



## **Municipality of Anchorage**

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

Room 525 - City Hall  
632 West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska

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

12:00 Noon  
Wednesday, February 24, 2016

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

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

*Present:* Tamás Deák, Chair  
Brett Jokela  
Holly Kent  
Cherie Northon  
David Nyman  
Stephanie Schmidt  
Rick Sinnott, Vice Chair

*Excused:* Dan Billman  
Dan Bosch

*Staff:* Thede Tobish, Senior Planner, MOA Planning Department,  
Long-Range Planning Division

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

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

#### **III. ACTION SUMMARY**

##### **A. Regular Meeting of November 25, 2015**

*Commissioner Sinnott* moved to approve the November 25, 2015 minutes as written.

*Commissioner Kent* seconded.

**The minutes for the November 25, 2015 meeting were approved as written.**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS (none)**

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Government Hill Bear-Garbage WNRC Resolution No. 2015-01**

The Commission opened discussion on this issue following concerns and questions on the objectives and value of moving garbage cans on pick-up day to the front curb in the Government Hill neighborhood. Three assemblymembers and the presidents of the Government Hill and Rogers Park Community Councils voiced formal concerns about the WNRC Resolution No. 2015-01 recommending this approach as a way to minimize bear-garbage conflicts. The Chair spoke to Assemblymember Flynn about the issues. He suggested it might be more effective to work with Solid Waste Services (SWS) to follow through with its intent to identify and pursue other actions to address bears and garbage. The Commission suggested it continue to work with SWS on how best to take positive and effective actions to reduce bear-garbage conflicts without getting into politics and by avoiding neighborhood sensitivities. Solutions to this longstanding issue are either process-and-management oriented—e.g., enforcement—versus changes in policy, regulations, or garbage can requirements.

The Commission decided to invite the interested assemblymembers and community council representatives to the March meeting to discuss issues, re-state concerns, and identify solutions. The Chair will work with staff to draft an invitation letter for that meeting.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS/STAFF REPORT**

Staff is working on several future meeting agenda items, including:

- Alaska Railroad Corp. presentation on their fencing activities and policies;
- Watershed Management Section's culvert monitoring project data; and
- Alaska Center for the Environment's efforts to educate and protect salmon habitats in Anchorage.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**The motion passed without objection.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.