

Alaska Common Ground
Muse Restaurant, Anchorage Museum
Minutes for the Annual Meeting
March 22nd, 2017

Alaska Common Ground's 25th annual meeting was called to order by Chair Cliff Groh at 5:30 pm.

Welcome: Cliff welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Minutes: Minutes from the Annual Meeting on May 17th, 2016 were approved as presented.

Nominating Committee: Elizabeth Nicolai announced that three renewing board members were reelected, Cliff Groh, Ted Madsen, and Janet McCabe. There are still two spaces on the board.

Treasurer's Report: Dick Mylius, presented the approved budget for 2017.

- Cash on hand is \$16,807, down from last year's meeting when it was \$19,842.
- Total income for 2016 was \$21,661, of which 77% was from membership dues and donations.
- Our expenses in 2016 were \$21,496, of which events were 73%.

Membership and Development: Danielle Williams recently became Chair of this committee.

- Our goal for 2017 is 30 new members, we're at 26 and have 122 current members.
- Developed new logo and brand guidelines.
- Now on Twitter – up to 9 followers.
- Almost at 500 followers on Facebook.
- Sending out regular e-newsletters.

Program Review: Cliff reported:

- Held several fiscal events, both in Juneau and Anchorage, including one in conjunction with Nerd Nite, that was very well attended.
- Events were televised and on public radio.
- Door donations were requested, and free lodging in Juneau, to help cover costs.

Transportation Series: Mary Lu Harle provided an overview

- The planning committee is composed of ACG board members, members, and transportation experts.
- Idea for transportation series came from member suggestions.
- We're starting tonight with Rollin Stanley, a planning expert from Calgary, Canada.
- In two weeks we'll bring up another speaker, Mayor Paul Soglin from Madison, WI.
- Sponsors include Stantec, AARP Alaska, Bettisworth North, Brooks and Associates. Anchorage Public Library, League of Women Voters, Alaska Trails, and Vision Zero have assisted with these events.
- Rollin Stanley made a few remarks in advance of his presentation.

Member Feedback: Taylor Brelsford led a discussion noting that the amount of work ACG now does has increased. Comments included:

- Could ACG provide an email to members scoring the different solutions to the fiscal crisis?
- Could we report back in June after the session is over?
- What should we work on besides transportation?
 - Health care
- Appreciate that there is no charge for annual meeting.
- Federal representatives get away without much reporting back to Alaskans, could ACG host an event?
- Can we add voices from the rural, remote parts of the state to the discussion?
 - Note that we had a series on the urban-rural divide in the past.
- What about looking at impact of fiscal gap on families and equity?
- There was a request for a round of applause for Cliff who has been working hard in Juneau on fiscal issues.
- Bill Hall is working on Socrates Café style events where the topic is determined at the event, calling these events Doing Democracy.

John Parsi closed the meeting, noting that ACG is working with more partners, including an event last night with AEDC which was well attended. We're looking to reach out even more and need the support of our membership to make that happen.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.