

Birchwood Community Council

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MINUTES

BIRCHWOOD Community Council

Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 7-9:00 PM

Hybrid meeting: Beach Lake Ski Chalet

And via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88131919316?pwd=RDA5ZGYrSlhORFhyOUtCM2dTRmJXdz09>

1. Call to Order: 7PM

2. **Approval of March Minutes:** Motion to accept Patty Friend, Seconded by Tom Prunty. Minutes are adopted and accepted.

3. **Announcements:** (*reminder please limit presentations to 5 minutes*)

a) Lithium Battery Disposal process: can be disposed of at household hazardous waste but be careful not to puncture or crush the battery, tape the terminals and separate from other trash. (Each household is permitted up to 40# per month for no charge.)

b) FCC representative needed to take over from Carol Perkins-1X per month to attend a zoom meeting.

c) Peters Creek Dog Park Plan before Urban Design Commission-it would be put in frisbee golf park and be up on the hill with a separate parking lot access—May 22, 2024 UDC meeting. Mirror/Edmonds Lake-master plan talking about a dog park. Mirror Lake is a bigger park than we realized. Go on line and let them know what your ideas are.

d) Three Bears Liquor license is up for renewal tentatively before assembly May 21, 2024-our CC would send to MOA clerk, if there are complaints. Noted: BCC did not voice any complaints.

e) FCC new Executive Director Arianna Bellizzi

f) Eklutna Signage-Kyle Smith-Eklutna Corp-New signs have the QR code and scan permit page, ID, health insurance card-needed-no trespassing, now there is a fee to go onto Eklutna lands: \$150.00 per year for a permit. NO motorized vehicles or tree removal allowed. Download “onX” app and see where Eklutna lands are. Village has most of the problems at the gravel pit behind the village. Will go after parents if catch kids on land. Birchwood does not have many issues. Future topic- initial plans for powder reserve.

g) JBER-Public Noise April 8-20-was announced

h) Recreational Trails Plan Trails Plan Advisory Groups-deadline to volunteer April 17-controversy Ptarmigan trail head-neighbors concerned about access-bond passed to improve access in town. Heads up for potential issues in the future for Chugiak-Eagle River.

i) Scoop the Poop-Spring clean-up April 20-1000-2PM

j) Celebrate Trails Day April 27—day to get out and celebrate the trails.

k) *April 13: 3-5PM at the Eagle River Elks Lodge: Mr. Whitekeys will be the speaker about his new book “The Voyage of the Alaska Union.”*

4. **Reports:**

a) FCC Report: Carol Perkins- no report

b) CBERRRSA Road Board Report: Matt Cruickshank – bids submitted contractor selected for Starner Bridge, contractor verified through procurement. Not sure who it is? Looking favorable. Rocks are moved. 1st step is the bridge getting replaced. RS 2477-right of way concerns..dedicated 2023-2024 board: Debbie Ossiander, CERAB and Co-Chair; Matt Cruickshank, Co- Chair, Road Board rep; Ben Westveer: Secretary for Publicity, Carol Perkins: Alt rep Parks and Rec; Barbara Trost, Parks and Rec rep; Patty Friend, Member at large, and CERAB alternate; Val Jokela, Secretary-Treasurer, alternate Road Board

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100 foot right of way. As soon as awarded will give numbers and completion dates. Start date: 150 days to get it done after get seasonal permit. Increased mil rate to 2.1: close to getting McKenna contract---at tax cap. Will have to lower CIP amount and increase operating budget. Value our CIP program capability of \$6M a year across ER-Chugiak. MIL rate has to go b4 assembly. Fund balance is reserve account. Keep MIL rate and increase CIP operating threshold.

