the Public Safety Committee meeting. Finally he stated the Muni has a balanced budget and is currently in good fiscal shape.

B. Community Council Board Reports

Safety: Al Milspaugh

1. The MOA is looking into funding a position for a Homeless Coordinator to help address the chronic inebriate problem.
2. The food inspectors are working on a new scoring criteria.
3. The MOA is revising the towing law language.

C. FCC: Al Mispaugh

1. If anyone is interested in serving on the FCC board check with me.
2. Other CCs are concerned about their parks status, whether there classified as DEDICATED the status determines what the MOA can do with the land. All four (4) of our parks are classified as DEDICATED; therefore, we should be safe from the MOA re-identifying our parks.

5. Business

A. Anchorage Police Department- Kristine Wells

Kristine has been with the APD for 10 years. She encouraged citizens to report violent, criminal, and gang related activities to the APD. She handed out neighborhood watch cards that contained key contact information. She emphasized that people use the non-emergency (786-8900) contact number for most calls, reserving the 911 for major emergencies. She mentioned that on the back is an explanation of the Crime Mapping and Nixle systems. She also mentioned that you can also report items online to www.muni.org/apd. Kristine talked about the dispatch system, with 6 call takers all in one room, taking 600 calls per day. They triage the calls out to fire, EMT's, and others as appropriate. She said that full moons and the PFD make for interesting times. She also emphasized that one should call from a land line if possible, as calls from cell phones are a problem to locate. Al Milspaugh discussed what constituted a dire emergency, and the need to clearly state where you are when you call 911. The need to maintain a land line was re-emphasized even if just for emergency use. Kristine mentioned the death appears to be related to complications from a

previous fall. Discussion followed about homeless people being attracted to the area, with campers using Folker Park and vacant lots in the area. Kristine discussed that private property owners can call APD to have trespassers immediately evicted, rather than wait for the 20 day process for muni lands.

B. Tennis Court Development – Les Sheppard

Les discussed a new proposal by Alaska Tennis for an indoor and outdoor tennis court development on municipal property just east of the intersection of Northern Light and UAA Drive. It is on the north side of Northern Lights and west of the ARC property. Les stated that he has paid for soil test on the area, which are primarily sand and gravels, and that the indoor and outdoor courts and parking facilities would be located on non-wetland area. A vegetative buffer would be left between Northern Lights to the south and the wetland to the north of the property. Soil test have concluded the development area would be on upland sand and gravel types. The foundation would develop the facilities, and no public funds would be used. He stated a primary focus of the Foundation is to teach beginning tennis, particularly for underserved youth from Mountain View, Fairview, and the Muldoon areas.

There was a question about the ownership of the facilities. Les stated that the property would be owned by the city, but the Foundation would operate the facilities. There was a question about what type of public access would be provided, which Les replied that the general public would have access but would have to pay a fee to play tennis there. There were also several questions that Les did not have current answers for. These were questions about whether the facilities would be a non-taxed entity, whether the facilities could be seen from Northern Lights, what is the actual acreage of the proposed footprint of the facilities, and whether the municipal land is part of the adjacent Takishla Park.

C. Northern Extension of Elmore Road Restoration - Paul Stang

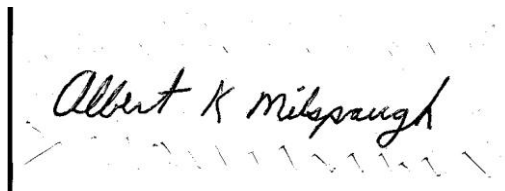
Paul Stang introduced the Resolution Requesting the Termination of the Northern Extension of Elmore Road (Attachment 2). Paul explained the resolution recommends that due to the current State budget crisis and the road bisecting natural wooded and wetland areas vital for wildlife, watershed, and recreation

needs, the UACC urges that the project should be stopped immediately and UA Board of Regents keep the UAA land for University purposes, and the State return the \$20 million slated for the project to the State Treasury. There was general consensus that this is good idea.

Russ Kell made a motion that the UACC approve the motion as written. Paul Stang seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 12/0.**

The approved resolution will be send to the Governor's Office, our UACC State Legislative representatives, Mayor's office, and the FCC.

6. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at approximately 9:00 PM. Next Meeting- The next meeting will be held on April 1st at 7 PM at the University Baptist Church.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert K. Milspaugh". The signature is written in black ink on a white background. To the left of the signature is a vertical line, and to the right is a series of small, repeating, stylized marks that look like a decorative border or a series of small 'v' shapes.

Albert K Milspaugh 1 April 2015
UACC Vice President

Attachment 1

University Community Council Meeting – Assembly Report

March 4, 2015

Elvi Gray-Jackson

- A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, February 17th to prohibit the extraction of THC or any cannabinoid by use of materials or methods deemed dangerous to public health or safety. The Assembly had a Special meeting to continue the Public Hearing on February 24th. The ordinance passed unanimously.
- The Assembly held two Work Sessions on February 13th to receive a report on two SAP Audits (City's Financial and Human Resource Enterprise Plan). One was contracted by the Administration and the other contracted by the Assembly. Both contractors reported many issues with the implementation of the project. The Assembly's contractor provided recommendations on how to resolve the issues and informed the Assembly that the project is salvageable but at a cost. An additional Work Session was held on February 27th. The Assembly's Auditor provided 120 recommendations to remedy the issues and the Administration accepted all but 11. The Administration has also requested an additional \$8.4M through a loan to continue with the implementation. The Assembly is scheduled to approve the loan at its March 24th meeting.
- The Administration submitted a resolution to establish a process to sell the Collection Division of Solid Waste Services to the highest bidder. Chair Traini scheduled a Public Hearing on the issue to be held at the April 28th meeting.

Next Assembly Meeting: March 24, 2015

University Area Community Council (UACC) Resolution
For Governor Walker and the UA Board of Regents
Requesting Termination of Work on the Northern Extension of Elmore Road

Whereas, the Governor of Alaska requested the public to suggest cuts in State expenditures;

Whereas, the State of Alaska can no longer afford to build the Northern Extension of Elmore. The Governor said that we are definitely in a serious budget crisis for years to come and need to limit spending to the most essential services. Similarly, UAA outgoing President Pat Gamble clearly articulated on AK Public Media on December 19, 2014

(<http://www.alaskapublic.org/2014/12/19/university-president-budget-cuts-will-require-downsizing-to-core-missions/>) that UAA needs to severely cut back after “10 years of uncontrolled growth.” He said that UAA is in for a “hard landing” this year and has the same bleak picture for several out-years and that “we should be tearing down buildings” and focusing on restructuring of both the physical plant and academics, so that UAA can survive with a sustainable core;


Whereas, the Alaska Legislature has provided \$20 million to build the Northern Extension and UAA would provide the land (that we understand is worth \$15 million) for the right-of-way, In 2014, when oil was more than twice what it is now, UAA favored the road extension to provide access to their land to construct new buildings. But today, the State’s ongoing loss in oil receipts and a negligible chance that UAA will be in a position to afford new buildings in the foreseeable future surely indicate that this project should be terminated. Furthermore, the \$20 million is a shameful underestimate of the construction cost even if the multi-use sidewalks and ski trail overpass are cut out – these are the very features the public insisted on at the public meetings to make the road at least minimally palatable. Budget overruns are essentially certain and trying to build the road on the cheap in light of the State’s budget crunch is absolutely the worst option;

Whereas, the proposed road extension would bisect a natural wooded and wetland area that acts as a sponge assisting in water retention during natural flooding and provides habitat for wildlife, waterfowl, bird populations and moose pathways, as well as a peaceful woodland for skiing, jogging and nature walks;

Whereas, Anchorage has already lost 78% of its wetlands since 1950. Anchorage should stop imprudently cutting down trees and bulldozing natural wetland areas, in essence, destroying many of the city’s most valuable assets; and

Whereas, the Elmore extension would funnel more traffic onto Bragaw St. that is already over-crowded and too narrow to widen;

Therefore, be it resolved that work on this project be immediately stopped because it is unwise and non-essential. The UACC strongly urges the UA Board of Regents to keep the University’s land as is and the Governor to request the Legislature to return the \$20 million to the State Treasury for essential needs.


Jacob Gondek 3/4/15
UACC President

Votes for: 12 Votes against: 0 Abstentions: 0 March 4, 2015