

UACC MEETING MINUTES

November 3, 2021

1. Opening and Welcome and Introductions

At 7:01 UACC President Paul Stang opened the meeting. UACC Vice President Al Milspaugh then detailed the protocols for tonight's meeting. He stated that the meeting is being recorded and there should be no expectation of privacy. Also, members present on tonight's Zoom meeting should identify themselves by using a UA identifier preceding their first and last name. He explained that members are residents, business owners, or institution representatives within the UACC boundaries. 26 persons were in attendance of all or part of the meeting. See Attachment 2 for attendance log.

2. Approval of the October 2021 Meeting minutes

Al Milspaugh moved to approve the October minutes. Krista Scott seconded the motion. Al Milspaugh moved as a friendly amendment that three documents: 1). UACC proposed amendment to the building height and bulk regulations (Case No. 2021-0111), 2). UACC proposed amendments to Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) Title 21 (Case No. 2021-0126) and 3). Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson's Notes be included as Attachments 1, 2, and 3 to the minutes. With these changes the UACC voted 8/0 to approve the October minutes.

3. Approval of the Agenda:

President Stang introduced tonight's agenda. Al Milspaugh moved to approve the agenda, with Mark Fink seconding. The UACC voted unanimously 9/0 to approve the as written.

4. Informational Reports

A. Reports from Public Servants

A.1. State Senator Bill Wielechowski- Senator Wielechowski reported on the proceedings of the 4th Special Legislative Session. He indicated that he nothing was accomplished during the session. He also talked about the upcoming Legislative boundary redistricting, status of judicial review on Alaska campaign contribution limits, and the impact of rising per barrel oil prices have on the state budget deficit

Of particular note was the Citation of Merit that Senator Wielechowski presented to Al Milspaugh and his wife Isabel, for the exemplary service they have given to the community of Anchorage, the State of Alaska, and the U.S. government. Al Milspaugh thanked Senator Wielechowski for the Citation. Well done Al and Isabel.

2. Besse Odom for State Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson- Ms. Odom noted that Senator Gray-Jackson was at a Legislative summit in Washington D.C. For details on Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson's information see her written report to UACC under Attachment 3.

3. State House Representative Andy Josephson- Rep Josephson noted that the campaign contribution limits have not been indexed for inflation and should be updated in an campaign contribution limit bill. He also said that he is working on a bill to better define sexual assault disclosure. Representative Josephson indicated that even though the legislature did not make any progress on the PFD or budget problems, they did accomplish some items. They passed a dividend bill, established an effective date for the budget, worked on oil tax credits, and public health nursing requirements. He also cautioned that higher oil prices may result in the legislature

putting off any meaningful fiscal reform in the near future.

- 4. Chelsea Ward-Wallier for State Representative Ivy Sponholz-** Representative Sponholz is also away. Chelsea Ward-Wallier as a new aid (2 weeks) for Representative Sponholz reported. She described the House Ways and Means Sub-Committee proposal that deals with righting the budget by modernizing the PFD formula, providing for government funding through percent of market value approach, and proposing spending cap reforms. She indicated with a moderate \$1,200 PFD the PFD earnings might provide a balanced budget for 2023. Ms. Ward-Wallier also noted that the child care and nonprofit recovery grant applications are due November 19th. Call or write to their office for assistance. She also noted that Rep Sponholz will host a on line chat on November 13th at 10 A.M.

Rep Sponholz also wanted to pass on her congratulation to Al and Isabel Milspaugh on their contribution to Anchorage and the State of Alaska. Al Milspaugh thanked Rep Sponholz and queried whether there would be virtual coffee and donuts at the November 13 on line chat.

- 5. Anchorage Assembly-person (AP) Felix Rivera-** Assembly-person Rivera reported on two Assembly topics. He indicated that there will be 2 sessions this month to work on the 2022 Municipal budgets. Among these are the 2022 Capital Projects and Utility budgets that will be on next Aprils' ballot. He also said their will be a work session to deal with the disposition of the Mobile Crisis Team this Friday. The Assembly has till December 10th to pass the budget, but will try to get it done by late November.

Assembly-person (AP) Rivera also reported that on November 9th the Assembly meeting will take up two ordinances. First will be to tighten up timing requirements for mayoral appointments, where acting appointees may only serve 60 days rather than the 6 months that currently exists. The second deals with management authority of the Assembly Chamber when the Assembly is in session. The ordinance would specify that the Assembly Chair has authority over the Chamber when in session.

