

## Downtown Community Council Minutes

By Jordan Huss, Secretary

10/4/17 5:30pm

-Approval of September minutes; approval of agenda.

-Marijuana and Alcohol Committee Report:

1. The M&A Committee will review eight alcohol related licenses before the end of the year. Discussion on those licenses will take place at the regularly scheduled M&A Committee meetings. The next M&A Committee meeting is October 18.

-Downtown Improvement Committee Report:

1. Discussion regarding concerns related to the sidewalk construction project on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and F Street. There are ideas presented to make 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave safer for pedestrian crossing with the addition of lighting, signage and painted pathways across the street. The DIC and the DTCC agreed to send a formal letter to Sen. Tom Begich and Rep. Les Gara to request upgrades and oversight to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and F St. project as well as future projects.
2. The DIC has created a form that will allow business owners and community members to make suggestions or voice concerns regarding Downtown improvement issues. This form will be available to the public on the DTCC website.

-Executive Board Meeting Report:

The DTCC Executive Board met on 9/14/17 to discuss matters regarding the regulations of on-site consumption of cannabis. The board has agreed to postpone writing a letter of support to the Anchorage Assembly until more information can be gathered.

-Presentations:

1. Anna Shaw with the Anchorage Park Foundation, in collaboration with Anchorage Parks and Recreation, presented a plan to apply for grant money for the Recreational Trail Program Wayfinding Signage Project. The project will consist of several signs placed around the Coastal, Chester Creek and Downtown trail systems that will aid in directing people to downtown amenities and to other trail systems leading in and out of downtown. APF will pay for the signage upfront and will be reimbursed by the State of Alaska/Department of Natural Resources up to 90% of the \$50K grant maximum. APF requested a letter of support from the Downtown Community Council, which was approved unanimously.
2. The Fur Rendezvous group presented an idea to create a Mushing District in downtown Anchorage on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue from E St. to C St. The idea is to commemorate the historical significance of Alaska's mushing heritage. Part of the project will include a decorative steel arch across 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue at the D Street intersection. The Fur Rondy group would raise the funds for the installation. Anchorage Downtown Partnership would maintain the installation. The Muni would be responsible for approving the project as well as giving up two parking spaces on 4<sup>th</sup>

Ave. This project could coincide with the planned Muni improvements to the sidewalks and lighting on 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Estimated cost for the proposed project would be \$425K, which would be raised through donations. The Downtown Community Council agreed to write a letter of support for this project.

-Council Presidents Meeting:

1. Assemblyman Chris Constant, who represents Downtown Anchorage, gathered the Presidents from the five councils in his area to meet and discuss ideas for improved communication and public participation. His goal is to increase collaboration within the groups to address common issues and goals.

-Announcements:

1. The Anchorage Assembly has approved the Fish Creek Trail Extension project as well as new lines to be painted on the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue bike boulevard.

2. The Downtown Community Council is working to improve communication and working relations with the Anchorage Downtown Partnership in an effort to achieve common goals. An ex officio position has been created within the Downtown Community Council board to allow for an ADP member to join our discussions.

3. A clean-up for the Old Native Hospital land has been planned for November 1 from noon to 2pm. Coffee and refreshments will be provided afterward at the Sizzling Café.

-New Business:

1. There has been a change in the DTCC bylaws to allow an ex officio board member position. An updated draft of the bylaws will be available for review on the DTCC website. After review, the new bylaws will be submitted to the Anchorage Assembly for approval.

Adjourned: 6:32 pm