

## **UACC MEETING MINUTES**

**February 3, 2021**

- 1. Opening and Welcome and Introductions** - The meeting, via Zoom, was called to order by President Paul Stang at 7:00 pm. Al Milspaugh acted as host for the Zoom meeting. Al Milspaugh announced that the meeting will be live streamed and recorded. These will be available via Zoom and Facebook apps, and as such no privacy should be expected. Al noted he will be moderating to prevent people from “bombing” the meeting. Paul said that the normal introductions would be suspended. There were 33 people present during portions of the meeting (Attachment 1).
- 2. Approval of Prior Months Minutes:** Al Milspaugh, with Barbara Garner seconding, moved to approve the January 6, 2021 minutes. The minutes were approved by vote.10/0/0.
- 3. Approval of the Agenda:** Paul Stang introduced tonight’s agenda. Mary Lu Harle moved to approve to the agenda, with Al Milspaugh seconding. The agenda was passed by vote of 11/0/0.

### **4. Informational Reports**

#### **A. Reports From Public Servants and Elected Officials**

- 1. State Senator Bill Wielechowski:-** Bill indicated that the Senate is now organized and ready to undertake business. He is serving on the Finance, Judiciary, and Veterans Committees. He indicated that the upcoming budget has a \$2 Billion shortfall, and Governor cannot cut state services much further, so unless there is some new revenue stream, the shortfall will have to be covered by the Permanent Fund
- 2. State Representative Andy Josephson:-**Andy indicated that the House is still not organized. He also discussed the implications of budget as currently envisioned by the Governor, and what impact it would have on the long term viability of the Permanent fund. He indicated if the fund is required to fund a full Dividend and more as requested by the Governor, the Permanent Fund earnings would be impacted by \$300M per year into perpetuity. Also, he indicated unless some other broad based tax base comes into being, the Permanent fund dividend is not affordable in the long term.
- 3. Assembly Chair Felix Rivera-** Felix noted that current Emergency Order contains four major items. One allows for curbside pickup of alcohol and marijuana. Another requires the continuation of requirement to wear masks in public places. The third suspends the plastic bag prohibition. The fourth temporarily allows for consumption of alcohol within permitted

establishments. He also indicated the Muni has relief funds available for tourism and rent relief. Go to Muni.org for application information.

4. **State Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson-** Elvi noted that February is Black History Month. For details on Elvi Gray-Jackson's remark's please refer to her written report to UACC included in Attachment 2.
5. **Assembly Member Pete Peterson-** Pete said the recent Assembly meeting dealt with bonds that would be on the April ballot. He urged support of the bonds as they create vital city infrastructure and services and would provide for needed jobs. He discussed the decision to cancel moving forward on the Health and Human Services/Grocery Store, (i.e. Tudor Town Center) project at the southwest corner of Tudor and Elmore. He also discussed the presentation to the Safety Committee by APD Chief Doll on the current crime statistics for Anchorage. Crime is down 20% overall, with a 50% reduction in homicides. Pete felt that this could be attributed to the increase in the police force numbers.
6. **Assembly Member Meg Zaletel-** Meg discussed the change in the Muni Assembly webpage that allows for providing testimony to the Assembly. There are three buttons, one allowing for telephonic testimony, the second allows for written testimony, and the third provides for written testimony but would not be included in the official record. These are open to 5 PM Monday before the assemble meetings. She also discussed the ongoing Title 17 revision for Animal Control. She indicated that written comment was due February 5<sup>th</sup>. She also said that there is likely another round of comment before final action on the revision. The schedule is the Title 17 revision would go before the Animal Control Broad on February 25<sup>th</sup> and then on to the Assembly on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Paul Stang noted the UACC has comments prepared to go to the Animal Control Board. Krista Scott had a question about what is the status of proposed change for Homeless Shelters in B3 zones. Meg indicated that the proposal would come before the P&Z Board during their March meeting.
7. **Assembly Member Forrest Dunbar-** Forrest discussed the bond proposal for the April election that provides for \$1.8 M to implement deployment of Anchorage Police Department (APD) body cams. Though this could potentially be funded through the normal police budget, there is currently no appetite to cut other APD programs to fund this deployment.
8. **Margo Bellamy-Anchorage School Board (ASD)-** Margo said that the school board met last night and took action on the six-year Capital Improvement Program budget and the policy concerning the revisions to the school attendance boundaries which are required every 10 years. She

