

Birchwood Community Council

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Minutes

Wednesday, September 12, 2018, 7-9 PM
Beach Lake Chalet, 17611 S Birchwood Loop Rd

1. Call to Order: 7 PM (Debbie Ossiander chairing in Kevin's absence).

2. Approval of May and July 2018 Minutes - approved

3. Announcements

- a) The Municipality of Anchorage announces that the Housing and Community Development 2019 Action Plan is in the planning phase and a 30 day public comment is being accepted on potential projects to be funded in 2019 with U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants. Comment period is Aug 23 to Sep 24.

4. Reports

- a) FCC Report: Matt Cruickshank
- b) CBERRRSA Road Board Report: Debbie notes that Hillside is thinking about consolidating their various road boards.
- c) Parks and Recreation Report: Lower than expected tax collections meant that 2018 budgets have been cut; for this year, we will use fund balance to make up most of the difference, but next year (2019) will see reduced capital spending, as we will prioritize maintaining what we have. Beach Lake Road was recently repaved. We have placed newly acquired rocks to block places where motorized vehicles are accessing non-motorized park trails.
- d) Chugiak Eagle River Advisory Board (see setback issue below)
- e) Treasurer's report - none
- f) Tim Benningfield – CVFD From May to now, they have put in 1743 volunteer hours and over 300 responses. Debbie asks if there's an avenue for HS students to learn about firefighting. There is; Explorers meet every Wednesday night; the time commitment is at least 4 hours/month plus training hours; and they can respond with CVFD volunteers. Allie Ward is a graduate of CHS, and once she graduated in May she became an active member of the department; since May, she's put in 251 hours.
- g) Birchwood Patrol Report – recent crime activity – Jeff Hartley reports that mail box thefts continue; APD won't investigate but you can call the postal inspector 261-6321.

5. Appearances:

- a) Rory McAlister from Blueprint Alaska speaks briefly on the Stand for Alaska campaign, which is organizing opposition to this fall's ballot proposition 1. Their web site is standforak.com

6. Old Business

- a) AWWU Task Force Update; we review the issue; there is no new information; AWWU will be at our October meeting. Ann mentions that we need to continue to note/resolve/insist that the comprehensive plan is not being followed by the muni and AWWU.
- b) Proposed changes to stream setback provisions of title 21: the Assembly public hearing opened August 14, and will continue October 9th. Debbie summarized the issue, which is about expanding the protections of Title 21 on streams with riparian areas. The setback protected area is currently 25'; this would add between 25 and 75

2017-2018 board: Kevin McNamara, Chair; Debbie Ossiander, Vice Chair & CERAB rep Tony Vita, Road Board; Lexi Hill, Secretary & Parks and Rec rep; Matt Cruickshank, Secretary for Publicity; Barbara Trost, Member at large

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additional feet of riparian protection. The limitations on what you can do in the riparian area (the expanded protection) are less strict than those in the 25' right next to the stream (the current protection). CERAB asked that the ordinance include permission for temporary disturbance for construction (this was not added) and that the time to rebuild using grandfathered permission be extended to 10 years (also not added). Matt asks about the 'legally established' change – he doesn't understand the change. Oliver Sheets lets us know that this was being presented on tonight at the ER Valley CC, and tomorrow at the Eagle River CC.

- c) Elections: Chair, Vice Chair, Rep at Large (currently combined with Treasurer) are up for election; Secretary, Secretary for Publicity, FCC rep, to continue in their two year terms. Debbie is interested in chair; Gretchen is interested in chair or co-chair; Patty Friend is interested in Member at Large; Liz Shen may be interested in co-chair. Channel nominations through Lexi, who will prepare a ballot.

7. New Business

- a) Liquor license renewals – the mayor's office has let us know of liquor licenses in our community council area that are up for renewal this year: Pilot's Grill, Liquor Locker, and Three Bears. If we want the assembly to hold a public hearing on any of these, we need to pass a resolution requesting such, and send it to the Municipal Clerk by Oct 15. No one at the meeting voiced a need for a public hearing.
- b) October meeting location will be Beach Lake Lodge

8. Open Forum-floor opened to public, any issue

Oliver Scheiss for state senate spoke

The father of the girl whose horse got stuck came to express his appreciation of the community and especially of the CVFD

9. Adjournment- 8 PM