- 6. Anchorage Assembly-person Meg Zaletel-** She reported on the facilitated Homeless and Housing Work-group work progress on the homeless proposals. AP Zaletel also reported on status of the city wide Covid-19 testing response. She indicated there would be no change in the testing availability. Future ability to respond to Covid-19 surges could be compromised when the federally provided extra nursing staff departs the state. This results in an extra need to fill the vacant city epidemiologist position. She also reported that FEMA reimbursement funds for Covid-19 testing, providing free vaccine shots, and funding mass care facilities are expected on November 5th. Hopefully this will relieve some of the tension between the Assembly and the Mayor's office. President Paul Stang congratulated Assembly-person Zaletel on the recent election retaining her in office and for her hard work for the citizens of Anchorage.

- 7. Anchorage Assembly-person Forrest Dunbar-** He discussed the Mayor's proposal to move the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) from the Anchorage Fire Department to the Police department and to reduce their funding from \$1.5 M to \$750 K. He indicated that there will be a meeting on November 5th to discuss the proposal. He indicated that the MCT could be funded through the Alcohol Tax, which provided more funds than expected. Forest also said that Hotel Room taxes and rental car taxes also provide stronger tax revenues than projected. AP. Dunbar also discussed the recent multiple

staff changes that with the Mayor's administration that affects the city's operations. Al Milspaugh questioned whether the amount of staff movement is "normal". AP Dunbar replied that he doesn't recall such large turnover. AP Pete Peterson noted as the longest serving on the Assembly he doesn't recall this amount of change, which he said is a lot. Marguerite Iverson questioned why the Chief Equity Officer position was created? AP Dunbar replied that the position was created to help city meet Federal EEO requirement, recruit employees from underserved demographics, and provide some independence from governmental pressure to provide better credibility and adherence to city code. Paul Stang questioned whether UACC letter on MCT status and funding was moot. AP Zaletel replied that letter is timely as the November 12th Assembly work session will take up operations of the MCT.

- 8. Anchorage Assembly-person Pete Peterson-**AP Peterson noted that the Assembly passed an ordinance to allow Boards and Commission to meet virtually to be better able to establish quorums for their meetings. He also reported the city will put \$165 M Revenue bonds on the ballot for developing the next phase of the Port of Anchorage construction. On redistricting, AP Peterson noted that on November 10th the State proposal comes to Anchorage, the MOA finalizes the lines on February 28th and issues a resolution that puts the new District lines into effect.
- 9. Anchorage School Board Member Carl Jacobs-** He noted that ASD will be observing November as American Indian and Alaska Native Month. He noted that Superintendent Deena Bishop announced her retirement effective June 30, 2022. On the Covid-19 front ASD will be offering same day testing at all schools and there will be 500 vaccine doses immediately available within their clinics. On their website, there are new FAQ's available. On November 16th the ASD Board will meet to review bond proposals for the April 2022 ballot. Marguerite Iverson commented that she felt that the salary and benefit package offered to the new ASD Superintendent should be at the level that existed prior to Superintendent Deena Bishop current 2021 compensation package.
- 10. UAA Representative Ryan Buchholdt-** UAA Rep Buchholdt also noted UAA will be honoring American Indian and Alaska Native month. Ryan indicated that the University is exploring ways to get persons who may have dropped out of UAA due to the pandemic to return to the University. He stated that unlike UAF there is no current universal vaccination requirement at UAA, though to live in student housing students must be fully vaccinated. Student organizations support a requirement for UAA to require full vaccination. He also indicated that Federal Agency contracting requirements and/or Department of Education edicts may require the University to require full vaccination.

B. UACC Board Reports

- 1. Parks and Recreation- Steve Callaghan:-** Steve noted that signing and fencing will be completed for Folker Park next summer. He also said that the lighting at Folker Park is being worked on to reduce the glare to surrounding residences.
- 2. Planning and Zoning- Krista Scott-** Krista said that the UACC support for the three items from the October meeting had been sent in to the P&Z commission. Also, UACC comments on Title 21 proposed changes had been sent in to the P&Z

Commission for their consideration during their November 8th meeting.

3. **FCC- Al Milspaugh-** Al noted that the FCC now has insurance coverage for Community Council meeting, whenever they do come back to in person meetings. He also requested that people consider what can be done with the \$75 yearly allocation for outreach. Get back to him for the ideas to be discussed in December meeting.
4. **Safety- al Milspaugh-** Al noted the dark season is upon us. Pedestrians and cyclists should consider reflective elements for their clothing. Al has some reflective tape, and contact him if you would like some.