indicated the ASD is undertaking a second COVID-19 vaccine clinic. She said this is by appointment only, with no walk-ins appointments allowed. She also said that there will be COVID-19 testing sites provided at 10 ASD schools. She reported that this is the second week of Kindergarten through second grade, and special needs students, being back in class learning. Grades three through six are planned to return to in class learning on February 8<sup>th</sup> and all students by March 15<sup>th</sup>. The ASD mitigation's methods to provide for safe learning are described on the ASD website. She also noted the ASD is currently celebrating Black History Month. Finally, she noted spring break will be March 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Marguerite Iverson questioned whether it might be appropriate for all students to repeat the year, as so many students did not have resources to succeed with the virtual delivery model. The reply was that the board may consider the idea, but in the meantime the ASD is working with students one to one to assess their progress.

9. **UAA Representative Ryan Bucholdt-** Ryan indicated that planning for the fall semester is on-going and will be primarily face to face learning. He indicated that students have indicated they do not like the remote model, and as a result enrollment is down considerably. Ryan reported that the UAA Master Plan Effort is on temporary hiatus, as problems with staffing and long term financial outlook have impacted the effort.

10. **Candidates for Office**

- a. Bill Falsey for Mayor. Bill presented his experience as the municipal manager and municipal attorney as qualifications for Mayor. He said as Manager he was involved in directing the Municipalities responses to 2018 Earthquake, the 2019 Wildfire, and 2020 COVID-19 responses to these emergencies. For information on Mr. Falsey go to:

<https://falseyformayor.com>

- b. Alisha Hide for School Board. Alisha said she would focus on focus on student achievement and getting students back in school. She said that CARES Act funding helped ASD meet some of the crisis but may have masked long term budget problems that will have to be worked on. For more information on Ms. Hilde go to:

<https://www.alishahilde.com>

## **B. Reports from UACC Committees/Ad Hoc Chair Persons.**

1. **Planning and Zoning Subcommittee, Krista Scott, Chair:-** Krista referred to the UACC comments on the Conditional Use Requirements that are needed to allow for amending B3 zones to allow for the permitting of

## Homeless Shelters

- A. Parks and Rec Subcommittee- Steve Callaghan, Chair-** Steve reported that all planned work at Folker Park will get done this year. For University Lake Park the new parking lot and trail relocation is planned for this summer. This will require temporary closure of these facilities. He indicated that 2022 is the earliest date for the extension of the University Lake Drive, though utility work might proceed this year if easement questions can be resolved. He also indicated that 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue work is not slated from initiation until 2023, pending securing funding through bond process.
- B. Safety Committee-Al Milspaugh:-** In his safety tips briefing Al presented 5 slides on Anchorage Crime statistics. Call or email Al to get a better look at the information.
- C. FCC Representative -Al Milspaugh:-** Al Milspaugh reported the information that Margo Bellamy discussed here was sent to the FCC last month.
- 6. Old Business- Response (attached) to UACC Comments (attached) on the Muni’s Draft Study, *Bus Barn Relocation Air Quality Analysis*, dated March 2020 – Jacques Boutet, President, The Boutet Company and Mike Travis, Travis/Peterson, Environmental Consulting Principal**
- Jacque indicated that his firm was tasked with the development of the site plan and permit application for the proposed Tudor Town Center. This would in part entail the relocation of the Anchorage Bus Barn to a new site to the east side of the former Anchorage Police Headquarters. An element of this planning was an Air Impact studies. This was primarily a modeling of the implementation of the Best Management Practices (BMP’s) of other agencies on the air quality of the surrounding area. Mike Travis was the one to develop the model. Mike indicated that the results from the model were to go out for review before the project was initiated in 2021. Mike gave the UACC a general overview of the model development. He said that the primary data used was the amount of carbon monoxide (CO) generated by activities in the area. The primary emitters are the traffic on Tudor and Elmore Road and the ASD bus barn operations. His model indicated the problem times for high CO levels were during atmospheric high pressure periods in the interior of Alaska, which created wind dispersal flows from the north, and would push the diesel plum to the south rather than into the UACC neighborhoods. He also noted that his model did take into account some mechanical mixing created by the flow of traffic, primarily on Tudor and Elmore Roads. He said that this would help mitigate some of the diesel concentrations, particularly during times of wind dispersion

form the east. He also noted that the move of the bus barn to the east might help in the dispersion of CO.

