

MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Quorum 5+ Elected Board Members) 7:00 PM

2. **INTRODUCTIONS** (Board Members / Presenters / Guests from outside the Chugiak Community Council area)

- Jake Horazdovsky, President (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Blake Merrifield, Vice President (E. Peters Creek/ Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Tom Looney, Secretary (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Burke Wonnell, Treasurer (Eklutna/Thunderbird)..... Present Excused Absent
- Darryl Parks (Fire Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Will Tagen (E. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Leslie Echols (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Rashae Johnson (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Bruce Esprey (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Harold Parker (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- Moved by [Tom Looney](#) Seconded by [Darryl Parks](#)
Passed Unanimously

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – January 2021

- Moved by [Darryl Parks](#) Seconded by [Burke Wonnell](#)
Passed Unanimously

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- N/A

6. **UPDATES**

- Chugiak Volunteer Fire Dept. – Fire Chief, Tim Benningfield
 - Dept has published 2020 Annual report, it is available online on Facebook page
 - 1100 runs, 5500 volunteer hours
 - Capital project in the next couple of years and is looking for funding for the Peters Creek on Settlers road station remodel or replacement.
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- Legislative
 - Ken McCarty Tiffany Lund
 - Rep had close contact with COVID last week and is quarantined.
 - Blake asked what discussions that Mr. McCarty has had regarding state funds for replacement of Starnier Bridge. We do not appose the bridge, but don't have CIP funds to replace it.
 - Looking into a round about near Chugiak HS to alleviate traffic congestion.

- Assembly
 - Crystal Kennedy:
 - Eklutna Hydro electric project and rehabilitation of Eklutna River. A lot of entities involved in the overall effort to re-establish fish habitat in the Eklutna River.
 - Lot of interest in P&Z looking at B-3 zoning changes to allow homeless shelters to be placed in B-3 properties. Any of the proposed changes that are currently being discussed will not impact CER.
 - April mail in ballots are out. Additional information regarding candidates and ballot measures are on the MOA website and you can call Crystal Kennedy for more questions.
 - One ballot measure is to provide funding for CER Senior Center repairs and additional housing.
 - One ballot measure provides police funding to include for body cameras.
 - The Assembly is currently studying the next round of CARES act funding use in the MOA. Let Crystal know if projects in our area that would be good candidates.

- ASD – Deena Mitchell
 - As of this week all the students who want to be back in school are back in school.
 - All adults are vaccinated, and some students over 16 years have been vaccinated.
 - ER Elementary is nearly completed and looks good.
 - Gruening MS is moving along well, will be ready for the fall.
 - This April's ballot does not include a bond for the ASD, as promised last year.
 - Pop up COVID testing is available for students around the district.
 - School budget has been presented to the assembly. \$50M has been received from the Federal COVID relief funds.

7. **GUEST PRESENTATIONS** (limited to 15 Min)

- MEA - General update on MEA activities in the Chugiak Council Area.
 - Justine Park Substation – did receive the conditional use permit.
 - Conditions included: construction must be as described, must monitor and limit lighting, and noise, cannot build additional structures without additional permitting.
 - Construction will start summer of 2022.
 - MEA Board Elections: - Seat is up for election check MEA website for more information.

- Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center Bond Proposal – Phi Markwardt Executive Director Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center.
 - Proposition No. 2 Chugiak Senior Center, Loussac Library, Anchorage Senior Center improvements
 - Will help upgrade existing apartments, study and potential upgrades to septic system, and design of additional apartments.
 - Re-opening (post COVID); 50% of staff and residents have been vaccinated (90% in Assisted living). Gradually will be re-opening in the next 4 to 6 weeks, working with Anchorage Department of Health an Human Services.
 - No cases of COVID among residents

- MAYOR CANDIDATES (Limited to 5 Min Each)
 - Albert Swank – Presented
 - Bill Evans – Presented
 - Joe Westfall - Presented

8. NEW BUSINESS

- Capital improvements project overview.
 - Reviewed the top 10 projects and asked that Board Members be prepared to discuss in detail at the April meeting.