5. Old Business- None

6. New Business and Public Comment

- A. **Letter to Assembly/Mayor on Mobile Crisis Team–Paul Stang-**Paul started by indicating how important the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) is to Anchorage. The behavioral health, paramedics and case managers of the MCT are trained to listen, then stabilize and connect individuals in crisis with resources they need. He felt there was no downside. He then introduced the UACC letter to go to the Mayor and Assembly if passed by UACC. Al Milspaugh with Marguerite Iverson seconding moved to approve sending the letter. Issa Spatrisano opined that the MCT saves money and provide medic and mental health support where needed. The UACC membership voted to approve the letter unanimously by vote of 9/0/0. Paul noted that this effort works in concert with other community councils to get broad based opinion.
- B. **Request for Traffic Calming Survey-Emmanuel Ave-Paul Stang-**Paul indicated UACC residents Kevin and Tiffani McNeill asked the UACC to support asking for a traffic calming study for Emmanuel Avenue. Al Milspaugh with Mark Fink second moved to have the UACC request to have the MOA complete a traffic study for this street. The residents indicated that traffic has been quite heavy and often speeding on this street. In discussion Steve Zemke noted that Checkmate Drive, which connects with Emmanuel Drive to the south, has the same problems and should be included in the study. Marguerite Iverson noted that a study was done some years ago on Checkmate Drive, and attempts were made to get a four way stop included at intersection of Checkmate and Sillary Circle. Nothing came of this, so she is skeptical of the process. Forrest Dunbar noted that previously, speed bumps” were not recommended for the street in part because of there being an existing city bus route. This route he noted has been discontinued. He also noted that traffic calming studies usually include adjacent streets as part of the studies. The UACC voted to approve the letter unanimously 7/0/0 and send it on to the Municipal Traffic Authority and Assembly members. Finally President Stang requested that if other residents have concern about traffic calming measures needed they email him at paulrstang@gmail.com.
- C. **Draft of Title 21 Parking and Site Access Amendments- Elizabeth Appleby, Senior Planner, Zoning and Parking, and Steve Callaghan, UACC-** Elizabeth noted that the planning department is seeking public review of amendments to Title 21 that purpose to lower area specific parking requirements in central urban parts of the Anchorage bowl that were developed before modern parking requirements, and are served by pedestrian, bicycle and public transit facilities, and experience lower parking demand. She presented an overview of the Community Discussion Draft. The amendments contain 6 main proposals; 1)

Streamline approvals for Administrative parking reductions; 2) a more complete menu of available parking reduction strategies; 3) area-specific lower parking requirements in urban neighborhood contexts; 4) improved site access for pedestrians, bicyclists, ride-shares, and public transit; 5) reforms to residential site access driveway standards; and 6) smaller dimensions of parking spaces and circulation aisles. She indicated that the project information summary, the annotated discussion draft and a clean draft of the proposed changes are found at:

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/Projects/AnchLandUse/Pages/Actions4-3%264-6.aspx>

Steve Callaghan noted that the document attempts to present options that would right size parking retirements for portions of the Anchorage Bowl. Mark Fink had questions about what kind of properties the amendments would pertain to, i.e. apartments, individual residence, or commercial properties. Elizabeth replied that it applies to mostly multi-family to commercial properties. Mark then iterated that he felt there was a big concern about the assumption that these properties could and would rely on street parking, which can create considerable conflict with adjacent properties and their owners.

Comments on the Public Information Summary are due to the Long Range Planning Division by December 17th. The changes would go to the Planning and Zoning Commission and then to the Assembly next year for approval. To facilitate UACC comments, send comments to Steve Callaghan by November 17th. Steve will consolidate comments and will have them available for approval or modification at the December UACC meeting.

D. Need for Treatment Foster Home and Foster Parents, Katy Smith, AK Child and Family Care- Katy Smith described the need for treatment foster homes and foster parents. She indicated that up to 2000 youth at a time are in need of these services. She indicated that information on what the treatment foster care entails and how to become a foster parent are found at: <https://www.akchild.org/join-us/foster-parents.html>.

Al Milspaugh had a question about whether state runs the program. Katy replied that they do not have a direct contract with the State, but have an agreed on arrangement to provide for these services. Al also had a question about what help youths that are transitioning out of the foster parent system are afforded. Katy indicated that older youths, up to age 21 can remain in the system, but if they get out of the foster parent home they can still retain a case manager do deal with their situations.