Barbara Garner noted that this model did not seem to reflect what was happening on the ground, particularly during cold (less than 20 degrees) periods. During these periods, atmospheric inversion was present and diesel fumes from the early morning start at the bus barn, created a diesel exhaust plume that flowed to the west and north, flooding residences in the area of 40<sup>th</sup> and Folker Street as well as Providence Hospital with noxious fumes. Hence the model was not a reliable predictor of what was actually occurring during these periods. Barbara indicated that previously, monitoring efforts had looked at critical receptors in individual homes, i.e. what is the source of the fumes and what are the factors that have led up to the increase of noxious fumes. Krista Scott and Barbara Garner had questions about the status of these studies done during the early 2000's, and what had happened to the information that they had collected.

Mike noted that the ASD is in the process of modernizing their fleet of buses. Currently there are 115 buses in use during normal operations, with 53 being the newer clean diesel buses, which are much more complaint. They also indicated that 6 to 8 of the new buses will come on line annually. Also, they indicated that there should be no cold starts of the buses, which should reduce the pollution levels, during inversion periods. Mike Travis agreed that there is a need to look at the problem areas of diesel fume contamination, and where the fumes coming from and what are their concentrations during those cold periods. Barbara Garner noted that the current inversion seems over and there were no fumes yesterday, so the Muni needs to have the resources readily available to evaluate when CO levels and noxious diesel fumes when the inversion is present. Finally, Paul Stang stated that the UACC needs to decide what we want for the long term.

## **6. New Business and Public Comment**

### **A. UACC Elections-Joanie Nardini**

#### **a. UACC Board Member at Large**

Joanie presented the nominations for the UACC Member at Large Executive Board Officers for the 2021 year. Al Milspaugh nominated Joanie Nardini for the first Member at Large position. Leon Jaimes seconded Al's nomination for Joanie Nardini. Vote results was as follows:

**Joanie Nardini was elected to position of 2021 UACC Member at Large by vote of 13 for/0 against/0 abstentions.**

Krista Scott nominated Annie Collie for the second Member at Large position. Leon Jaimes seconded Krista's nomination of Amy for Member at Large. The vote results was as follows:

**Annie Collie was elected to position of 2021 UACC Member at Large by vote of 13 for/0 against/0 abstentions. :**

**b. FCC Representatives**

Joanie next called for additional nominations the FCC Delegate and Alternate Delegate. Currently Al Milspaugh serves as the FCC Delegate with Joanie Nardini as the FCC Alternate Delegate. No other nominations were heard at this time. Al Milspaugh, with second by Steve Zemke, nominated Al Milspaugh as 2021 UACC FCC Delegate.

**Al Milspaugh was elected to position of 2021 UACC FCC Delegate by vote of 13 for/0 against/0 abstentions.**

Steve Zemke with second by Al Milspaugh nominated Joanie Nardini as UACC 2021 Alternate FCC Delegate.

**Joanie Nardini was elected to position of 2021 UACC FCC Alternate Delegate by vote of 13 for/0 against/0 abstentions.**

**B. MATS Non-Motorized Plan-Joni Wilm, Sr. Transportation Planner, Anchorage Transportation Planning Staff.**

Joni introduced the intent of the plan as dealing with bicycle and pedestrian (NMP) transportation within the municipality. It did not include the trail system in the city, as this would require a significant additional separate effort. The plan provides for the development of a pedestrian and bicycle networks, a prioritization process for implementation of these developed networks, and a clear strategy for implementation of the Non-motorized Plan.

She provided the following link for the draft plan.

<https://www.anchoragenonmotorizedplan.com/>.

The comments are due for the draft plan on March 5. There will be an open house at the Transportation Planning Office on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Paul Stang asked Steve Callaghan to take the UACC lead on gathering and generating comments on the draft plan.

**C. Title 17 Amendments: re Animals in Public Places-UACC Comments to Health Department**

Paul Stang introduced the UACC Executive Board draft comments which were attached to tonight's agenda. He indicated that comments were due by February 5<sup>th</sup>, so if one has additional comments please contact him as soon as possible.

**D. Virtual Mayoral Candidates Forum for Community Councils**

Paul queried whether the UACC was opposed to having the FCC send out a link to a upcoming forum to the UACC list serve. This would be held via Zoom at a date to be determined. There was no opposition to this proposal.

