

Bear Valley Community Council
Minutes – January 10, 2024

Call to Order, Announcements and Introductions

The regularly-scheduled January 10, 2024 meeting of the Bear Valley Community Council (BVCC) was called to order by Council Chair Cheri Lipps at 7:06 pm. This meeting was announced and held as a Zoom meeting. There were 10 Bear Valley community members present and Chair Lipps declared a quorum; one guest, Assembly Member Randy Sulte, was also present. Chair Lipps advised attendees that the meeting Agenda, the proposed minutes from the October 2023 meeting, and the Treasurer's Report were available for review in the Zoom chat section.

Legislative, Assembly, School Board and JBER Updates

Chair Lipps introduced South Anchorage Assembly Member Randy Sulte, who reported on recent Assembly actions. Mr. Sulte stated that after additional Assembly deliberation the previous evening, the Port of Alaska had been re-named in honor of former Congressman Don Young, and is now called the Don Young Port of Alaska. The Port is still owned and controlled by the Municipality of Anchorage. Mr. Sulte reported that the Assembly continues to support an increase in the Base Student Allocation, and approved several bond proposals for inclusion in the April 2024 municipal election ballot. One such proposal, approved at the Jan 9, 2024 Assembly meeting, would fund the purchase and installation of several modular public restrooms within Anchorage. Several ASD bonds will go before voters, as well as a bond to fund the creation of two additional cemeteries (one in Eagle River and one in Girdwood) which are needed because the existing Anchorage public cemetery is running out of space. Mr. Sulte also reported that the Assembly had discussed the proposed Chugach State Park Access Service Area bond, but that at this time, only the Canyon Road portion has been approved for public vote. The Assembly plans to again consider the proposed Holtan Hills development in Girdwood later in January.

There were no other Assembly, School Board or legislative representatives present.

BVCC Officer and Committee Reports

BVCC Treasurer Angie Pinsonneault commented on her written report, noting that there were many donations to the Community Council made during the in-person October 2023 meeting. It was agreed that the influx of community donations may be reason enough to hold at least one in-person meeting each year. Ms. Pinsonneault also noted that HALO still needs to cash the BVCC's dues check in the amount of \$75.00.

BVCC Vice-Chair Kaitlyn Jackson reported that the Federation of Community Councils (FCC) did not meet in December. The FCC is still seeking a new Manager and the position has been recently re-advertised. The FCC's website can be found at www.communitycouncils.org

Chair Lipps reminded attendees that Kori Marchowsky was re-elected to the Member-at-Large for Committees seat at the November 2023 meeting.

LRSA Updates

RCVH LRSA Chair Verne Pomraning related some continuing communication difficulties with his LRSA's contractor due to lack of responsiveness to road service requests. Some roads are not wide enough and are effectively down to one lane. Mr. Pomraning reported a recent service bill for \$9,000 for November plowing. BV LRSA Chair Bill Ennis reported general good service from that LRSA's provider, and the usual and ongoing concerns with a few individuals pushing driveway snow onto the roads.

Old Business

Chair Lipps reported that as discussed during previous meetings, she has prepared and will mail a paper BVCC Newsletter to community members, containing four pages of information on the Bear Valley community and BVCC activities. BVCC members profusely thanked Ms. Lipps for the work she put into preparation of the newsletter.

Tabled Business - Annual Elections

Chair Lipps reminded attendees that there are two open positions remaining: Assembly Liaison and HALO Representative. BVCC Member Sean Holland is interested in the Assembly Liaison position and was nominated by motion (C. Livsey / V. Pomraning). Mr. Holland was unanimously elected by voice vote and thanked for his interest. No attendees expressed an interest in the HALO Representative position, and it remains unfilled. The position entails attendance at monthly HALO meetings and communication of relevant information between BVCC and HALO.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Lipps drew members' attention to the draft minutes of the October 11, 2023 meeting and invited a motion to approval. It was moved and seconded (A. Pinsonneault / V. Pomraning) that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion passed, and your Secretary is appreciative. There was no meeting in December 2023; the minutes of the November 2023 meeting remain outstanding because the Secretary was out-of-state.

Other Business and Adjournment

Chair Lipps reminded attendees that there will be no meeting in February because the meeting date coincides with Valentine's Day and some of us have better offers. The next meeting was announced for March 13, 2024 via Zoom, and the April meeting will take place in-person at the Bear Valley Elementary School library. Roger Marks is a potential speaker for the March 2024 meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Lipps at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Constance Livsey
BVCC Secretary