

Federation of Community Councils, Inc.

Board of Delegates

Minutes of September 18, 2013 meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM by Chair, Brit Szymoniak.

The meeting was called to order and a quorum established by President Brit Szymoniak at 6:05 pm. The agenda and the Minutes for the May meeting were approved without objection.

FCC Delegates in attendance:

Abbott Loop	Al Tamagni, Sr.
Bayshore/Klatt	Bob Laule
Campbell Park	Kevin Fimon
Chugiak	Deborah Jones
Eagle River Valley	Thomas C. Freeman, Jr.
Fairview	Harry Need
Government Hill	Kyle Stevens
Huffman O'Malley	Christine Monette
Mid Hillside	Lance Powell
Mountain View	Kep Pierce
North Star	Gordon Glaser
Northeast	Bob Reupke
Rogers Park	Bob Churchill
Taku Campbell	Jeff Landfield
Tudor	Tod Butler
Turnagain	Cathy Gleason
University Area	Joanie Nardini

Others in attendance included:

Tam Gisler-Agosti	Anchorage School Board
Brit Szymoniak	FCC Chair
Mark Butler	Councils Center Manager
Michelle Kitter	Anchorage Historical Preservation Commission
Stephen Nuss	AWWU
Ric Davidge	ERVCC/RCCC
Matthew Grim	DOWL/HKM
Rachel Steer	DOWL/HKM
Lesley Lepley	DOWL/HKM
Tawrence Smith	UAA Student

Skip Myers
Jon Cecil

CPCD
MOA Community Development

No one present from the Assembly.

There was no report or representative from the assembly. We had been notified that the representatives were not able to attend due to conflicts in scheduling but may be attending our May meeting.

The Anchorage School Board -- Tam Agosti-Gisler, Board President. She stated that a contract with the union representing the teachers had been approved by both the ASB and the Union; which represents approximately 3500 employees. The cost of the contract will be below inflation and will be about 2.4 million over the next 3 years. A large part of the costs are related to health care. This year health care will not be provided for employees whose position is rated at .5 or below. Also the contract will now allow employees to refuse health care if they wish. In response to questions she stated that the base rate funding per student from the State of Alaska had remained flat. In addition she indicated that class sizes were generally smaller with the lower grades and increased in the upper grades. Ms. Agosti-Gisler can be reached by phone at 742-1101 or by e-mail at agosti-gisler_tam@asdi12.org.

Presentations:

Community Council Boundaries – John Cecil, Municipality of Anchorage

John Cecil, Senior Planner, with the Community Development Department of the Municipality gave an update on the process for establishing boundaries of the community council areas. This is done approximately every 10 years. He stated that requests for input regarding the community council areas were going out and were due back in 90-120 days. These requests contain a set of planning principals. He indicated that not all principals apply to all councils, there is no ranking within the principals, population is not a criterion, and that the number of assembly members representing an area does not drive boundaries. In response to questions he stated that request to combine community council areas would be considered. Also a request was made to improve access to the community council maps at the Municipality (via the internet) and Mr. Cecil stated he would look into it and see what he could do. Mr. Cecil can be reached by phone at 343-7915 or e-mail at CecilJP@muni.org.

AWWU Master Plan – Stephen Nuss, AWWU

Stephen Nuss, Capital Project Manager with Anchorage Water & Waste Utility (AWWU) talked about the AWWU master plan. He stated that AWWU does not cover the most

northern and southern areas in the Anchorage area Girdwood for example). The master plan is intended to guide future development and priorities for AWWU. The current plan was last updated in 2006 and they try to update it every 5-7 years. They pay particular attention to industrial growth with the objective of optimizing the collection and maintenance of systems. The current growth rate is approximately 1% in the core area and 1-2 % in the outlying areas. They review maximum load periods and pay particular attention to fats, oils and grease (FOG) being put into the system. Currently enforcement on restrictions is difficult but they are hoping it will improve. He stated that the internal draft plan is due between 10/01-10/15/2013 and the public review process is scheduled to begin 11/04/2013 and end 2/03/2014. They are hoping to finalize the Master Plan between 2/03-3/21/2014. Mr. Nuss can be reached by phone at 564-2763 or by e-mail at Stephen.nuss@awwu.biz.

Northern Access to the U-MED District – Rachel Steer, DOWL/HKM

Rachel Steer, Public Involvement Manager from DOWL HKM spoke about the project for a northern access to the U-MED district. She stated she was available for individual community council meetings and could be contact by phone at 562-2000 or by e-mail at rsteer@dowlhkm.com. The information they have establishes that approximately 43% of the traffic entering the U-MED district comes from the north and the east. She also indicated 1 of every 9 jobs in the Anchorage Bowl are in this area. They are projecting a final route will be chosen by January 2014. In response to questions, she stated they have considered a bridge over areas particularly sensitive to wet lands issues. They have also considered the addition of a northern access may increase cut through traffic. However that is currently happening and how much the traffic will increase is not clear. More information about this project can be obtained at their website (www.umednorthernaccess.com). They can also be contact by e-mail at umednorthernaccess@dowlhkm.com.

Highway Safety Improvement Projects for Anchorage -- Matthew Grimm and Lesley Lepley, DOWL/HKM

Matthew Grimm and Lesley Lepley spoke on Highway Safety Improvement Projects scheduled for development in Anchorage.. Ms. Lepley is a public involvement planner with DOWL HKM and can be contacted at 562-2000 or by e-mail at llepley@dowlhkm.com. They have focused on a number of roads which have had a high rate of safety related incidents. Those areas include: Jewel Lake & Raspberry Road; 36th & Old Seward; 36th & LaTouche; and Ingra from 4th to 3rd. There are also approximately 14 areas in downtown which have been selected for improvement and they comprise the bulk of the project. In response to a question regarding the inclusion

and safety structure of bike paths, they stated they would research it and get back to us through the FCC office.

