



Officers (*Term Expires EOY*)
Pres. – Morris Pickel Jr. (2024)
V. Pres. – Chuck Homan (2023)
Sec - Camilla Hussein-Scott (2024)
Treas. – Sean Murphy (2025)

Directors (*Term Expires EOY*)
Vacant (2025)
Cliff Cook (2024)
Vacant (2023)

EAGLE RIVER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

12001 Business Blvd. #170
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Minutes

September 14, 2023
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Call to order – 6:30

Establish Quorum: Established

Attendance: Chuck Homan – Cliff Cook – Camilla Hussein-Scott; Absent: Morris Pickel – Sean Murphy

Approval of Agenda: Approved as amended by adding DOT item and moving up Kevin Cross in the agenda, add Brenda Hewitt from Eklutna.

Approval of Minutes: Approved with minor edits

Membership Introductions: Announcement of the passing of Eagle River Community Council President Morris J. Pickel Chuck Homan, Vice president, read the obituary.

Reports:

- Treasurer Report: \$65
- Parks & Rec– Camilla Hussein-Scott:
 - The Beach Lake Multiuse project is in the design process. Public
 - Peters Creek Dog Park will finish design and permitting this fall and winter. Construction in 2024
 - The Junkyard Play Area Project is primarily complete—an excellent addition for kids. Board members are encouraged to take a look.
 - Mushing trail maintenance was partially completed last spring. It will be completed this fall.
 - Work is currently underway on Mirror Lake multiuse trail hardening. Work is approximately half finished.
 - The pool project initiation meeting is this week.
 - 10-Mile Mushing Trail – working with CDMA on a possible RTP grant. Discussion ongoing with CDMA to use a contractor for trail layout.
 - Additional work was performed at Oberg Field Playground, Oberg Field drainage, Beach Lake Chalet landscaping, and Mirror Lake fence repair.
 - Eagle Scout Project for a new sign kiosk at Beach Lake and Girl Scout Project for Bog Trail improvements at Edmonds Lake Park.
 - Beach Lake Junkyard Clean Up/Kids Play Area
 - This project is essentially done and looks great. A ton of junk and old cars were removed from the site. Alders and willows were cleared, and the site contours were reworked to create a play area for beginner skiers (tag, sharks, minnows, etc.). The Nordic Ski Club is pleased with the result.
 - Mushing Trail Maintenance
 - Work was done in late winter/early spring to dramatically improve site distances along some

major mushing trails. Additional labor and some cleanup/finishing work on the earlier effort are planned this fall.

- Mirror Lake Multiuse Trail Hardening
 - This work is essentially complete. It looks great. I have been getting a lot of positive community comments. The result is a ¾ mile gravel loop path linking the main Mirror Lake Bike Parking Lot to Gorsuch Road. A couple of new single-track trails were constructed as carry-over work from last year.
- 10-Mile Mushing Trail
 - The Department has been working with CDMA to utilize one of our professional services contracts to align the new trail. At this point, it looks like more work will be done next year.
- Chugiak Pool
 - We held a project initiation meeting with MOA Capital Projects at the end of August.
- Beach Lake Multiuse Trail
 - Design work for the project's Urban Design Commission application (UDC) is underway. We met with user groups over the past few months as part of the design process.
 - We will be applying to the Planning Department for UDC review in October. This will be for a public hearing on the project in January. During the 90 days in between, the Planning Department will collect comments on the project, including reaching out to the Community Councils.
 - We plan on submitting a 2-Phase project to UDC – Phase 1 is from the Bible Camp Road to the coast/Phase 2 is from the Bible Camp Road to Chugiak High School.
 - The rationale for this approach is that it aligns with what is presented in the Beach Lake Master Plan. Far less work, time, and money are spent going to the commission for a single project than twice for two smaller projects.
 - Phase 1 is what has been discussed before the BOS and what has construction funding.
 - Phase 2 is a future project that would need to go before the BOS later for discussion, funding, etc.
 - We are presenting at all of the Community Councils this month and holding a stakeholder meeting on the 12th and a public meeting on the 19th. After this effort, we plan to present to the BOS at the October meeting.
- Peters Creek Dog Park
 - No work was completed this summer beyond blocking access and stabilizing the site to prevent erosion.
 - This project also needs to be approved by UDC. This is why no work was completed this year. There was not enough time to accommodate design and approval and still construct in 2023.
 - This will be a 2024 project.
 - Work for the final design and completion plans for the UDC review started this week.
 - After UDC review, construction plans will be generated.
- Loretta French Scoreboard (Approved 8/14/2023)
 - The electrical Engineering contract task was issued today.
 - Conduit installation and scoreboard mounts will start as soon as we have construction plans.
- Mirror Lake Edmonds Lake Park Master Plan (Approved after 8/14/2023)
 - The contract task is pending
- Miscellaneous Projects
 - Oberg Soccer Field Playground – Function and safety fixes to playground structures.
 - Oberg Soccer Fields- We hope to complete some drainage improvements this fall.
- Beach Lake Chalet – Work was performed to address some overuse at the front of the facility. Mulch was added to protect tree roots, and the grassed area was aerated and seeded
- Mirror Lake Boat Launch – Fixes to the park perimeter fence (this made the neighbors VERY happy)

