

# ***BIRCHWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL***

## **Meeting Minutes of September 23 2009**

1. Bobbi Wells called the regularly scheduled Birchwood Community Council meeting to order at 7:07 pm with 20 members in attendance.
2. Meeting minutes for June 2009 approved as written

### **3. Presentations.**

- Jim Winchester with Granite Construction gave a presentation and discussion on the current **Birchwood Airport gravel extraction** project and operation schedule. Approximately 17 more trains will be picking up for the remaining season. Extraction and pickup will resume next May. There have been only a few complaints regarding the noise level; those issues are being researched by Dowl. There are possible additional berms to be put in place to deflect noise. Shawn Crouse advised the council of the decibel reading that she has taken of the perimeter and will extend readings to include some effected neighboring residents.
- **Bill Starr and Debbie Ossiander** gave a joint question and answer session and updated residents on the municipal budget, proposed cut backs of services and local union contracts with area wide police and fire services. Debbie updates on the first part of Chapter 7 of the new title 21 to be heard Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. This section is on connectivity of streets, landscaping and parking. It also eliminates the use of dumpsters in A districts but not in B districts but all with be screened and set back at least from the house. Individual garbage cans will only be allowed on the street on pick up days. Debbie described residential design standards that are being proposed and what effects that it could have on affordable housing and would also limit the size of a garage in the front of a house. The title 21 chapters 1 thru 14 are expected to be finished by Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.

### **4. Reports.**

- **Road Board:** Bobbi Wells; future proposed projects; upgrading existing streets and creating **connectivity** that will change the face of this community. There was a meeting with parks and rec. combined with the road board and the question arose of whom will **maintain trails along the old Glenn Hwy.**
- Tony Vita; Needs input for **road board long range goals**. There will be a meeting Oct 19<sup>th</sup>. We need input for 2010 upgrades, input is needed in area of capital projects, long range goals for the next 10 years upgrading of existing collector roads, multi modal (side walks, trails) that connect two cul-de-sacs for pedestrians. Changes this year include constructing new streets such as Homestead for connectivity. Existing services, do we need any changes? Extensive right of way clearing; many residents question whether this as a necessity and would like prior warning. This will be turned over to the road and trails committee for Birchwood's response.

- **Parks and Recreation:** Lexi Hill; **Beach Lake Master plan** update 8 to 10 acres N W qtr, questioned contracts are being addressed and work seems to be back on track. October Stakeholder meetings will be on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>. Cross country skiing and dog mushing were discussed and the need for passive trails just for hiking.
- Not enough money to expand **McDonald Rec Center** so improvements are on hold at this time. There are funds in savings that need to be built up so that the proposed additional projects can proceed. Lexi expresses concern about her ability to vote at next meeting. **Motion** 1<sup>st</sup> Barb Trost 2<sup>nd</sup> Tony Vita to nominate Lexi Hill as the Birchwood CC Parks and Rec representative for next 3 years. Motion passed. No alternate has been elected at this time.

It is suggested that Bobbi be the alternate because she goes to the meeting anyway.

At the next BCC meeting there will be election for the following offices; Chair, vice chair, Federation rep, Consortium, alternate consortium.

A concern regarding Officer Ron Stevenson being moved to another municipal area, he was our neighborhood resident officer. He is wishing to be transferred back to this area. Jeff Hartley has sent a letter requesting his return. **Motion** is made 1<sup>st</sup> Eldon Kin 2<sup>nd</sup> Joanna King to send a letter of support. Motion passed.

Library naming nominations, Thursday Oct 22, public comments on submitted names for certain areas of the library, the name of the library will remain Chugiak Eagle River.

Bowery Road: **Site Plan review** of residential property, does anyone disagree with this development proceeding inside the setback? The only neighboring resident present, Dr. Jim Hagge, has an adjoining lot and does not object to the variance. The other 3 property owners could not be contacted.

- Federation of Community Councils; no time for report
- Consortium of Community Councils; no time for a report

8. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Gail Davidson McCain/Secretary