

## **UACC MINUTES**

January 4, 2017, Meeting

**1. Opening:** Paul Stang called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He announced that due to prior commitments, he would not be in attendance at the February 1, 2017 UACC meeting. Al Milspaugh will serve as Chairperson in Feb.

Paul next had the people in the room introduce themselves. 25 people were in attendance at the start of the meeting, with 22 UACC members signed in. An additional 8 visitors signed in and attended all or part of the meeting.

**2. Approval of Minutes:** Al Milspaugh moved to approve December minutes. Susan Klein seconded the motion. The December minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**3. Approval of Agenda:** Paul presented the January agenda with two of the items (6C and 6D) to be addressed by MUNI Senior Planner Dave Whitfield. The agenda was approved unanimously.

### **4. Informational Reports:**

#### A. Reports from Public Servants:

1. Berta Gardner, Senator, mentioned a constituent meeting with representatives Andy Josephson and Harriet Drummond on Saturday, 1/7 in the new LIO building, corner of Minnesota and Benson, from 10AM-12:30 PM. Topics of discussion will include the state basis system and the fiscal plan.

2. Ivy Sponholz, Representative, mentioned a constituent meeting on Saturday, 1/7, 10-11:30AM for University Lake and College Gate communities at Wafflefish restaurant, Edwards and Debarr.

3. Elvi Gray-Jackson, Assembly Member and Chair, talked about items on the Assembly's Jan 2017 agenda, which can be found online at the MUNI Assembly website. Some included:  
1/10 at 6PM - regular Assembly meeting and public hearing on tax ordinance

1/12 - work session on sales tax and new revenues

1/17 - work session on traffic safety

1/24 - regular assembly meeting, city hall work session on tax ordinance that needs a super-majority

A number of items will be on the April 4 election ballot.

5. Dick Traini, Assembly Member, reported on the red-light ordinance, which involves automated red lights and surveillance cameras. He also stated that there are 409 police officers with 59 in training. He mentioned the 1/10 public hearing and spoke about the tax ordinance that could involve taxes: 4% tax on goods and services and a 2% increase in hotel/motel tax. A question was asked about bed tax - how much do we get and what it is used for? Traini said to call him at 343-4092 or contact Don Moore, the Municipal Treasurer. Traini mentioned a number of marijuana licenses are coming up on 1/10. He said that there was no limit to the number of marijuana shops allowed in Anchorage, as compared to liquor businesses. He felt there may be an over saturation of them and many may lose their investments.

6. Pete Peterson, Assembly Member, stated the Assembly passed a taxi ordinance in an attempt to improve service. It encourages a free market and could be unlimited. Forest Dunbar will head a new Transportation Committee. Pete also mentioned the need for a cell tower in Kincaid Park, as there is currently no service there. It is a public safety issue as recently a child was lost in the park. The tower would be a *sleuth*-type, which looks like a tree. He wants people to vote in favor of the tower. Pete also said he had tried to reinstate the Park Rangers program, but did not have the votes. They would be MUNI employees in uniform who would patrol parks, answer questions and help people feel safer. Al Milspagh will present a resolution in favor of Park Rangers later on during this meeting. Pete then spoke about the Historic Properties demolition delay related to Peach Investment's Fourth Avenue Theater.

7. Forrest Dunbar, Assembly Member, indicated his support of the Park Ranger program but said it can't be added to Anchorage's upcoming bond package, but he appreciates any resolutions in favor of it. He is on the new Transportation Committee with Elvi Gray-Jackson, formed in reaction to the new ordinance, AO 2016-0146. The committee will discuss dispatch and Uber. Forest also mentioned that a graph from the Fire Department showed a decline in emergency calls related to SPICE.

Calls to Anchorage Safety Patrol and Center have also declined. This could be due to the fact that the Assembly passed an ordinance to respond to SPICE with more medical units and possibly due also to the Housing First program.

8. Bill Wielehowski, Senator: Sonja Kawasaki reported for Bill. He is preparing for the PFD lawsuit, and working on a Conflict of Interest bill related to legislators.

#### B. Candidates for Office:

Felix Melendez is running for a Midtown Assembly, formerly Elvi Gray-Jackson's seat. His priorities are public safety and a stable Anchorage economy.

James Smallwood, small business owner and FCC delegate, is running for a School Board seat. He sees an achievement gap in East Anchorage and wants to get involved.