- Girl Scout Project – Trail work on the Bog Trail at Edmonds Lake Park
- Eagle Scout Project – New sign kiosk at Beach Lake.
- Road Board – Chuck Homan:
 - Road Board met on August 28.
 - Fall Sweeping is scheduled to begin September 1.
 - Storm system cleaning is ongoing.
 - Storm drain covers are being removed and dropped into the storm drain. This is very dangerous to vehicles and pedestrians. It is costly to retrieve and reinstall.
 - Road Foreman Anthony Windsor Request the community councils start working on their 2024 CIP Wish List.
 - Starner bridge: Plans are 100% complete and ready to bid. The project is on hold until legal access is obtained.
 - Aurora Borealis: negotiations continue with the one homeowner holding out.
 - The board supports the Glenn Highway and Artillery Road Interchange design and construction that will be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.
- Advisory Board – Sean Murphy; Alt. Camilla Hussein-Scott:
 - Nothing to report
- Federation Community Councils – Morris Pickel: Not present
 - Comprehensive information on the website: <https://www.communitycouncils.org/>
 - Eagle River website: <https://communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/11.html>

Guest Speakers

- Three Bears: Steve Mierop, Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer. (Handout attached)
- Ron Thompson for Scope Permitting and Engineering, LLC, RE development of 16543 Farm Avenue. (handout attached)
- Van Le with R & M Consultants: MEA Aurora Street Project (handout attached)
- Ken McCarty Update from Homelessness Committee (Homeless Task Force Synopsis link here)

Assembly/Legislative Updates

- MOA Assembly update – (Kevin Cross):
 - HUD funds to update Comprehensive Plan (\$400,000)
 - Fund Balance
 - Loss of primary accounting staff in the Muni
 - There are a lot of vacancies on all levels in the Municipality
 - Increase of APD vehicle fleet
 - Priority of funding public safety salaries
 - Working on a vacant and abandoned property code, rehab code under Title 21.
 - The comment period for MTP projects is still open to comment, inviting the audience to the website to speak up.
 - Artillery did not make it to the STIP funding. Waiting to amend to get added back in.
- Legislative update – (Senator Kelly Merrick)
 - Successful session in Juneau. Bi-partisan majority in the Senate and tri-partisan majority in the House. Legislators are realizing that they must work together to get things done.
 - Adjourned on time with a budget that funded essential services like public safety and education. Did not draw from our savings account or implement taxes and paid a PFD with the possibility of an additional payment if oil prices stay high.
 - Several trail projects in District L were funded in the FY24 budget. Safety repairs to the Eklutna Lakeside Trail and Ram Valley Access.
 - Constituent coffee with Kelly will be held on Saturday, September 23rd from 9-11 am at Jitters.

Presentation

- Huddle on behalf of Eagle River & Chugiak Parks and Recreation on the West Beach Lake Multiuse Trail project. This presentation is to share updates.

Community Updates

- Anchorage School Board update – (Margo Belamy) Not Present
- Eagle River Community Patrol update – (Cliff Cook/John Rathert)
 - Since the last meeting, Patrol had 56 hours and 441 miles
 - Nothing major was observed during patrols.
 - Petty crime continues, and it seems vandalism is rising.
 - Be bear aware with trash out for pickup too early is an issue and has been an ongoing concern.
- Chugiak\Eagle River Library General – Update (Nancy Clark) Not Present
- JBER (Joy Boston) – Not Present

Old Business:

New Business: AMATS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): Resolution commenting on the proposed projects and asking the Glenn Highway/Artillery Road Interchange, and Artillery Road intersections with Eagle River Road, Old Glenn Highway, Brooks Drive, Cross Road and associated non-motorized trails to be added to the MTP. Resolution approved.

MTP project #CPS151 (Old Glenn Highway-Eagle River Road to North Eagle River Access Road was discussed. The consensus of the ERCC is the proposed reductions of vehicle lanes will negatively impact the community. (Flyer attached)

Comments from Eagle River Community Council Membership/Guests

Upcoming Events

- **CBERRRSA Board of Supervisors** monthly meeting:
- **Parks and Rec Board of Supervisors** monthly meeting: Every 2nd Monday of the Month, 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Room #170, Eagle River Library Building. (South Entrance)
- **FCC meeting:** TBD

Adjourned:

ERCC Meetings: Every 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, Room #170, Eagle River Library Building. South Entrance.

Upcoming Meetings:

October 12, 2023

November 9, 2023

December 14, 2023