

**Approved Minutes of  
Federation of Community Councils Board Meeting  
December 17, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jason Bergerson at 6:03p.m. Roll call established a quorum was present. The agenda was accepted as printed. Minutes of the November meeting were approved with one correction on a motion by Al Tamagni and seconded by Bob Churchill.

Members in attendance;

Airport Heights	Jon Spring
Bear Valley	Laurie Holland
Campbell Park	Peter Hamlett
Eagle River Valley	Tom Freeman
Mountain View	Kep Pierce
Old Seward/Oceanview	Bernie Bradley
Rabbit Creek	Dick Tremaine
Russian Jack	Pat Butler
Sand Lake	Talbot Chang
Scenic Foothills	Lance Pruitt
South Addition	Bonnie Harris
South Fork	Sara Pullen
Spenard	Jason Bergerson
Tudor	Sheli Dodson

The members agreed to postpone Community Council sharing until the end of the meeting, as the members wanted to allow enough time for the committee reports and presentations by guests on the Agenda. Since the guests were not yet present, members moved on to Committee Reports.

Berni Bradley, FCC Treasurer, provided the Finance Committee report. Berni had three items for discussion by the FCC Delegates.

**1) Proposed Fees for Grant Administration**

Currently Community Council Center staff administers grant funds received from the State of Alaska and other sources on behalf of the various Community Councils for a flat 2% fee. It was determined that this amount does not adequately reimburse the Center for staff time and expenses. The Finance Committee proposes that the procedure be changed by charging administration fees on a sliding scale according to the grant amount. Berni handed out a proposed fee scale, stated this was just a starting point for the discussion and asked for feedback from the Delegates.

It was asked where the percentage figures came from. Berni replied that the Committee came up with the figures as a starting point. Since the Council Center has been administering the grants for the past two years, there are no hard figures yet to determine trends and exact costs. The Council Center staff will track time for administering the grants.

It was asked how the fees are applied. Berni replied that the fees are a one-time charge to the total grant amount and the administrative fee is applied as the monies are disbursed. They are not taken out up front or at the end of the grant life. Bernie went on to explain that by having some type of fee scale set-up, it assists the Community Councils when they apply for grants.

Delegates expressed concern that the smaller grant amounts are being hit harder with a higher fee. It was recommended that the breakdown should be more of 3% / 5% / 7%. All Delegates supported the concept of a sliding scale. It was agreed to postpone any final decision on this item until the January meeting so the Delegates can take this question back to the Community Councils for their discussion and feedback.

Berni asked Delegates to e-mail ([Berni@acsalaska.net](mailto:Berni@acsalaska.net)) ideas or suggestions concerning the sliding fee scale to her.

## **2) Research to Change Banks/Transfer Unrestricted Funds**

Berni next directed everyone's attention to the Balance Sheet and pointed out the funds in the General Account and the Unrestricted Account. Currently, these funds are just sitting in the bank, not earning interest. The Finance Committee recommends moving the approximately \$50,000 in unrestricted funds to an interest bearing account.

To support this recommendation, the Finance Committee researched the various banks looking for an account that charges no fees and provides interest. A handout of the research was passed around to the Delegates for review. The Committee was able to narrow the choices to 2-3 banks. What kind of a deal they are able to reach with the bank will depend upon the account balance.

Based on the information provided, Dick Tremaine recommended that the Committee focus on a no fee account first and interest bearing second. Community Council center staff will post the bank research information on the FCC web site for access by the Community Councils so they can review the information and provide feedback as well. The Delegates also agreed to take no action tonight and continue the discussion at the January meeting.

Dick Tremaine made a motion to move the \$50,000 unrestricted funds to a money market account. The motion was seconded and passed.

There were no representatives from APD, the Mayor's Office or Mike Gutierrez.

### **School District Report**

Pat Higgins from the School Board was present and spoke about a presentation made to the school board on Monday night concerning the 2009 General Obligation Bond. They are seeing an influx of children from rural areas. This has an impact on the capacity of the schools to handle the increase. Dittman presented the results of an opinion poll connected with the 2009 General Obligation Bond. Their report can be found on the ASD web site. Pat passed out copies of a Memorandum documenting the discussion and also stated that it is on the school district web site as well. The bond will have to be approved by the Assembly before it goes on the ballot.

Pat also provided an update about students expelled for violence. It was determined that you can't just send these kids out of the school system. So the school district sought funding to hire one teacher to work with these students. Several students expelled have 12-months to meet certain criteria before they are allowed back in the classrooms. Many meet the criteria within 1-2 months.

Delegates asked Pat about the procedure to replace Chris Tuck when he moves on to the State Legislature. Pat replied that after Chris resigns his position, there will be a 30-day application period for the position. The school board will interview applicants with an eye towards the long-term and running for election.

### **Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Bicycle Plan**

Lori Schanche, MOA Non-Motorized Transportation Coordinator, spoke about the non-motorized plans for pedestrians, bicycles, and trails. The Pedestrian Plan has been completed and is on the municipal web site. The bicycle plan has just been completed and provides a network to bike/commute on safely. The bicycle plan has generated a lot of support within the community. A copy of the draft Bicycle Plan can be found on the municipal web site. There will also be a public meeting about the plan on January 12, 2009, 5-8 mp at Wendler Middle School. Lori passed out flyers announcing the meeting.

Lori encouraged the Delegates and members of the public to send her an e-mail at [bikes@muni.org](mailto:bikes@muni.org), if they have any comments on the plan.

### **Municipality of Anchorage Website Upgrade**

Sue Fison and John Falconer spoke about the new municipal web site. They had a PowerPoint presentation walking through the current set-up and the new set-up. The current web site was launched in 1994 and the infrastructure needs to be updated to save money, expand services to the public, and to interface with new technology. The Municipality is recruiting volunteers to test drive the new web site. If you are interested in volunteering, contact: Michelle DeLong, 343-6367, Email: [delongmm@muni.org](mailto:delongmm@muni.org).

### **NUSA 2011 Conference Report**

Jason Bergerson mentioned the contract to host the conference. He hoped that by now everyone has had a chance to read it. He asked for volunteers for a work group to start organizing the conference. Sheli Dodson, Peter Hamlett, Bonnie Harris and Bob Churchill volunteered.

### **Community Councils Center Report**

Mark Butler, Community Council Manager, directed everyone to his written report. He stated that we are coming up the end of the year and have money left in the budget. Approximately \$5,000 will be spent for new computers for the Community Council Center staff. The balance of the money will be placed on account with the US Post Office for mailings of newsletters in 2009. Mark was seeking approval on the computer purchase.

Bob Churchill moved that the new computers be purchased. It was seconded and the motion passed.

Since we did not get to Community Council sharing, Jason asked that members e-mail their updates or concerns to Mark so they can be included in the meeting minutes.

The next FCC meeting will be on January 21, 2009.

There was a motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by Betty Caudle and Mark Butler.