#### C. UACC Board Reports:

##### Community Council Board Reports

1. Parks. Barbara Garner mentioned the plan to improve Folker Park and meetings that have taken place at Horizon House. There is another meeting about Folker Park scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in January. UACC members are encouraged to attend and provide input. Horizon House residents have observed drug use in the park. Barbara also reported on University Lake Park as she took a group of seniors there to walk on the lake trail. She found not all dog owners are vigilant, some dogs not well trained. It is a great place for non-dog owners, too, and will likely see increased use by some people from the new 202 room Native Medical Center housing facility, which has great access to the trail system and will include people from all over the state. The facility has an open house on 1/11/17 from 12-2PM.

2. FCC/Safety. Al Milspaugh reported that the MOA has 38 independent Community Councils (CC), 501C3's. The FCC administers services but does not have authority over the CCs. The FCC budget is \$85,000 per year for services and \$75 for each CC for outreach. The office is at 1057 W. Fireweed and is open 6-8PM on Wednesdays. Al then demonstrated how to use the FCC website to sign up for community

councils, receive minutes, district plans, bylaws, resolution templates and info on meetings, etc. Al mentioned that anyone could find ones own community council by typing in your address, but there is no map. *My Neighborhood* will show your council.

Al stated if anyone is not receiving UACC information via email, i.e., agenda, minutes, etc. to go to the FCC web site at:

<http://communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/home.html> then, click SIGN-UP in the upper right corner to receive it.

## **5. Election of UACC officers for 2017**

Paul stated that the three volunteer officers, Paul Stang, President, Al Milspaugh, Vice President and Steve Zemke, Secretary agreed to run again for those offices. He then asked if there were any other nominations. No other names were suggested. All were re-elected by unanimous vote. UACC Executive Board members will be elected at the February meeting

## **6. New Business**

A. UACC mailing and survey - Paul stated that UACC is sending an invitation via USPS to all UACC residents and businesses, inviting them to attend UACC meetings. The invitation is done through FCC. To get the UACC agenda and attachments via email for the monthly meetings, members have to sign up with the FCC. That invitation, to be sent in mid-January, includes links to two online surveys, 1) member topic preferences and 2) a survey about Folker Park. Members' suggested edits to the invitation and surveys that were adopted. UACC is planning to have this mailing prepared for mailing this month.

B. United Way program, 90by2020. Kelsey Preecs, United Way's Manager for Education Impact Communication and Engagement, talked about the push to improve high school graduation to 90% by the year 2020. She encouraged people to volunteer/get involved with tutoring to help students and engage families. Goal is to improve study skills, aid with homework and help ESL students. It involves a time commitment that can be shared.

C. MUNI P&Z, Dave Whitfield, Muni Sr. Planner, talked about two ordinances:

Case No. 2017-0001 – supports the production and consumption of local produce by encouraging the temporary use of MUNI parks for Farmer’s Markets and allows a Title 21 height exemption for rooftop greenhouses. A discussion re: farmer’s markets ensued about frequency of markets, parking, ingress and egress, and park cleanup standards. Several people felt that rooftop greenhouses should be a separate issue from the Farmer’s Markets and that greenhouses should not be for storage or playgrounds. People voiced concerns over sun shadowing of homes. Paul proposed that at the 1/9/17 P&Z Commission Public Hearing, the UACC will urge the Muni to divide this case into two provisions. In essence, UACC would say ---

*Both parts focus on ways to make food more accessible in Anchorage, which is needed and commendable. However, the two provisions are fundamentally different in that Farmers Markets are temporary for a day or two, and then move out of the park. While rooftop greenhouses are permanent, the height exemption has strong implications for neighbors, especially with respect to sun shading. We would not like to see problems with one affect the other.*

*The UACC addressed them as two separate issues. By a 1/4/17 vote, the UACC is unanimous in our support of the Farmer’s market provision.*

*While the majority of the UACC members at the 1/4/17 meeting supported the provision for rooftop greenhouses, some were opposed because of substantial concerns about sun shading on neighboring residential properties. So, we strongly urge the Muni to add a provision that any rooftop greenhouse that falls under this provision does not create sun shading of existing residential properties. Without such a provision, the UACC is opposed to the provision.*

The UACC members voted on the above approach and the result was 7 in favor, 2 opposed, and several abstentions.

