

Federation of Community Councils Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes March 17, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dick Tremaine, Chair with guests and delegates in attendance.

Roll Call Members in attendance: Airport Heights Jon Spring.

Bayshore Klatt	Bob Laule	Portage Valley	Joanne Blackburn
Bear Valley	Laurie Holland	Rabbit Creek	Dick Tremaine
Chugiak	David Baldwin	Rogers Park	Bob Churchill
Eagle River Valley	Tom Freeman	Russian Jack	Pat Butler
Fairview	Paul Benson	Scenic Foothills	Jerrienne Lowther
Hillside East	Dave Lappi	South Fork	Andrew Brewer
Huffman/O'Malley	Christine Monette	Spenard	Jason Bergerson
Mountain View	Kep Pierce	Tudor Area	Sheli Dodson
North Star	Matt Johnson	Turnagain	Cathy Gleason
Northeast	Bob Reupke		

Quorum was established.

Others in attendance included:

Mark Butler, FCC Manager
Jeff Friedman, ASD Board Member
Trevor Storrs, Anchorage Coalition on Homeless

The minutes and agenda were presented for review.

There was a motion to approve the agenda by Churchill, with a second by Dodson. It was suggested that the agenda be amended to add snail mail under old business and the transfer of funds under H1. The friendly amendment was accepted by both parties and the motion carried. Reupke made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Bergerson and the motion carried with no objections.

Jeff Friedman from the Anchorage School Board spoke. Spring state testing is coming up in a couple weeks. There was brief discussion about the changes proposed by Obama with respect to NCLB. Among the proposed changes are a name change and revision, and more emphasis on charter schools and more competitive grants. The Fall 2010-2011 school year will bring upgrades to Zangle, which include student access. Mary McKeene is in charge of Zangle. The school board has agreed on the budget of approximately \$780 million, and it will be presented to the Assembly shortly for approval. A delegate questioned whether the budget would require a RIF (reduction in force), and we were advised that some RIF's may occur, however budget constraints will mostly result in job reassignments.

Trevor Storrs, from the Anchorage Coalition of Homelessness spoke briefly to inform the delegates about the Coalition and its progress towards the 10-year plan to address homelessness. The ACH is comprised of approximately 60 organizations from the non-profit, private and government agencies sector. It was formed back in 2005 with a 10 year goal of ensuring that the homeless have services available to them within three months, and to try to transition them out of their homelessness.

ACH has five core areas of focus: housing, targeted case management, information management, public policy and prevention.

He offered a few statistics regarding the homeless in Anchorage:

The average age of a homeless person is 9 years old. This fact is reflected by the large number of families (with small children) that are homeless. Based on a 40-hour workweek, a living wage of \$18/hour is needed to provide a family with a basic 2 bedroom apartment, which runs approximately \$900/month. (HUD's standards state that 30% of income is expected to cover housing needs.) Affordable housing is the number one problem directly relating to homelessness in Anchorage.

ACH reported some successes in their efforts. They have added approximately 100 units of affordable housing. One of their success stories is the approximately 50 units in their "Safe Harbor" program (a division of Housing First), which is a transitional program to provide housing and allow its participants a two year transition period towards independent housing.

Another success was the 5-7 complexes (each which accommodate 5-10 units) as part of a coordinated effort with Homeward Bound. In addition, their Project Homeless Connect has served 2000 individuals/households with less than a 30% rate of recidivism. Mr. Storrs broke the homeless down to approximately 250-400 chronic inebriates and an average of 1600 individuals/families. Another success: The Beyond Shelter project was designed to help the family shelters, which are overflowing. Families are given a hotel stay and mobile case management to assist getting them back on their feet. The ACH coordinated its efforts internally between its many collaborating agencies and groups to apply for \$750K from the Obama Stimulus package. The \$750K is and will be utilized for mobilization for case managers, as well as a centralized point of contact (United Way 2-1-1), which handles the triage and links them to case management.

The funds are also being used for rent and utilities for individuals/families in need. At this time, all of their first year funds were expended and they have already dipped into the second year's funding. He added that the AHC is building strong partnerships and sharing resources for maximum benefits. He also noted that the working poor are constantly on the verge of homelessness, and the greater the number of "big box stores", the greater the population of the "working poor".

