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BIRCHWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, February 12, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.. Reading of previous months minutes (January) was waived due to the length of this evenings agenda. The council has discussed the issue and come to the decision that Nancy will remain chairwoman with absences excused.

Correspondence and E-mails addressed: Letter from WASTE concerning land exchanges for Chugach State Park trails access and how that land is acquired. E-mail from FCC inquiring about our position on the Coastal Trail routing – Public comments on this issue are due by March 7th – this council elected to not issue a resolution on this trail project. E-mail from the council

areas of Sand Lake, Bayshore and Ocean View asking us as a council to please not become entangled in political lobbying for the proposed orange Coastal Trail Route and to testify individually whether we were pro or con. E-mail about upcoming meeting schedules – nothing effecting Birchwood was on it. E-mail- Permitting of Mobile Home Parks (needs discussion under new business at March meeting). E-Mail from Heritage Land Bank requesting correction in newsletter regarding information about their work program. E-mail from Harriet Drummond - Anchorage School District is seeking participants to work on a project mandated to develop a six year instructional plan to address the recommendations in the curriculum audit, particularly the achievement gap that exists within the district. Meeting started February 8th at Stellar Secondary, contact person is Harriet Drummond at 279-7788.

Parks and Rec – Beach Lake Ski Chalet RFP (request for proposal) for design/build contract went out and closed on February 10th. Contract, hopefully, will be decided on within a few weeks so that this summers' construction season can be fully utilized. Storage room and waxing area are

possible inclusions under consideration. Lexi is asking for ideas of use for the large flat area around the railroad crossing on Beach Lake Road, these

would apply after the straightening of the tracks. Soccer fields, open fields

for remote control planes or cars, and archery practice range were mentioned. Multi-use trail system under discussion, HLB 2003 Work Plan doesn't mention N.W. ¼ of Section 25 so the parks board is adding the recommendation that HLB add to their work plan "complete the transfer of the N.W. ¼ of Section 25 to Parks and Recreation management authority". Chugach State Park and Municipality of Anchorage are starting to look at

improvement of both access/connection and who owns what pieces of land for the trails in the Eagle River Greenbelt. Access issues involve a lot of privately owned land. Long Range Transportation Plan still shows road through N.W. ¼ of Section 25. We need to constantly reiterate that it is not wanted.

HLB to sell 225 acres in the next five years—zoning diverse—the work plan with listings of acreage is available in Reference Section at Chugiak/Eagle River Library. Code Waivers and trades need to be closely watched on these sales.

Road Board - Roads are peeled down to pavement. Money was saved on plowing but spent a little more on sanding—budget is in good shape. Old Glenn from Artillery Road to Fire Lake to be resurfaced this summer. Our service area does 30 to 50 miles each year with chip seal. Sprucecrest on South Birchwood has a major frost boil and it will be excavated/filled this summer.

Gary Teenor/Creekside Consulting representing Eklutna Village detailed a plan for a general health clinic/daycare center to be constructed on Village land between Eagle River and Matanuska Valley. A motion was made (Gail Dial) and seconded (Lexi Hill) to support, in writing, the rezone and funding of this much needed project. It is noted that this would help fill a gap of much needed general care as well as emergency acute care. This project is not connected with Eklutna, Inc.

Kim Thibodeaux, with American Legion Post 33, detailed for us a proposed expansion of the Oberg baseball fields. This expansion is to help satisfy some local issues such as parking and spectator accommodation and will

also enhance the benefit and use of the fields. Motion made (Dick Brown and seconded by Mary Leffel) and passed to support and approve of this

welcome expansion.

After discussion on the Heritage Land Bank 2003 Work Program, a motion was made (Lexi Hill/seconded by Gail Dial) and passed to ask and request the HLB 2003 Work Plan be modified by including the transfer of the N.W. quarter of Section 25 to the Chugiak/Eagle River Board of Supervisors as the management authority of that parcel.

Council is in need of FCC representative—Meetings are once a month with summer hiatus—Nanette Belk will attend meeting temporarily to keep us up to date and informed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m..