

BIRCHWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.. Reading of previous months minutes (November) was waived due to the length of this evenings agenda. The council is not receiving much mail. It's possible that mail is still going to the old address, hopefully this question will be answered by the date of our next meeting.

Representatives from Eklutna, Inc., Wendy Mikowski and Leslie Bobo, spoke with us about the ongoing development under the current and effective master plan (Powder Ridge or Parcel A, approximately 500 acres, which presently has construction on seventy lots located off the North Eagle River Interchange) and a new revised plan that is still in the engineering process with a possible one to two year time frame before it can be approved by the MOA. The proposed development plan will include Tracts A, B and C. Current Master Development Plan is listed as being a Planned Community (PC) but MOA has indicated to Eklutna that it would be preferable to develop under zoning codes i.e. R1, R2, R6 etc.. This requirement means each new phase or piece being developed has to go through a public process with Planning & Zoning and the Assembly. Due to cleanup issues associated with trespassing, permits are needed and issued on an individual basis for use on any part or parcel of their properties. Eklutna, Inc. does issue permits for skiing, walking, dog mushing etc., but not for snowmachining or 4-wheeling. Their local office is located in Eagle River at 16515 Centerfield Dr., Suite 201, open Monday through Friday 9 to 5, office number is 694-2828 and any questions, concerns or ideas that anyone would like to discuss, please stop in.

Nancy Dahlstrom and husband, Kit, came by the meeting to thank everyone for their support in her legislative endeavor and to let us know that she can be reached in Juneau at the same numbers that Lisa M. had (1-877-460-3783).

Gall Dial informs the council that Peters Creek is flooding due to ice jams and rock formations. Corp. of Engineers and Fish & Wildlife did the last mapping of the creek. Apparently it needs to be done again so a few rocks and boulders can be moved or realigned to alleviate this overflow situation.

Road Board Report-given by Scott Schnell about issues discussed at the last board meeting- Due to late snowfall this year, summer projects continued- mowing, ditch cleanout, drainage work etc. 2.5 million dollars worth of capital work is scheduled for next year. Eight or nine year Maintenance Construction Plan(Long Range Capital Plan) was discussed and contracts that would be rebid at that time. Traffic light time (two minutes) at Old Glenn and Eagle River Loop discussed--seems during winter driving conditions the length of the traffic light backs up traffic to the point of creating a hazardous situation of the Loop Road. Vince Mee indicates he will speak with the timer coordinator to see what can be

done to alleviate the problems. In answer to the councils questions regarding the Business Blvd. road project, Vince Mee gave the background and evaluation of the project, also supplying answers to borrowing and repayment of funds from our local Road Board Budget. Bottom line on this issue is...the Road Board wants policy procedures followed before transactions take place not after and they want all funds transferred from their budget replaced.

Parks & Rec Report- Lexi informs us that the Mushing Chalet is still winding its way through permitting/legal process and no bids have been receive, as of this date, on the Ski Chalet/Hut. John Rodda has moved to the position of Director of Cultural & Recreational Services.

Anna Fairclough, concerning the Land Clearing Ordinance, indicates that it will be tied in with other ordinances and Title 23 is up for change (codes followed by builders, electricians, plumbers etc.. She also asks our patience on future communications as she is now the new Director of STAR and is making adjustments to accommodate her full schedule. Anna introduced Crystal Kennedy, a very involved resident of Eagle River, who will be running for School Board. Crystal is very informed on local issues, especially the proposed new high school, and is knowledgeable on district wide matters.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m..