Mr. Storrs touched briefly on Mayor Sullivan's Homeless Leadership Team (HLT), explaining that their primary focus is the chronic inebriate population. The floor was opened to questions from the delegates. One delegate questioned the Chelsea Inn project and who its target population was to be. Mr. Storrs referred questions requiring in-depth answers back to the NeighborWorks program, but indicated that the primary target population to be served is low-income individuals, as mandated by HUD. Many will include those with mental health issues, and stated that certain background requirements must be met.

CIP Lists Delegates were advised that the CIP list/surveys would be distributed by March 26th. It includes, but is not limited to inquiries regarding city parks, city roads and state roads. Lists are due to be turned in by June 1st.

Reducing USPS Mailings

Further discussion ensued over the email lists. It was reiterated that all councils should be encouraging snail mail recipients to move to email as a way to reduce expenses.

Using Facebook for Community Councils Mark Butler made a presentation on using FaceBook as a way to connect to more council members.

Mike Gutierrez spoke as a representative of the Anchorage Assembly. He stated that a special meeting was held the prior evening regarding KABATA (Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority). He also indicated that the city is implementing a test program for People Mover, using routes 7 and 9 to test the effects of pre-empting traffic signals.

Title 21 was also briefly discussed. Mr. Gutierrez confirmed that the ASD budget was coming before the assembly within a few weeks time. He also advised the council that the assembly had passed an ordinance with respect to the distance requirements for chronic inebriate shelters. Another topic broached was the George Sullivan insurance payout, which is to be re-addressed on March 23rd.

There was no formal Finance Committee report. Financials were made available. There was a motion by Pierce (MV), with a 2nd by Freeman (ERV) to approve the transfer of funds "as necessary", up to \$15k to cover expenses until the Muni grant proceeds are received. The motion passed with no objections.

2011 Anchorage NUSA Conference Jason Bergerson led the discussion on NUSA 2011 for Anchorage. He recently returned from NUSA's Board of Delegates Spring Meeting, held in Indianapolis, IN.

The board is reluctant to travel to Anchorage in October 2010 due the perception of the expense and the cold, however were reminded that it is part of the contract they signed. Hotel accommodations remain the focal point of discussion. The Hilton is currently offering a rate of \$155/night, and the Downtown Marriot is offering a rate of \$145/night. The costs do not include the city's 12% bed tax.

Jason strongly recommended that the FCC make a strong showing at the NUSA Conference in Little Rock, AR this May. He suggests that we send 10-12 people to attend and make careful observations of how Little Rock put their conference together.

It was noted that anyone who attends the Little Rock conference should expect to chair one of the many committees that either currently exist or will be formed. Recommended committees include:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers |

Current committees or newly created committees are as follows:

NUSA Hotels

Jason Bergerson (Spenard)
Mark Butler (CCC)
Berni Bradley (OSOV)
Christine Monette (H/OM)
Sheli Dodson (TACC)

Pat Butler (RJ)
Mark Butler (CCC)
Peter Hamlett (CP)
Bob Churchill (RP)

Fundraising Events

Paul Benson (FV)
Jon Spring (AH)
Kep Pierce (MV)
Bob Churchill (RP)

Laurie Holland (BV)
Susan Klein (UA)
Mark Butler (CCC)

The delegates discussed what is needed in terms of fundraising efforts. We seek cash, in-kind donations and sponsorships for individuals, groups, booths, etc.

Requests for Legislative Funding

Our request for legislative funds is in Juneau. All delegates were encouraged to email your legislative representative s, Senator Ellis and Bill Stoltz (who is in charge of the capital budget in the house) to request the full funding be approved.

The FCC needs approximately \$250k-\$300k in funding to make the conference a success. Registration fees are part of the fundraising. Standard registration fees are \$150-\$200, if we exceed that amount, we risk making this unaffordable to many potential conference attendees.

There was a motion by Bergerson and a 2nd by Benson to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to wrap up last minute discussion items.

There was a motion by Churchill with a 2nd by Freeman to set aside \$15,000 towards travel expenses and the back page brochure that the FCC needs to submit for the NUSA 2010 guide. The motion carried with no objections.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.