D. Case No. 2017-0002 – Unit Lot Subdivision. Dave Whitfield talked about the MUNI plan for fee-simple ownership of townhouse and cottage style homes that did not have to be pre-sold like condos, facilitating lower long term rates and housing costs. A discussion ensued and David answered questions. He emphasized that in order to work, this type of

subdivision needs a strong homeowner's association to ensure MUNI standards are met. David said that all existing MUNI zoning standards would have to be met by such a development. In the end, a vote in favor was unanimous and it was agreed that the UACC would present a statement at the MUNI's 1/9/17 P&Z meeting that would say, in essence—

*This provision adds a new method for subdivision – fee simple property ownership of small lots associated with townhouse and cottage style housing development. On 1/4/17, the UACC voted unanimously in support of this provision. We support its objectives and hope that it will encourage development of affordable residential housing that would be of great benefit to the UACC area and Anchorage as a whole.*

E. Park Ranger Draft Resolution. Al Milspaugh introduced a resolution in favor of Park Rangers to monitor our MUNI parks and surrounding trails. He cited the crimes in 2015-16. Pete Peterson stated the program would cost \$255,000 per year for 8 rangers to patrol parks in summer season. He would like to see the funding come from a park bond and the proposal to be included in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter budget discussions, but it will not be on the April 5, 2017 ballot. Discussion ensued about volunteer patrols in Valley of the Moon Park, the role of APD vs. unarmed, but uniformed Park Rangers, other possible Ranger duties such as enforcing park rules, issuing fines, scoop the poop laws and the degree of ranger authority. It was decided to table the resolution until an edited clean copy could be produced and presented for a vote at the UACC's February meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Chairperson stated that the next meeting will be held on **February 1, 2017**. A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

**Signed**

Paul R Stang, UACC President

Atchs:

1. Survey Monkey UACC & Folker Park
2. Snail Mail Letter
3. P&Z Hearing Presentation by UACC
4. P&Z Final Decision

University Area Community Council Member Survey 2017

1. If you would like to attend the University Area Community Council meetings, which of the below topics would interest you? (Check as many as apply)

- Updates from our area's elected officials who attend UACC monthly meetings
- Potential and upcoming property developments/zoning changes
- New roads, road improvements, speed humps
- Crime and safety
- Plans for parks within our UACC boundaries
- Bus route changes
- Applications/renewals for business licenses, e.g., for restaurants, alcohol or marijuana
- Making the UACC area more bicycle and pedestrian friendly
- Residential housing within the UACC area
- Information about community events or opportunities
- Concerns with on-leash and off-leash dogs parks and on trails
- Other (please specify)μ

2. Would you like any particular type of information or training, such as:

- Neighborhood watch
- AED (Automated External Defibrillator)
- CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)
- Disaster Preparedness
- NextDoor.com
- CommunityCrime.com
- #ANCWorks! (for reporting community problems)
- Make your home safer from accidents
- Make your home safer from crime
- Make your home more fire resistant
- Other (please specify)μ

Done

## Folker Park Site Plan Survey

***Please tell us what you think!***

Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department is developing a new site plan for Folker Park. The site plan will provide a framework for future development of facilities, trails, recreation areas and other park assets over the next 20 years. As we begin this process, we are asking you to help identify issues and concerns, as well as what types of future improvements that you would like to see at your neighborhood park.

**1. Do you live near Folker Park? Address: 2701 E. 42nd Ave, Anchorage, AK ([click for map link](#))**

  

Yes

No

**2. Do you work near Folker Park? Address: 2701 E. 42nd Ave, Anchorage, AK ([click for map link](#))**

  

Yes

No

**3. What is your age range?**

  
  
  
  
  

6-18 years of age

19-24 years of age

25-29 years of age

30-49 years of age

50-65 year of age

65 or older years of age

**4. Do you have children under age 12?**

  

Yes

No

***Folker Park is a 2.02 acre neighborhood park located in the University Area neighborhood of Anchorage. The park is located at Folker Street & E. 42nd Avenue. Folker Park provides recreational opportunities for a variety of park users. The park features picnic tables and a forested gravel trail. The park also includes a large Adopt-A-Garden on the southwest corner of the property. On-street parking is available.***