Rural Community Council Issues -- Ric Davidge, Developer

Ric Davidge gave a talk regarding issues relating to better coordination, planning and implementation of projects which affect rural and urban community councils areas differently. One example he used was the matter of street lighting. He stated in many of the more rural areas they did not want as many street lights as the more urban areas generally wanted. Most of their concerns related to lighting and road standards. He would be available to talk with other community councils but Pat Abney is one of their main people and should be back soon. He can be contacted by phone at 229-5328.

Standing Committee Reports:

Chair Brit Szymoniak

Brit Szymoniak gave the president's report. She stated that the FCC was planning to do another "**State of Our City**" program similar to the one the FCC did the last year two years. Let mark know if you have suggestions for speakers.

She was also interested in creating an **Community Council Awareness Week** to better publicize and inform people about the community councils. She stated she had completed the performance evaluation for Mark Butler, Office Manager, and asked that group based on his performance to give Mark a hand. In response to questions, it was stated we were 6 weeks from having the FCC website completed and that it was still planned to give the individual community councils an opportunity to review it and provide suggestions. A request was made by Al Tamagni the contractor appear at the next FCC meeting so we could ask questions about the project and get a better sense of the status of the project. This was followed by a formal motion by Al Tamagni; seconded by Cathy Gleason. The motion was amended to include that this be done before the end of the year. There were 13 yes and 1 no vote, the motion carried.

Brit stated we now have an agreement with the **UAA Archives** to store records for community councils. It was stated there was no cost to the FCC related to the contract and the FCC retains rights and ownership of all the documents. It was requested from the floor that a copy of the contract be sent to all community council presidents and a commitment was made to do so. Al Tamagni asked about the committee that had been established to oversee this process. Mark Butler stated that the committee had never met. Mr. Tamagni asked about the retention schedule for documents. It was stated the documents would be kept in perpetuity.

Treasurer Kep Pierce

Kep Pierce handed out three financial report packages, one including January through June 2013, one January through July 2013 and one January through August 2013. She stated we were pretty much on budget at this time.

Councils Center Manager Mark Butler presented the FCC Manager's report. He stated that 18 councils had submitted their capital projects list and he encouraged all councils to do so. Cathy Gleason commented that Ernie Hall, Chair of the Anchorage Assembly had asked that copies of the community council capital project lists be sent directed to either the City Clerk's office or their Assembly representatives.

Mark Butler discussed the activities of the working group for the **Ted Stevens Airport Master Plan**. Brit Szymoniak stated originally she had been the delegate for the FCC but due to her travel schedule she had asked Mark Butler to replace her during some of the meetings. Cathy Gleason asked about Mark Butler's involvement in the Ted Stevens Airport Master Plan process as she felt it was inappropriate for the FCC to participate as a member. Further she stated that it was her opinion that Mark Butler's remarks did not reflect the opinion or position of the FCC and consequently were inappropriate. She stated the FCC should have declined to participate. Cathy Gleason moved that we send a letter to the effect that Mark Butler's comments on the working group did not represent the FCC with copies to the individual members of the working group. Al Tamagni seconded. During the discussion a concern was expressed that the letter might reflect negatively on the FCC and that a representative should be able to discuss issues without checking with the organization. Others felt that it was not appropriate to have either a FCC member or the manager a member of this type of committee. One member moved that the letter express that Mark Butler did represent the FCC but his opinions did not. Gordon Glaser moved to amend by substitution. His amendment was that the letter would state that the FCC took no position either pro or con on the Ted Stevens Airport Master Plan. The vote was 12 yes and 2 no to substitute the amendment offered by Mr. Glaser and the motion to substitute carried. Cathy Gleason offered a friendly amendment to include any views or opinions expressed were the individuals own and not the FCC's. Gordon Glaser rejected the amendment. The vote on the motion as amended was 13 yes and 0 no, the motion carried.

Tom Freeman made a motion that only FCC officers would represent the FCC on committees, such as task forces, working groups, etc. Al Tamagni seconded the motion. A friendly amendment was offered by Gordon Glaser that it would be a priority that an FCC officer be the member but if an officer was not available an FCC delegate could be selected. The amendment was accepted both Tom Freeman and Al Tamagni.

During discussion Cathy Gleason renewed her objection to having an FCC delegate at all. The vote was 11 yes and 1 no, the motion carried.

Assembly member Dick Traini was recognized and spoke on the activities of the Anchorage Assembly. He asked why the budget for the FCC had not been submitted as required by the contract on or before September 1st. He was assured that it would be submitted by Brit Szymoniak. Mr. Traini stated that AO-37, an ordinance primarily dealing with labor unions and issues related to negotiations, had been suspended as there was a move to put this on the ballot. He said there were two alternatives if this goes to the ballot, a special election or including it with the April election. He has received an estimate that the cost of a special election would be between 280,000 and 470,000 dollars. He indicated that the assembly was working on new regulations on taxi cabs and working on ordinances on towing of vehicles.

During Mr. Traini's presentation a motion was made by Al Tamagni to extend the meeting to 8:25 pm and seconded by Tom Freeman and passed without objection.

New Business:

Old Business:

Council Sharing:

None at this meeting.

Public Comments:

None at this meeting.

Meeting Adjourned before 8 p.m.