9. REPORTS:

- CBERRSA - Blake Merrifield
 - No additional report beyond CIP overview
- CER Advisory board – Jake Horazdovsky
 - No report
- Federation of Community Councils (FCC), Darryl Parks
 - Crystal Kennedy covered most of items.
 - Asked Crystal to provide additional information on mid-year MOA budget review.
 - No exact information
 - Revenue shortages are around \$29M mostly from property tax shortages (may be result of property foreclosures
 - Some shortages as a result of COVID lack of activity resulted in lack of taxation.
 - Reshuffling officers for APD representatives to Community Councils in our area.
- Financial – Burke Wonnell
 - Nothing changed since last month.
 - Balances:
 - Checking- \$2,519.15
 - Savings -\$12.78
- Parks and Recreation Board of Supervisors –Will Taygen
 - Senior Park Planner from Anchorage is now assigned to ER for 30% of time (Mav Evens)
 - Taking over management of Pickle Ball, Dock at Beach Lake, new bike park at north end of Mirror Lake and Dog Park.
 - Dog Park (original design by R&M): Will be presenting at CCC at April meeting location across from Chugiak elementary, and potentially Fire house lane site. Eventually will include public meeting to present all of the information regarding the park.
 - Mirror Lake Bike park jump started with Cares funding has receive MEA grant, and others will be called a playground. Will presented preliminary drawings showing the configuration of the park layout. Looking for construction to be complete September 2021.
 - Asking for a letter of support for the "Bens Bike Playground" as presented.
 - Asking for a letter of support for rebuilding parts of the multiuse trail that will need to be relocated to support the new bike playground.
 - Jake moved Leslie seconded that we provide the letters of support. Passed unanimously.
- CER Chamber of Commerce- Leslie Lance
 - Next Tuesday the 23rd is Excellence in Education
 - Bear Paw will be held this summer, still a lot planning July 14 through 18
 - Chief Alex Park, is maintained by CER Chamber of Commerce
 - Will be having online virtual fundraiser to provide support.
 - Membership drive, business that would like to join should contact Leslie.
 - Priority 8 rec center on CIP may be similar to an effort being started by some people in the Chamber of Commerce and would like to discuss combination of efforts.

- Secretary – Tom Looney
 - No comments
- General Council Business – Jake Horazdovsky
 - Who owns Dog Park near Chugiak Benefit Association? Chugiak Benefit Association...

10. OPEN FORUM

- Joy Boston: Work at JBER in Community Partnerships, outreach to Community Councils.
 - 29th of March through 9th April and 29th of April 10 16th of May Exercises will be going on that could create some noise.
- Mike Floyd: Asked some questions regarding discussion in February's meeting about Eklutna application for a variance at their gravel pit.
- Carl Jacobs, School Board Candidate Presented
- Donnabell Shepherd; has purchased property in Eagle River and is being asked by the MOA to put in residential sprinkler system in their house. Mt. Magnificent area.
 - Asks for a letter of support for relief from requirement to install residential sprinkler system in her new home.
 - Eagle River Valley Community Council has not yet provided a letter of support, but has indicated they will discuss it and potentially provide a letter.
 - Fire Marshal is applying a "new" interpretation of the Code that is causing the requirement for the sprinkler system. Nearby similar properties were not required to be sprinklered.
 - This could be related to the residential fire sprinkler issue that was discussed last fall but it may be unclear if this is a new or compounding issue relating to a dead-end road.
 - The CCC discussed with Ms Shepherd at length and while sympathetic, did not have a clear understanding of the details of the issue, and declined to provide a letter of support especially prior to the home Community Council (Eagle River Valley) doing so first.
- Going back to live meetings: Tentative September 2021 in person meetings
 - Constituents want to meet in person.
 - The CCC will discuss details at May meeting and prior to September meeting.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE:

- The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, April 15th, 7:00 PM

12. ADJOURNMENT:

- Darryl Parks moved to extend the meeting Jake Horazdovsky seconded at 9:30 PM passed unanimously
- Moved by Darryl Parks seconded by Burke Wonnell 10:00 PM passed unanimously