



## **Municipality of Anchorage**

### **Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission**

Room 155 - City Hall  
632 West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska

#### ***ACTION SUMMARY***

12:00 Noon  
Wednesday, November 27, 2013

#### ***Regular Meeting***

### **I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

*Present:* Dan Billman  
Dan Bosch  
Tamás Deák, Chair  
Brett Jokela  
Holly Kent  
Cherie Northon  
David Nyman  
Bob Pawlowski  
Rick Sinnott, Vice Chair

*Staff:* Thede Tobish, Senior Planner, Community Development Department,  
Planning Division, Long-Range Planning Section (CDD/Planning/Long-  
Range)

Kristine Bunnell, Senior Planner, (CDD/Planning/Long-Range)

Nicole Jones-Vogel, Associate Planner, (CDD/Planning/Long-Range)

*Guests:* Holly Spoth-Torres, Parks and Recreation Department  
Jessy Coltrane, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

### **II. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:05 p.m.

The Chair changed the order of the Agenda to begin with the resolution on the table.

### **III. ACTION SUMMARY**

#### **A. Regular Meeting of October 23, 2013**

*Commissioner Billman* noted that the minutes inaccurately noted that he was excused from the meeting. He was present.

*Commissioner Pawlowski* moved to approve the October 23, 2013 minutes with the correction. *Commissioner Bosch* seconded.

**The October 23, 2013 minutes were passed with the correction.**

*(Note: Meeting was dated incorrectly as October 25, 2013, in all places on October's and November's action summaries. All references have been corrected to October 23, 2013.)*

### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. WNRC Resolution No. 2013-02**

*Commissioner Billman* moved to approve the resolution as proposed with a minor typo consideration in the fifth "Whereas."

*Commissioner Pawlowski* seconded.

**The Resolution 2013-02 was unanimously approved with direction to staff to address the typo in the fifth "Whereas."**

### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. U-Med District Plan Introduction**

*Kristine Bunnell* and *Nicole Jones-Vogel* from the MOA Long-Range Planning Section of the Planning Division presented an overview of planning issues and methods for the U-Med District Plan revision process. They noted that the planning boundary had been adjusted towards the east. Staff will be seeking Commission input on the Plan's vision elements, especially those related to natural resources. The Plan will include a natural resource management plan since much of the planning area includes native forest, wetlands and two stream channels. The Commission voiced concerns about the ongoing loss of native forest acreage, air quality cumulative impacts, and whether the Plan will address sustainability. The Commission also noted concerns with the need for a collective management approach of non-point source pollution and impervious surfaces. The Commission will further consider Plan review comments when there is a draft produced.

## **B. Wildlife Conflicts in MOA Parks**

Jessy Coltrane from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Holly Spoth-Torres from MOA Parks and Recreation were invited by the Commission to join in a discussion about wildlife conflicts in MOA parks in light of this fall's incidences in Kincaid Park. The Commission wanted to have a conversation with the guests about how wildlife conflicts are addressed in MOA parks.

*Ms. Spoth-Torres* noted that the uptick in conflicts was a symptom of expanding uses and numbers of people and types of uses in the parks; i.e., more people on more trails at all times and at higher speeds. Several commissioners noted that data on expanded uses and impacts of those uses might assist with future management.

*Ms. Coltrane* discussed new approaches to managing people during peak wildlife sensitivity times (calving) and how these methods seem to be working. Staff suggested that Parks and Rec needs to make more judicious decisions when permitting races at these sensitive times. Many issues require more active people management for wildlife. The Commission considered the idea of initiating a public education campaign, possibly via ADN commentary, to initiate a community discussion about wildlife conflicts and how to better manage aspects of parks and recreation that involve these impacts.

*Ms. Spoth-Torres* noted that Parks and Rec has added a new park manager for Kincaid to have a more active trail presence.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS (none)**

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS/STAFF REPORT (none)**

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Commissioner Bosch* moved to adjourn. *Commissioner Kent* seconded.

**The motion passed without objection.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.