c) Parks and Recreation Report: Barbara Trost- provided a report shared with membership: PnR RFP for Mac Center will close April 11 and PnR will review the proposals. Chugiak pool: heat exchanger will be fixed by the end of the week, pool is open and PnR are looking for lifeguards and will provide the training-contact PnR. PNR recruiting for several positions. Dog park is at the Urban Design Commission for review and public comment. Decision by PnR application to DOT motorized trails grant opportunity for the mushing trail expansion will be published by the end of May-hopefully. Beach Lake multi use trail and mushing trail crossing project will get started in July.

d) Chugiak Eagle River Advisory Board: Debbie Ossiander- trying to work with Chugiak CC for Carol Creek-P&Z-Debbie testified by phone: 1. MOA believes that HarryMac road is a rural collector-on a public use easement-MOA says 27 feet wide. Roads 31-32 feet wide-1000 trips a day down the road—need 50 feet extra easement for Mac Rd upgrade. PnR strong objections to public right of way. Drainage into Carol Creek. Approval haul snow-CBERRRSA does not haul snow. Have home owner's association handle the snow. Did not acknowledge PnR concerns nor CBERRRSA. Just going to add it on the STIP. Came from MOA staff. Fire: response to fire—turnarounds big enough. Deleted fire rec—development only ½ developed roadway. Support PnR and find out more about Mac center road and what are the standards for collectors. Heritage Land held special meetings-special plan. Supposed to comply with drainage standards. Sandy Quimby contacted other CCC's

e) Treasurer's report: \$204.00.

f) CVFD: Chief Scott Fisher- month March 99 volunteers, 11 ALS 85 calls 298 calls to date, 5,059 vol hours, 15,397 hrs total to date. Rescue 33 waiting for outcome bond issue. Can't do anything with truck project until we see the out come on bond issue. Burdens Chugiak residents—should be spread out among all of MOA. Engine 31 ready in 2 years. Truck is being paid for upfront. New portable radios got 21/42. Order another 16. \$200,000-matched with fund balance—fire service area taxes and EMS funds. Will have 58 new portable radios @\$6500.00 per radio. Vehicles-ANC replace—get 2 old battalion chief vehicles, 2 ALS vehicle—pick up and police SUV-will have 2 ALS-higher miles but well maintained. Board of sups seat-Chelsea Sullivan write-in . Regional grant-put in for port radio-2M—will get 15 more radios. Wrote fire house sub grant for thermal imaging

g) Birchwood Patrol Report: none

h) Legislative / Assembly / School board reports:

Scott Myers-runoff-May 14. School board-incumbents won. Significant set-back on cemeteries-especially Girdwood. Subpoena powers-Chugach hydropower. 2 hours Ekutna hydro project-will get tied up in litigation-No right turn on red, transit worker-increase punishments. Homeless camps-mentioned-retaliatory comment-no official statement- No one has said anything officially. Will not be homeless shelter out here. Hiring MOA-Boards and commissions-post poned until July-except 1 for naming commission. This Saturday April 13 from 1030-1200 Representative Allard, and Saddler and Senator Merrick will hold a townhall in Room 170. Submit budget priorities-ideas needed from CC's. Need to figure out next project-sports? Special meeting next week on the homeless and end of April budget meeting, all open to the public.

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5. Appearances

6. Old Business

a) Birchwood Airport Master Plan: Val Jokela-Presented an overview of the Alternatives stating the group was leaning towards Alternative 2. Planners are in the process of summarizing comments from stakeholder meeting March 22 and Public meeting March 30. Matt moves to support Alt 2, seconded by Alan Kurczynski. Could use more information from the March 22 Stakeholder comments and March 30 Public meeting comments to base our final decision on Alternative 2, or any of the alternatives. The official comment period now extended to April 30. Val to go back to the planners to ask for a later comment period date, so BCC will have a chance to review all comments and make a final decision over the alternatives at the May 8 meeting.

7. New Business

a) Dianna Wehr Terrace Lane vehicular traffic-upset about traffic Terrace Lane- not in attendance

8. Action Items

9. Adjournment: 835PM motion to adjourn by Patty and seconded by Alan K