**E. Public Comments/Open Dialog-**

1. Barbara Garner requested that the UACC consider amending our CIP priority list to consider including a roundabout at the intersection of 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave and Folker Street. No action was taken.
2. Paul Stang indicated that he had monitored the Tudor and Wright Street intersection and concluded that there is a major traffic problem there. He indicated that UACC members should look at the AMATS power point presentation on how the problem might be solved. Francis Seater reiterated that there has been a problem with that intersection for decades.
3. Mary Lu Harle reported that there will be a forum on the Anchorage Climate Action Plan focusing on land use and transportation. The goal of the plan is to improve walk-ability of the city and connect neighborhoods that employ mixed-use development with diverse transportation options. This will be a Zoom forum to be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.
4. Scott Stansbury noted that Anchorage Assembly meetings and Community Council meetings are discriminating against persons with hearing impairment and are not compliant with the Americans with Disability Act as they do not have American Sign Language Interpreters available at the meetings.

**F. Adjournment:** Al Milspaugh moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Callaghan seconded. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent around 9:00 pm.

*Signed*

Paul R. Stang, UACC President

### Attachment 1- February 3, 2021 Attendance Log

Name	Affiliation
Al Milspaugh	Vice President
Steve Zemke	Secretary/Treasurer
Paul Stang	President
Steve Callaghan	P&R Committee Chair
Joanie Nardini	Member at Large
Krista Scott	P&Z Committee Chair
Assemblyman Felix Rivera	Visitor
Marguerite Iverson	Member
Ryan Bucholdt	Member
Kate Wedemeyer	Member
Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson	Visitor
Representative Andy Josephson	Visitor
Senator Bill Wielechowski	Visitor
Barbara Garner	Member
Karen Workman	Member
Assemblywoman Meg Zaletel	Visitor
Assemblyman Forrest Dunbar	Visitor
Mary Lu Harle	Member
Susan Klein	Member
Scott Stansbury	Visitor
Assemblyman Pete Peterson	Visitor
School Board Member Margo Bellamy	Visitor
Susan Share	Member
Leon Jaimes	Member
Alisha Hilde	Visitor
Dela Gray	Member
Joni Wilm	Visitor
Robin Ward	Visitor
Jacque Boutet	Visitor
Michael Travis	Visitor
Delaney Thide	Visitor
Francis Seeter	Member

**Attachment 2- Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson's Notes  
University Area Community Council  
February 3, 2021**

**Blacks History Month**

During the 2019 Legislative Session, SB40 established the month of February as Black History Month. What an honor it is to have this recognition permanently in State Statues. We celebrate this month by remembering the achievements and inventions of African Americans who made a difference in U.S history. For example, Otis Boykin's work on electrical resistors, made possible the steady workings of a variety of electronic devices. Variations of his resistor models are used around the world today in televisions, computers, and radios. Most notably, however, his work enabled control functions for the first successful implantable pacemaker.

**Organization**

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session Senate is underway and organized with a Republican Majority. We were hopeful that a bi-partisan majority would be convened but look forward to working together on behalf of our constituents.

**Legislation**

- **Turning Pain in Progress aka TPIP bills.** These bills represent proposed public safety policy changes with the purpose of making much needed reforms within the public safety sector.
- [SB 1](#): Chokehold ban
- [SB 2](#): Requiring de-escalation
- [SB 3](#): Requiring an oral warning
- [SB 4](#): Prohibit shooting at a moving vehicle
- [SB 5](#): Making Juneteenth a paid holiday
- [SB 7](#): Requiring public access to policies
- [SB 46](#): Law enforcement registry
- [SB 47](#): Vehicle registration for persons w/disabilities

### Committees

- Community and Regional Affairs and Labor and Commerce Committees
- Ethics Committee - Alternate

### Session Goals

- The Minority Caucus (six democrats) collective goals are:
  - Protecting Safe and Healthy Communities
  - Strengthening Public Education
  - Recovering Alaska's Economy

### How to Stay Informed

- During the session, you can tune into the Capitol happenings by watching Gavel to Gavel, my Senator Elvi Facebook and Twitter pages and, of course, my monthly newsletters.

If you are not receiving my monthly newsletter, please let us know.

Interim: 907-269-0174

Session: 907-465-4930

Email: [Keith.Bauguess@akleg.gov](mailto:Keith.Bauguess@akleg.gov) or [Besse.Odom@akleg.gov](mailto:Besse.Odom@akleg.gov)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elvi Gray-Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.