

Birchwood Community Council

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Minutes: Wednesday, October 9, 2019, 7-9 PM

1. Call to Order 7:07

2. Approval of Minutes (September) – minutes available at meeting: approved

3. Announcements

- a) Disability Awareness Artist Showcase, Sat., Oct 12, 2019 from 2:00-6:00pm at Denali Graphics and Frame, located at 700 W International Airport Rd.
- b). Several Housing and Community Development Action Plan amendments are available for public review and comment: Comment period ends Oct. 17.
<http://www.muni.org/Departments/health/PHIP/CSD/Documents/2016-2019APSA.pdf> .
- c). Boo at the Beach is Oct. 12...tickets needed
- d) Chugiak Senior Center haunted house Oct. 31, 6-8; gun show Nov 9-10 10 - 4; Holiday Bazaar Nov 23 10 - 4; Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 14, 5:30 - 7

4. Reports

- a) FCC Report: Matt Cruickshank FCC asked for \$10,000 for insurance, but they did not get it, so they have no liability insurance. There are 3 new zoning amendments, but staff says they will have little effect out here. The FCC passed a resolution opposing the creation of a storm water utility. It would be an independent utility that would use AWWU for collection. The Assembly passed the ordinance, but an amendment excluded Chugiak/Eagle River
- b) CBERRRSA Road Board Report: The Starner bridge grant from state fell through; so the bridge will not be replaced. The Brooks / Centerfield connection in downtown Eagle River is almost complete.
- c) Parks and Recreation Report: <http://www.muni.org/Departments/ERparks/> no report – there has been no meeting since the last BCC meeting
- d) Chugiak Eagle River Advisory Board Debbie wants to know how many CCs support CERAB. She's heard from Eagle River, Eagle River Valley, South Fork., and Chugiak that want it to continue. They have a 1-yr extension.
She expands on the Title 21 amendments that Matt mentioned in the FCC report– a) would allow increased % lot coverage, if the added coverage is a porch. b) would allow increased square feet for commercial space for marijuana businesses. c) would change landscaping standards and allow cottonwoods as landscaping. All these won't affect us.
- e) Treasurer's report: still \$240.
- f) Tim Benningfield – CVFD: They have made 834 responses and accumulated 48,000 hours of volunteer effort this year. Once example is Andrew Kaiser, who is a Firefighter/EMT/Hazmat, and has been with the department almost 3 years. He does at least 60 hrs./month, at the station. The training area behind station 31 has been improved recently. They now have a 2-story training tower they can burn, climb, spray water, rappel, etc. They funded the kit to build it from their fund balance, and installation from this year's budget. Matt asks about loss of ladder truck. Tim clarifies that there has been no loss in manpower or equipment, just ladder. And there are ladder trucks just south and north of us who can respond quickly if needed. There will be an open house on Oct 13, noon at station near Fred Meyer. Fire prevention week is Oct 6-12
- g) Birchwood Patrol Report – recent crime activity – Jeff Hartley (no report)

2018-2019 board: Debbie Ossiander, Chair & CERAB rep; Gretchen Wehmhoff, Vice Chair; Tony Vita, Road Board; Lexi Hill, Secretary & Parks and Rec rep; Matt Cruickshank, Secretary for Publicity; Patty Friend, Member at large; Val Jokela, Treasurer

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h) Legislative / Assembly reports

Lora Reinbold – Last session they did succeed in getting SB91 repealed. On the PFD, she wanted statutory calculated amt that has not happened. Right now, the proposal is to take the 5% POMV distribution from the fund and split it 50/50 between government and the PFD. On issues surrounding the University, the Anchorage caucus had an informative meeting a week ago. Finally, she's been moved to Anchorage LIO. They are trying to have an open house Nov 14th 4-6; town halls Jan 14 in the Eagle River Town Center 6 – 8; and Chugiak High School (hopefully) Feb 29th, 2- 4.

5. Appearances:

a) MEA – cancelled – Debbie thinks it's about the substation on Steffes. There's been traffic there

6. Old Business.

- a) CERAB – nominations for appointment open – none made
- b) FCC rep – do we need to vote, or does Matt continue till he resigns? We determine we do not need to vote
- c) Birchwood Council Board elections: Nominations open for
Secretary (Lexi nominated last mtg)
Secretary for Publicity: Matt nominates Gretchen
Treasurer – Lexi nominated Val

Matt moves to approve the slate. Val seconds. The slate is approved unanimously.

7. New Business

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

Question on shooting at all hours at Birchwood shooting range – there is late shooting from APD.

9. Adjournment-9pm