**5. What is special about Folker Park?**

μ

**6. What activities do you like to do in Folker Park?**

μ

**7. What types of improvements or new facilities would you like to see at Folker Park in the future?**

μ

**8. What issues or concerns would you like to see addressed through this planning effort?**

μ

**9. Do you have additional thoughts or comments?**

μ

**10. If you are interested in participating in future planning meetings, please provide your name and email address?**

Name μ

Email Address μ

**Thank you for sharing your thoughts!**

*Your feedback will help us begin the process of identifying priorities for future park improvements. Please stay tuned for future opportunities to provide input.*

**Link to...** [Project Information Webpage](#)



Concerns may be new construction, traffic issues, nuisance behavior by neighbors, road construction, etc. Recent issues the UACC has been involved in include: rezoning requests, local development proposals, the proposed northern extension of Elmore Road, regulations regarding wetlands, University Lake Master Plan and most recently, the Folker Park Master Plan.

Contact Information and How to Get UACC Meeting Announcements by Email

UACC Pres.: Paul Stang H-907-279-0109, text-907-440-8852; PaulRStang@gmail.com  
UACC Vice Pres: Al Milspaugh H-907-333-6996; Prideplace@aol.com

The Federation of Community Councils (FCC) emails the UACC's agenda and attachments a few days before each meeting. **To get on the mailing list:**

1) go to CommunityCouncils.org and follow directions to join, 2) send your email address to [Info@communitycouncils.org](mailto:Info@communitycouncils.org) and ask to be included in the UACC emailings or 3) call FCC at (907) 277-1977 and they will sign you up.

**Two Surveys:** 1) preferences of UACC members & 2) Folker Park improvement survey.

**>>>>> WEBSITE for survey of preferences for UACC meetings.**

(Should only take about a minute):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T6TDTJM>

**>>>>> WEBSITE for Folker Park Improvements survey.**

(Should take a few minutes):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FolkerPark>

**We urge you to fill them out and hope to see you at our 2017 meetings.**

“The purpose of UACC is to improve communications between the citizens of our community and all entities, which may affect it, to encourage community involvement of all citizens, and to respond to local government proposals submitted to UACC.”

Our bylaws may be reviewed at: <http://communitycouncils.org/servlet/viewfolder?id=8259>

**MUNI P&Z Hearing 1/9/17 -- Presentation of the UACC**

**Case No. 2016-0081 - University Lake Park Master Plan**

The UACC was actively involved with the development of the University Lake Park Master Plan. We congratulate Parks and Rec on the successful completion of this planning effort. On 3/2/16, we passed a resolution (attached) in support of the master plan. Then on 4/6/16, the UACC passed a resolution (attached) pertaining to off-leash dogs and the need to control them and pick up their waste in the park. These reflect UACC's position. We trust P&Z Commission and Assembly members will read both.

While a good start, it's only the first step. We urge the Mayor and Assembly to obtain the funds necessary to implement and enforce the plan as quickly as the budget allows.

**Case No. 2017-0001 - Farmers Markets in Parks/Rooftop Greenhouse Exemption**

The UACC urges the Muni to divide this case into two provisions. Both parts focus on ways to make food more accessible in Anchorage, which is needed and commendable. However, the two provisions are fundamentally different in that Farmers Markets are temporary for a day or two, and then move out of the park. While rooftop greenhouses are permanent, the height exemption has strong implications for neighbors, especially with respect to sun shading. We wouldn't want problems with one to affect the other.

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Thank you for your consideration and we trust that the Muni will find a way to modify the provision to resolve our concern.

**Case No. 2017-0002 - Fee Simple Property Ownership of Small Lots**

This provision adds a new method for subdivision – fee simple property ownership of small lots associated with townhouse and cottage style housing development. On 1/4/17, the UACC voted unanimously in support of this provision. We support its objectives and hope that it will encourage development of affordable residential housing that would be of great benefit to the UACC area and Anchorage as a whole.

Paul Stang, President, UACC

January 9, 2017

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Attachment 4

Based on our suggestion, the P&Z agreed to split the provisions for Farmer's Market and the rooftop greenhouses into two cases.

Farmer's Markets--

The Farmer's Market provision passed unanimously.

Greenhouses--

After lots of discussion, they agreed to postpone the greenhouse provision to get more info re shading, growing marijuana on rooftops, structure, materials, images of rooftop greenhouses in other cities, etc.

And the University Park Plan--

Lots of presenters, several issues raised (all familiar), and a couple of unsuccessful attempts to amend it, but it was eventually approved upon their unanimous vote.

So, at least we know they are listening and even accepted an idea that was only raised by the UACC.

all the best

Paul

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