E. Homeless Facilities Update-Paul Stang- President Stang reported that Assembly passed the Resolution approving the assembly approach to move forward with a process outlined in the interim report. The resolution would call for an exit strategy from the Sullivan Arena with a policy statement to proceed forward in the fashion outlined in the interim report, i.e.; to move forward on 5 sites.

Paul also said that UACC testimony to the Assembly on the resolution had to be emailed rather than be presented at the Assembly meeting due to the chaos at the Assembly meeting over mask mandates. His testimony was focused on how the UACC area would be impacted by the proposal, since at least three of the proposed shelters locations in close proximity on Tudor road, with one existing and two proposed. Also, the Tudor/Elmore facility ap-

pears to allow up to 440 clients in certain situations, which would create a huge impact around the UACC parklands and neighborhoods.

F. Recognition of Completed items- Paul Stang- Paul discussed his work with the seven community council presidents in writing the ADN opinion piece that smaller homeless shelters are best for all. He also discussed the email that he sent to AMATS, that endorses the Rabbit Creek Community Council (RCCC) request regarding the proposed public comment period for the Goals and Objectives of the draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2050 be extended to 45 days. The UACC and RCCC believe that the proposed 15-day comment period is woefully inadequate for a meaningful public process.

Public Comments/Open Dialog- Marguerite Iverson noted that long time UACC member Barbara Garner son had passed away recently. She indicated the obituary was in last Sunday's Alaska Daily News newspaper. She thought the Folker Park might be renamed for her since Barbara was so instrumental in getting it established. She gave her best wishes to Barbara and asked whether the \$75 of FCC funds the UACC has could be used to buy flowers for Barbara. Al Milspaugh indicated that the funds are set aside for outreach, and might or might not be available for such a purchase. After discussion, it was recommended that Al Milspaugh, Marguerite Iverson, and Susan Share would work out the details on such a purchase if possible.

8. Adjournment: Al Milspaugh moved to adjourn the meeting. Susan Share seconded. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent around 9:00 pm.

Signed

Paul R. Stang, UACC President

Atch: 1). Alaska Legislature Citation Honoring Al and Isabel Milspaugh
2). UACC November Attendance Log
2). Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes, UACC Community Council, November 3, 2021

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

HONORING AL & ISABEL MILSPAUGH

The members of the Thirty-Second Alaska State Legislature are pleased to honor the service and contributions of Anchorage retirees Al and Isabel Milspaugh.

Al was born to Al & Erma Milspaugh, in Detroit, Michigan in 1947 and Isabel was born to Ines & Pedro Delgado, in Seville, Spain, in 1945. Al & Isabel came to Alaska in September of 1980 while Al was serving in the United States Air Force (USAF) and have been married for an impressive fifty-three years.

When Al was eleven, he joined the Boy Scouts of America and began a life of volunteer service. He held all ranks and positions within the organization until aging out at eighteen. He was a varsity member of Wayne Memorial High School's wrestling and track & field teams and graduated with honors in 1965.

Al passed the USAF Entry Test while in high school and signed up for delayed enlistment into the Air Force. After basic training at Lackland Air Force Base (AFB), Texas, Al was transferred to Westover AFB, Massachusetts, as a Communications Electronics Telecommunications Specialist. In August of 1966, Al was transferred to Morón Air Base (AB), Spain, where he and Isabel would meet and choose to marry. While stationed at Morón, Al began attending college courses at the University of Maryland. In 1969, he and Isabel left Spain with their newborn daughter Erma and moved to Grissom AFB, Indiana for a brief year before being transferred again, this time to Cam Ranh, Vietnam. Isabel and Erma went to stay with Isabel's parents in Spain, and finally in 1971, Al, Isabel, and Erma were reunited at Al's next assignment at Zaragoza AB in northern Spain. While at Zaragoza AB, Al and Isabel became charter members of a square-dancing club; Al continued his education at the University of Maryland; and the family was blessed with a son, Glenn, ten months after their arrival.

In August of 1976 they were reassigned to the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. While stationed there, Al cross-trained into Communications Electronics Systems Management and continued his seeking higher education while he and Isabel coached their children's soccer and baton twirling teams.

