

# **Birchwood Community Council**

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## **Minutes**

Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 7-9 PM

Beach Lake Chalet, 17611 S Birchwood Loop Rd

1. Call to Order 7:02

2. October 2016 Minutes not available – table till December

3. Announcements - none

### **4. Reports**

a) FCC Report: Dave Wolfe nothing has happened recently at FCC

b) CBERRRSA Road Board Report: <http://www.muni.org/Departments/works/operations/streets/Service/Pages/CBERRRSARoadBoard.aspx>

Their last meeting focused on Aurora Borealis; it's not actually a road; it's a driveway mostly on private property. The problem is that to upgrade the road would mean they would also have to upgrade Starner Bridge. Folks don't want to upgrade the road, but it needs it. There are issues that are unresolved. Jill asks her question about torn up area on Almdale; Tony recommends that she (and anyone else with questions) call Street Maintenance directly. Mark Littlefield can answer their questions.

c) Parks and Recreation Report: <http://www.muni.org/Departments/ERparks/>

Lexi reports there's been no quorum for 2 months; she reports there is excellent new single track trail at Mirror – Edmonds Park. Jill reports nothing is known for sure about getting the 8 acres into Beach Lake Park; but there are positive signs.

d) Chugiak Eagle River Advisory Board Debbie: There's been a controversial new plan to deal with traffic in downtown Eagle River. They want to make the S Eagle River interchange 3 lanes, with the far right lane heading up Eagle River valley only. There are various objections. CERAB passed a resolution that the multiple merging on the road leading off the interchange is a problem. \$5 – 10 thousand would at least let DOWL look at alternatives. Jill and Barb remind us that councils have weighed in on that project in the past. Debbie notes that cost is a major concern. CERAB also discussed airports: should the city create a new airport zone? Their concern is about what that might do to Birchwood airport. CERAB passed a resolution to ask that any new standards don't affect Birchwood Airport.

e) Treasurer's report: we still have \$41.

f) Birchwood Patrol Report: Birchwood Patrol and Amy will have a town hall meeting for neighborhood watch and crime prevention. There's been increasing crime in Northwoods, Sampson Estates, and Birchwood Loop. The meeting will be at the Senior Center on Sunday, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>, at 12:45. APD will be there as well.

2016-2017 board:

Kevin McNamara, Chair; Debbie Ossiander, Vice Chair & CERAB rep    Tony Vita, Road Board;  
Lexi Hill, Secretary & Parks and Rec rep; Dave Wolfe, Secretary for Publicity;  
Barbara Trost, Member at large

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## 5. Presentations:

- a) HLB and AWWU: They are here to provide an update on Site Specific Land Use Plan update for land near Fred Meyer and Fire Lake Elementary; they are updating all Community Councils before their HLB Advisory Board meeting tomorrow, Nov 10<sup>th</sup>. The site plan change includes a 3.5 acre reservation for a reservoir for AWWU, which will happen in the next several years, but not right away. It will be a 3 million gallon reservoir fed from the Eklutna waterline; it's to reinforce water supplies already in existence downtown; it will not drive new development. After securing a site, AWWU will figure out the piping plan. They need to increase their water reservoirs because supply is pretty limited; pressure goes down in higher parts of Eagle River, and we couldn't fight two fires at the same time. The tank will be 35' high; 25' diameter. It will need tree/vegetation buffering to look OK.  
There's discussion about Tract A density at 15-30 units /acre being too high for this area. Debbie moves that we support the plan, with the caveat that we want areas 1.1 and 1.2 to be 7 -15 units per acre. Jill seconds, and the motion passes unanimously. There are questions about trails – would the open space be parks or owned by the developers? It could be either; public access to trail connections could be written in. Harry McDonald Drive would be upgraded to collector standards if the tracts were developed. Hang glider landings would not be affected.

## 6. Old Business

- a) Report on Birchwood CC election: it was done in October and 2016-17 officers are: Kevin McNamara, Chair; Debbie Ossiander, Vice Chair & CERAB rep  
Tony Vita, Road Board; Lexi Hill, Secretary & Parks and Rec rep;  
Dave Wolfe, Secretary for Publicity; Barbara Trost, Member at large
- b) Report on Birchwood Bash. It went fine; would be better if it were all our Eagle River and Chugiak community councils. Jill thinks we need to start earlier, and also get the newspapers to announce it.
- c) Chugiak Dog Mushers issue with Eklutna trails – Eklutna has told CDMA this will be the last year for their permit to use Eklutna land for one portion of their trails; Val is working that issue with Eklutna, and they are being helpful. There may be solutions to re-route some trails.
- d) Anchorage Historical Commission: Debbie reports that she was often frustrated on the Assembly for their tendency to forget our area, for example in the Historical Commission. She gave the Historical Commission a copy of Lee Jordan's book (Between 2 Rivers) and now they are holding a meeting out here. It's on the Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 to 7:30 at the town center to show our awareness of history here.
- e) Anchorage Transit: Debbie brings up the proposal to eliminate route 102; People Mover would only go from the transit center to town. Gretchen will track this; there will be a meeting on the plans on Wed., Nov 16, 5 to 7 in the Eagle River Library.

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## 7. New Business

a) Treasurer Position – it needs to be filled.

Debbie moves that Barb be treasurer, Lexi seconds, Unanimous.

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

Dan Saddler report: Elections – Dan won his election, as did Lora Reinbold; Shelly Hughes will take Bill Stoltze's position. She'll be the education chair. The House is 17 D's and 5 R's. There will be no capital money this year; fiscal issues will be big. The House majority wants to pass an income tax.

Val Jokela brings up the issue of Title 17 (Animal Control): Some aspects are under fire. Provisions written to allow mushers some periods of 'noisy' time for feeding, loading and unloading are being used by other animal owners to be generally noisy. There is an Assembly mandate to resolve these noise / facility issues. Christine Roloafs has gone to all the clubs to formulate some suggested language. It seems likely that we will return to a separate mushing facility license. Timeline is not clear.

## 9. Adjournment-9pm 8:33