

University Area Community Council - Minutes for meeting, April 2, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:05P by President Tim Neale. The minutes were approved as printed. Council officers were introduced.

Steve Planchon of the Mental Health Trust Land Office was introduced. The purpose of the trust is to generate funds for Mental Health Services. They are in the process of submitting a zoning change for the land on the corner of Providence Dr. and Lake Otis Pkwy extending up to 40th Ave. It is to be divided into 2 lots. The land on the north end is being considered for the new Municipal Dept. of Health & Human Services building. The south parcel is out to bid for development of a commercial building to be leased. This will produce income for the Trust. The public will have opportunities for comments on the south half by 4P, April 20, and the north parcel by 4P, April 28. These comments are not to be about other land uses, they need to be restricted to financial opportunities for the Trust Fund. There are no specific building plans available for comment at this time, available at a later date. This was followed by a question and answer period. There are some concerns about the traffic problems this development may generate. There are no plans for a traffic light at 40th Ave at this time, even though it is the logical place to have a light.

Vince Huntington spoke briefly about a minor addition to the front of the Medical Office Bldg attached to Providence Hospital. This will expand the size of the entry, lobby and Imaging Center. It will not impact the parking area. It will only be two stories high and basically improve the overall appearance of the building.

Next was a UAA Drive and pedestrian safety project presentation by Steve Gillette who is the MOA project manager. They anticipate the project will take 20-25 days. It is ready to go out to bid. Ralph Rentz spoke about the design to be implemented. The east side of UAA Drive will have a separate trail and landscaping. The south end of the trail will have considerable ornamental landscaping. This was followed by a question and answer period. Tim Neale asked for a show of hands of the UAA students present at the meeting.

Brian Whittle of the Assembly asked for input from the council about the ongoing problem of begging from the public right-of-ways on our street corners. A permit is needed at present, but would it be restricted in some way? There was some discussion and many comments regarding this problem.

Doug Van Etten, Assemblyman, spoke of the spin-off from the Fur Ball. The Assembly is considering an ordinance restricting the ages of young people who could attend public events. The ages ranged from 16-19 or 16-20. The public hearing will be held soon. Mother-in-law apts will have a hearing by P&Z next month. They need to meet the municipal building and safety codes. There is a need for this type of housing.

Sandy Traini spoke for Dick Traini regarding the Assembly ordinance for limiting the age of teens at teen events.

The council then addressed the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) list. Tim Neale explained the process. It was recommended that our council submit a shortened list for consideration. The new list is 42nd Ave improvements with pathways for pedestrians. Dale Street pedestrian path - it has many users and needs safety upgrades. The intersection of 42nd and Lake Otis Pkwy has a no left turn sign so anyone wanting to go south on Lake Otis would need to go to Folker St to get back on to Tudor to then go south on Lake Otis. At this time it was suggested Folker St. be added to the list of improvements needed.

Hugh Wade moved the UACC strongly recommend that 42nd Ave be designated as a collector. The motion was seconded by Tom Bronga. Vince Huntington proposed an amendment to include Dale St as well as 42nd Ave be designated as collectors based on that UACC strongly recommend (East) 42nd Ave, Dale Street and Folker Street be designated as collectors. The motion was seconded by Tom Bronga. Vince Huntington proposed an amendment to include Dale St. as well as 42nd Ave be designated as collectors based on the traffic count. This was seconded by John Weum. Hugh accepted the amendment. Then the motion was restated by Hugh Wade to say that UACC strongly recommend that 42nd Ave and Dale St be designated as collectors. This was seconded by Vince Huntington. The following discussion referenced Folker Street between 42nd and Tudor. Hugh Wade restated the motion, adding Folker Street, seconded by Vince Huntington. The motion passed by unanimous approval. Hugh Wade moved that UACC submit the CIP list to include 42nd, Folker St, Dale St and a traffic signal at Lake Otis and 40th, seconded by Karen Workman. The council gave unanimous approval.

Mark Butler, Community Relations Manager for Stevens Airport spoke of the major construction to be done on the north-south runway this summer. New taxiway and resurfacing of this runway will make it necessary for all flights in and out to use the east-west runway. The construction is to be started May 1 and will probably last until October 1, depending on the weather and other factors. This means the planes going in and out will be flying over the east side of Anchorage. There will be an information meeting Monday, April 21 at East High School with FAA and engineering reps attending. They are trying to complete the work in one season. There will be a job fair relating to transportation jobs at the North Terminal Saturday, April 12, 10A-3P.

Tim Neale requested as many members as possible change to E-mail to receive news from the council and FCC.

Dan Hoberg reported the final plans for the Alaska Club drainage resolution are complete and waiting for good weather.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10P.

Submitted by Betty Adkison, Secretary-Treasurer