In September of 1980, the family was reassigned Elmendorf AFB, a base familiar to many Alaskans. While at Elmendorf, Al completed his degree at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He also helped establish Elmendorf's first soccer league, drafted the bylaws, and was their first soccer commissioner. Al has been generous with his time in Alaska; he has worked for the Alaska Army National Guard as a computer operator civil service employee, for the State Troopers as a computer technician, as well as for the State Attorney General's Office as a case manager. In 2007, Al and Isabel each retired from their work as Educational Adviser for Alaska Student Loans and at Nordstrom, respectively, but didn't let that stop their life of service. The pair has coached their children in soccer, guided them through gymnastics, scouting, swimming, and other activities. Al volunteered as a mentor to the US Government Intervention Program guiding troubled youth and has been a Boy Scout Master and Commissioner. Al & Isabel were State of Alaska Ombudsmen for senior citizens and both are Alaska Food Bank drivers to homebound seniors. Al is the University Area Community Council's Vice President and Safety Chair, as well as the organization's delegate to the Federation of Community Council (FCC) and the FCC Outreach Chair. He was an Anchorage Reserve Police Officer from 1991-2000 and was honored by the City of Anchorage Assembly for his outstanding service to the community and has filled the role of Commissioner for the Anchorage Animal Control Advisory Board.

The members of the Thirty-Second Alaska State Legislature are grateful for Al & Isabel's service to this state and wish them a continued happy retirement traveling from Eagle River, where they enjoy the company of their daughter and two grandchildren, to wherever their hearts lead them.



Louise Stutes
LOUISE STUTES
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

P. A. Miciche
PETER MICICHE
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Bill Wielechowski
SEN. BILL WIELECHOWSKI
SPONSOR

Tom Spohnholz
REP. TOM SPOHNHOLZ
CO-SPONSOR

Attachment 2- November 3, 2021 Attendance Log

Name	Affiliation
Al Milspaugh	Vice President, Safety Chair, FCC Del, & FCC Outreach
Steve Zemke	Secretary/Treasurer
Paul Stang	President
Steve Callaghan	P&R Chair
Annie Collie	Member at Large
Krista Scott	P&Z Chair
Assembly-Person Felix Rivera	Visitor
Marguerite Iverson	Member
Ryan Buchholdt	Member
Kate Wedemeyer	Member
Besse Odom for Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson	Visitor
Mark Fink	Member at Large
Chelsea Ward-Willier for Representative Ivy Sponholz	Member
Susan Share	Member
Assembly-Person Meg Zaletel	Visitor
ASD Rep Carl Jacobs	Visitor
Senator Bill Wielechowski	Member
Assembly-Person Pete Peterson	Visitor
Representative Andy Josephson	Visitor
Assembly Person Forest Dunbar	Visitor
Katy Smith	Visitor
Issa Spatrisano	Member
Stephanie Taylor	Member
Peggy Kugel	Member
Leighan Gonzales	Member
Mary Weiss	Member

Attachment 3

Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes University Area Community Council November 3, 2021

Happy November Everyone!

- ❖ The 4th Special Session ended on November 2nd and it's unfortunate that we didn't get much done after gaveling in on October 4th. As you may remember from my previous newsletter, the Governor called legislators back into a special session to discuss a plethora of items with the main item being a supplemental PFD. There were several bills introduced from both the Senate and House to address new revenue, constitutionally protecting the PFD, and more. You can find additional information at www.akleg.gov. Special Sessions are expensive especially when nothing gets done so I was pleased to hear that the Governor said he will not call another special session.

- ❖ Outside of Juneau, plenty is happening here in Anchorage. I'm busy responding to emails, attending community council meetings, and more. I was honored to be selected to attend the Council of State Governments West's legislative training in September and was also selected to attend the Legislative Energy Horizon Institute's (LEHI) training on energy issues to include climate change. LEHI held a graduation ceremony for 28 West Coast legislators and the event was held at a venue where you could see the Capitol from the balcony. It was inspiring to see our Capitol from that view. We were also given actual graduation certificates from the University of Idaho. Learning is forever, and I'm honored to be selected to participate in providing solutions that will not only benefit me but also my constituents and the people of Alaska.

- ❖ Anchorage midtown voters voted to retain Assemblywoman Meg Zaletel who represents a portion of my Senate District. She is doing an amazing job on behalf of "our" constituents, and I'm so pleased the people have recognized and appreciated her efforts. I'd also like to thank the entirety of our Assembly for their efforts to keep our community safe.

In The Coming Months

As we quickly approach the next legislative session which begins on January 18th, you can expect more activity in the Legislature especially as legislators begin to pre-file bills. In my December newsletter, I will be sharing my list of pre-filed bills.



Always representing your interests!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elvi Gray-Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small number "6" above the first letter "E".

Interim: 907 269-0174 Session: 907-465-4930

Email: Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov, Keith.Bauguess@akleg.gov or Besse.Odom@akleg.gov