

Minutes

South Fork Community Council

January 9, 2020

1. Call to Order at 7:05 p.m. by **Karl von Lurhte**, Chair, in room D107 of the Eagle River High School. A total of (9) were present, including Crystal Kennedy, Assembly, and Jose Vicente, Eagle Pointe developer.

2. Introductions were deemed not necessary

3. The Agenda was approved without addition or amendment.

4. Minutes from the 5th of December meeting were approved as submitted.

5. Guest Speakers:

b. Crystal Kennedy opened by mentioning the on-going question of combining ERHS with Chugiak High, or restoring the status quo before the earthquake. The Assembly is considering new taxes to raise more revenue, including a plan by Fred Dyson which would include a sales tax of 3% and an increase in property tax for the other half. Two alcohol sales taxes are being considered, as well as a more general sales tax. Seasonal sales taxes and a sunset clause are also being considered. It was said that a 6.5% sales tax would eliminate property taxes altogether. New revenue from the sale of ML&P now appears to be much less than previously reported. There is also an on-going discussion about the size of police force – how large does it need to be? The cost of police is 2 times that of the lower 48, and comparisons need to be made with cities which are like our own. On site consumption of marijuana will be on the ballot this spring.

6. Old Business:

a. Eaglexit Update. The issue of independence for Chugiak-Eagle River continues to resonate within the community at large. Funds are continuing to be raised by the Eaglexit group, and the feasibility study, phase 1, is underway. There does not appear to be enough information to date for the Councils in our area to commit to separation from the Municipality. **Andrew Brewer** reports that a Consortium of Community Councils is not moving forward on this issue at this time. This means that the Eaglexit non-profit group is spearheading the effort.

b. Renaming Yosemite Drive Proposal. The Eagle Pointe Home Owners Association has come out against the name change (to Wolf Den Dr.) , as well as the Developer of Eagle Pointe, **Jose Vicente**. They have produced a letter outlining their position and concerns. **Karl von Lurhte** proposed an alternative that would keep the Yosemite Dr. name intact while naming the drive into the High School, “Wolf Den Loop”. Contacts will be made with the Student Group so they can discuss things with the Home Owners of Eagle Pointe.

7. Committee Reports:

(a) Road Board. **Joe Wright** reports that the emergency access and egress issue appears to have died in our area, although a bridge in the Chugiak area remains a problem for fire trucks. The McKenna Brothers have a contract for snow removal in our area and any problems or issues can be called in. The general consensus is that they are doing a good job. Concerning future highway plans, the Artillery Road and Glenn Highway intersection is getting the most and first attention going forward. The Eagle River Loop Road and Glenn intersection is at least 6 years away.

(b) Parks and Recreation. **Joshua Ream** was elected unanimously to continue to represent us on the Parks and Rec. Board. No alternate was forthcoming however. **Dr. Ream** reports that Josh Durand is the new Parks and Rec. Director for the Municipality. Brian Fay is the local C-ER chair. A single track mountain bike club is progressing with trails in the Mirror Lake vicinity. The MacDonald Center reports revenue up by (45) thousand, but they also need a new Zamboni. The new dock needed at Beach Lake was also mentioned in the context of needing handicapped access. Funding to locate a cemetery site for C-ER is also reported to be available. A National Group interested in the NW Quarter of Beach Lake Park is still interested in obtaining easements or restrictions on development near to JBER.

(c) Treasurer. **Randy Beilfuss** reports \$201.79 in our account.

8. New Business: None.

9. Good of the Order open forum: **Joe Wright** reports that the door “ring cameras” are not working at below zero temps, and that they actually do not charge at below freezing temps. And that they do run on the batteries.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.; the next meeting on February 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Andrew Brewer, 2nd Vice President